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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Reflections from the Field**  September 17, 2024 | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Greetings from sunny Colorado!  Home assignment here in USA began July 11th.  Our family hit the ground running and we’ve finally found some downtime staying in our friends’ missionary respite home here in Rocky Ford, Colorado. Later this month we will travel back to Michigan, hoping to make some stops along the way to see friends and share more of what God is doing in and through us in Uganda. October 25th, we fly back to Uganda.  This has all been a whirlwind! Our “home” assignments always include updating churches, seeing friends and family (including partners in the work), ordering and collecting school for the next year as well as supplies and needs for the coming term, and medical check-ups for us all.  It is a wonder how we fit it all in! Please forgive our lack of update since June. Hopefully, it is understandable, given the situation! We’re also all trying to work here and there! Friends have given us jobs to help make our expenses here in the US more manageable. Whew! What a crazy 2 months it has been! We thank the Lord for his provision and for sustaining the ministry we left in Uganda as well as our family in our “home away from home”.  It hasn’t been easy but God is faithful! | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In the midst of life circumstances, sharing at churches, connecting with friends, working odd jobs, I found myself reflecting on whether this is a break or not! It is indeed different and gives our family a much needed break from the field. Refreshment is often found in meeting new folks who are interested in the ministry. Solidarity is often found in sharing struggles and triumphs with families and churches who really get what it takes and the toll it takes too! What a blessing to share stories and meals together with friends old and new! | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | One of the projects we picked up here in Colorado, has been a creative one! I had inspiration and energy to paint a barn door like a quilt square here at the respite house we are staying in! As I work, I reflect on ministry and home assignment. It dawned on me how much the work on the barn door is like ministry work!  Both ministry and this barn door painting have beautiful and inspirational goals. Both have positive outcomes with blessings to those who experience them. Yet, painting this barn door has had unexpected obstacles and has needed some trouble shooting. This is very much a picture of ministry—bumps along the way, unexpected issues that need attention. Both can seem like a simple and straightforward process, yet both have surprises and cause frustration along the way! Ministry and this barn door painting have stretched me to uncomfortable positions that need grace and care to work through. At times in both, I have wondered what I am even doing, am I even qualified, should I call it quits!? Yet, a short break is often all that is needed for us to get back to what we know we will accomplish.***I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13***Challenges are met, more flexibility is needed, creative solutions to problems help save the day! All these efforts seem like they aren’t getting anywhere and aren’t accomplishing the end goal, YET with a little perseverance both the barn door and the ministry end up a beautiful blessing in the end. Both ministry and this painting are chocked full of mess-ups and imperfections. Boy, does that make me want to throw in the towel and call a professional.  But setting aside my slant toward perfectionism, I can easily see that the tiniest mistakes aren’t noticeable and that the finished products are excellent nonetheless! Ministry and painting a project of this size are both overwhelming and quite messy!  All in all, they are well worth the efforts, energy, and costs! | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This project reminded me that while it is more enticing to do just the fun parts or the parts that bring great reward, it is all the nitty gritty details and interruptions in life and ministry that slow us down and teach us lessons that are so worthy to suffer through for a better finish. This, I’ve always called our “ministry of availability”.  It means being willing to be interrupted from good work, in order to focus in on the situations presented to us.  In fact, these “interruptions” are often actually the most important work. We have to stay open to God and his calling.  We must be willing to be unsettled and taken off track for whatever God has for us—often our own personal growth and journey with him. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Thank you for taking the time to listen to my painting perseverations! Thank you for joining us on a messy yet lovely ministry to Uganda!  Thank you for your patience and prayers!  Thank you for trusting us through our humanness and delays! Thank you to churches and families that have hosted us along this journey as well!  Thank you for financial support which makes this outreach possible!  We pray that we could continue on this path to minister to Ugandans in our community and reach them with the love and truth of Jesus Christ!  We are also here in the States to boost our monthly support to continue serving in Uganda. If you would like to come alongside us and be one of our monthly financial partners, click on the link below.  ***2 Thessalonians 1:11-12  11. With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.  12. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Blessings, *Peter and Kate (Levi, Aiden and Eliana) Walugembe* | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Click Here to Give**](https://northernlightsministries.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8ba0bd9199db705c73d4a6528&id=784c6784b5&e=d73d0a8317) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Checks can be written to “Pioneers”  10123 William Carey Dr., Orlando, FL, 32832 for ***Peter and Kate Walugembe Acc.*111654** | | |