



January/February 2021

A Longing to Go Back

How can someone miss so deeply someplace they have only visited once? My eyes fall upon the little nativity set Jonathan brought back for me from the African market during his first visit to Uganda in May of 2019, and I feel a distinct longing to go back. Why is that?! It certainly wasn't as easy trip. It wasn't like one of those mission trips that leans a little more to the vacation side of things than actual work. It was hard. The trip from Sparta, WI, to Entebbe, Uganda (and then to D. R. Congo) was a long one. The jet lag was bad. We had to drink bottled water and be careful about what we ate. We got covered with bug bites. It was hot. The roads were rough. We didn't always have electricity, and we often didn't have internet. We didn't speak the language, and some of the cultural differences felt so foreign they made us uncomfortable. We had to be cautious and alert in order not to get ripped off. In many ways it felt like we were in another world. And we sort of were. But the people.



They were beautiful, unforgettable. We worshipped together, singing and praying in different languages but with a close sense of fellowship nevertheless. We were shown incredible hospitality and were welcomed with open arms. We witnessed firsthand the daily difficulties of living in Africa, and we saw the people meet those challenges with patience and determination and faces full of joy. We saw the great work HCCA is doing in both countries. It has been a full year now since we were last there. The plan was for Jonathan to go in September, then November, and now hopefully in February. But it all depends on covid and quarantines and rules and regulations. Thank the Lord for email, Whatsapp, and Zoom so we can update you a bit on what's happening on the other side of the world.

COVID Update

It's still going on. Team members have lost family members close to them and continue to avoid large group gatherings. Pray for those who have experienced loss amongst their family and friends, and pray that things will settle down to where travel restrictions can soon be lifted. Ministry is challenging enough without throwing a pandemic into the mix.



Christmas in Luwero

A big thank you goes out to our HCCA team in Luwero, Uganda, for gathering, assembling, and distributing Christmas packages to each of the widows there. The festivities began with hearing the Word of God and ended with everyone receiving a package containing sugar, rice, beef, salt, and soap. Alexa, the HCCA director in Uganda, describes the widows' reactions: "The widows were more than happy and thanked you so very much for all you did for them on that day. They pray to God that all you desire in your heart be fulfilled in Jesus' name. They don't know what to do for you but pray that God will bless you abundantly." The widows are praying for YOU! Thank you for providing a very special Christmas for them.

Christmas in Bogoro

Thank you to our D. R. Congo team for preparing a wonderful Christmas feast for the widows and orphans in Bogoro. "Many orphans exhibited their gratitude through their thanks that they addressed to all the staff in the US and all the donors for the support you are giving them every day in all situations," reported John, a member of the Congo staff. Donors, your gifts make a much bigger impact than you might realize. Thank you!

Uniforms and Backpacks

Back a few months ago you gave, and the orphans received. Look at the smiles the new backpacks and school uniforms gave them! We cannot thank you enough for your support of HCCA.

-- Jonathan Unverzagt (and Hope)
Executive Director, HCCA



Ways to partner with HCCA:

- Give to the gift of an education _____
- Give to the gift of a micro loan _____
- Give the gift of health to provide medicine _____
- Give to the general fund so we can meet the most pressing needs _____

HCCA is a 501c3 organization. Gifts can be sent to: HCCA, 5729 Basswood Rd., Sparta, WI 54656
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