



May 2021

The Move: Well, it is finally done – Annet has returned to her home village of Ibanda in west Uganda! This has been the family’s plan since the Fall of 2020; but due to the holidays, health issues and political elections it was necessarily delayed. In the still dark morning of Friday, May 14th, they loaded all Annet’s belongings into a truck, got the family (Paul, Leticia, Triny, Annet, Cynthia & Bonita) into the van and set off for the eight-hour drive. Annet rejoins her son, Peter, and her mother-in-law in Ibanda, where she and her husband started their life together. Four children later the family had moved to the Kampala area; but then Annet’s husband passed away of kidney failure around the time of Cynthia’s birth (their youngest daughter who is now 8 years old). She was left totally alone with five children, no other family around, and no way to make a living. At the time she was not on good terms with her husband’s mother in Ibanda. You may remember she was living in a raunchy slum when we met her. It’s only been since the beginning of the 2021 that she has reconciled with her mother-in-law and actually traveled (by bus) with Leticia and Triny to visit with her to see if she would be welcomed to live there again. Of course, the rest is history! This is her heart’s desire to be in her home village again and with her son, Peter. It’s been a long, long journey. And Say Yes got to be a part of it – how cool is that? It is because of generous donors who understand the struggle of starting over again that we are able to get a business started for Annet to raise cows and goats. We also provided a water tank for the household, an important item that has not been available until now; along with an animal shelter and a bit of repair to the house floors and sleeping room. We are believing the mother-in-law will give her life to Jesus because of God’s love demonstrated in and through Annet.



Annet’s 1st visit with mother-in-law January 2021



Loading truck in the dark May 2021



Truck unloaded...now where to put it???

The Goiter - You hear a lot about widows, orphans and people in great need in our newsletters. It almost seems disheartening and overwhelming at times, doesn't it? But that's the reality of life in a third world country. Which is why Say Yes International gets involved – at God's direction we touch lives with His love. And that love looks like something tangible – food, housing, medicine, education, clothing, businesses and that ever important touch from another human being who really cares. God told Virgil during our first trip to Uganda in 2008 that “He searches for a heart to match the cry...” – and that's all of us together reaching out in ways we could never think possible if we were to try to do it on our own. And in the reaching out we are actually helping to prepare a heart to receive the love of Christ – what a privilege! Unfortunately, it is all too frequent that pastor's wives and children are overlooked as being “needy,” which many are. The pastor either gives himself totally to the church and its members, not tending to his family, or he forgets the wife and goes on to better “pastures” with other women and self-determined endeavors. This is, in fact, Prossy's story. Her husband/pastor has gone on to be with many other women, producing children with them. We've known Prossy for many years and have helped her start a piggery and agriculture projects. She has done well to provide for herself and her children; she even continues to minister to other women. But she is often alone and could use help. Prossy is in need of surgery for a goiter she has had for several years. She has treated it with medicine to see if it would improve, which it did for a while. But the goiter remains, it's not going away and will only get larger. It's time to do something about it. The surgery is scheduled in June and will cost \$750. Of course, we want to stand with her so we are asking for help to pay for the surgery – a few of us could get this done in short order! Prossy's life will be greatly improved as a result.



Updates: It's been a whole month now since the surgery for Great Miles – his surgery was about the throat, too! He is doing super good – doing all the things a 2-year old should do, including the yelling and laughter!

And while we are talking about health matters.... You might remember KD Buyinza, auto mechanic in Entebbe, was in a motorcycle (bodaboda) accident in April. He has since fully recovered and doing well. His business is also improving now that he has tires to sell and the compressor is helping to increase business, too (thanks to Say Yes Friends).

Aren't you just so glad to be a part of all this? Your prayers, support and friendship are invaluable to us and to the people of Uganda. We love that God put us together for His purposes. Eternity will tell the rest of the story!

Blessings to you as you continue to recall with us God's lavish goodness - thanks for being a part of what we get to do!

Virgil & Joy

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A picture just for fun...Rachael holding Heavens on her back while she washes her dress!