

# the sperling jerry can

*“...carrying Living Water in practical ways...”*

## Merry Christmas from Canada!

Harry Belafonte is singing “A star in the East” and the fireplace is on... time to write a Christmas letter!

*“Leave your ewes and leave your lambs  
Rise up shepherd and follow  
Leave your sheep and leave your rams  
Rise up shepherd and follow”*

God calls us to leave behind who we are and what we do as we come to worship the Savior in awe. He is the one who causes us to leave behind our preoccupation with the things of this world.

This will be our first Christmas in Canada since 2006! Wow, that’s a long time! I hadn’t realized that until I sat down to write this letter. We’re looking forward to the good possibility that it will be a white Christmas as we will be spending it in Oliver, British Columbia with our whole extended Ken Sperling family! April and Masiu (my sister and brother-in-law) and family now live there on a YWAM base. The base will be mostly vacant so our family will have lots of room to eat, run, play and just enjoy being all together for Christmas!

The kids have been enjoying winter activities like ice skating and playing soccer in our cold wet weather! Kenny, Albert and Isaiah all play organized soccer and have all been asked to play on more competitive “rep” teams due to their skill level! (We have kept them out of these busy rep leagues for a more relaxed schedule though!) The years of kicking the soccer ball around in the yard back in Uganda have paid off! It’s so fun to see the kids benefit from organized activities. In addition to sports, Kenny has taken up clarinet (through school) and Albert and Isaiah are taking violin lessons! The boys are all excelling at school even though this is their first time to be in a classroom setting. We feel blessed to have these wonderful children!

We love Christmas as it is a time to focus on the fact that Jesus humbled himself and left his perfect relationship within the God-head to come and rescue us caught in the damning slimy pit of our sin. How precious are times like these to the believer as we focus on God’s plan to redeem and save us! We trust the season will also bring you closer to God.



Isaiah and Ezra learning to skate

## North Carolina Training

I have just returned from a great week of training missionaries, future missionaries and Christian farmers in the tool of Farming God's Way. It was a full but productive week in North Carolina at Providence Farm, Equip's training centre. We had a wonderful group of folks -- some of who are very accomplished agriculturalists. We had lively discussion and lots of great practical lessons throughout the week. It was my first time to be at the Equip base since our new office block and even newer dorm/classroom block had been built. What wonderful facilities we have to train people! And all paid for and with no outstanding debt! God willing we will be training Christian workers for decades to come!



The FGW students working on one of the coldest Well Watered Gardens I've ever done! It was still good fun!

Through the coming months Chris will be focusing on our work in Uganda. We have some documents that need translating and we also need to build up our support base as we prepare to leave next summer for Uganda. There will be fundraising and information events coming up through the summer and spring. We'll be in touch with you, our supporters, so that we can share with you in detail about what we have been doing and what we believe God has planned for us in the next term. We feel strongly about keeping you, a fellow investor in the work of the Kingdom, well informed about what we do, how we do it and why we do it.

May God bless you are yours during this festive time! May we remember those who need so desperately to hear the message of Hope during this time by praying for them and doing whatever God calls us to do to serve them now and through-out the year. Missions is for all of us – perhaps just down the road at the Salvation Army or Gospel Union Mission!



## Financial needs:

- Continued salary (we will go back on salary around April as we prepare to leave and start our support raising trips for the next term of work).
- Airfare for the family (returning tickets to Uganda next year)
- Continued funding for our work in Uganda. It would be nice to have a surplus to work with when we return to the field next summer
- If you would like a 'support schedule' please contact us. The schedule includes an Equip approved monthly budget for our needs including salary, ministry expenses, and airfare costs.

*\*To contribute to the Sperling's needs please see the addresses and links at the bottom of this page*

## Prayer Needs:

### Please continue to pray with us in the following areas:

- Pray for **effectiveness** in our ministry; that many will come to know Christ and become his disciple in a manner that glorifies God and His Kingdom...
- **praise for Andrew** who was able to write his exam with his left hand. He thinks he did well on the final exam.
- Pray for more **generous supporters** to join our team as we partner together to serve God
- Pray for **Jane's health**: she was recently told that her c-section was done improperly and needs to be operated on again in a month or two. This has been very discouraging for us!

We're really looking forward to seeing so many of you over the coming months. Please let us know if you'd like to have us come and share about what we are doing here in Uganda.

Love from Chris and Jane, Andrew, Tugume, Kenny, Albert, Isaiah, Ezra, Anna and Alin  
Our Canadian phone number is 604-300-2320



In Canada donations  
can be sent to:

Equip Canada  
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Duncan, B.C.  
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In the US donations can be  
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