

The Applegate Family

Tony, Kristy, Eliana, Elijah, Elexis, Elysse, Ellora

Missionaries to Uganda, East Africa

March - May 2024



Dear Friends:

Once in a while, you can (and should) relax and enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Sipi Falls, located in eastern Uganda, showcases three majestic waterfalls. The largest of the three waterfalls drops 312 feet. Elijah, Elexis, Ellora, and I hiked to all three waterfalls and saw a beautiful sunset. Most of Uganda lacks first-world amenities, but it contains wonderful Christian people and enthralling, gorgeous landscapes.

Pastor John Busoolo pastors a church in the town of Mbale which is only 30 minutes from these breathtaking falls. I have known Pastor John for many years, and his faithfulness to the Lord is more beautiful to witness than the majestic Sipi Falls. Training national pastors and seeing them faithfully love God, love family, and love church members is truly awe-inspiring for a missionary. Pray with Dan Dwire and me as we wait for God to reveal His choice of a national pastor to eventually lead Faith Baptist Church. Lord willing, the man that God brings us will have the faithfulness of a John Busoolo.

Family Update

Elijah graduated from high school, and I traveled with him to the States to help him prepare for college in the fall. Tears were shed, hearts were saddened, and our family dynamic was changed once again when Elijah said goodbye. "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." We all realize that it is normal for our children to grow up and leave home. This classic phrase highlights the emotional impact of being apart from a cherished loved one. Social media helps with the distance, but it does not eliminate the need for real face time.

Kristy and I are excited for Eliana and Elijah as they work at Southland Christian Camp for the summer. Kristy, Elexis, Elysse, and Ellora continue to help at Faith Baptist Church with discipleship, children's ministry, and music.



Faith Baptist Church

FBC members rejoiced when they learned that the local government gave final approval to begin construction of the church. We are in the process of renegotiating with the construction company to reestablish building costs since the approvals have taken so long.

Kristy, Elexis, and several ladies from Faith Baptist enjoyed Gospel Light Baptist

Church's ladies' conference. East Africa Baptist College finished its semester early due to the government demanding a census. All college students were required to travel home to be counted. Some of the ladies and men who are members of Faith Baptist Church finished the discipleship program and received certificates (Khezia with Dan Dwire in photo). In addition to FBC's basic discipleship program, we have started an additional training program called LEAD (Leading Equipping Advancing Developing). The group has finished the first sections on theology and Biblical counseling. It is a blessing to see members excited about learning the Word of God.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Safety as Tony returns to Uganda
- That God will provide the final \$26,000 needed to purchase 2 Grace Project buildings and land

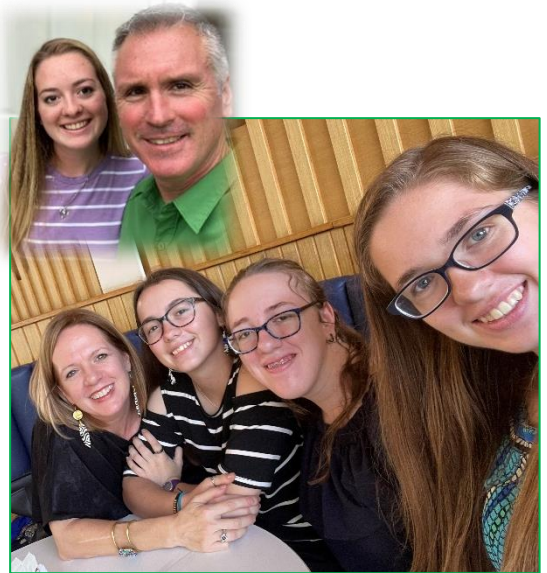
PRAISES

- Tony and Elijah arrived safely in the States.
- Souls are being saved, and those saved are being baptized and disciplined.
- **THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT GAVE FINAL APPROVAL FOR US TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHURCH BUILDING!**

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Update on Special Giving Opportunity

The Grace Project is still going strong. The meter on the fund-raising progress has moved quite a lot, praise the Lord. The amount given increased to \$49,000. We believe God will supply the remaining \$26,000 in His timing. Please continue to pray about how God might use you to help meet this need for Grace Project to have two new nursery and primary school facilities.



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Top Row: Children receiving rewards for attendance and verse memorization. The kids love to hang out with Elijah. Elexis at Ladies Conference
Second Row: Children's Church craft. FBC threw a surprise Graduation Party for Elijah. Kristy and girls with mom for Mother's Day lunch. (Tony, Eliana, and Elijah were at Southland camp, but they were with Kristy and the girls in spirit.)
Third Row: Elijah's high school graduation. Martyrs' Day Celebration Pilgrimage. Each year, 3-4 million people travel to Uganda for this celebration. Faith BC handed out thousands of tracts.