



CANADA
equip
FAITH AT WORK

the sperling jerry can

P.O. Box 683
Duncan, BC V9L 3Y1
Canada
Ph: 828-738-3891
Fax: 828-738-3946
October 25, 2017

"...carrying Living Water in practical ways..."

Goodbye Canada!

Today, we are a month away from our return trip to you Uganda. We've enjoyed our seven months here and we have been able to attend to many of our family needs on this home assignment. We have had lots of family time together; we've picked blueberries together (Jane was the champ – picking several tons of berries), we've went on walks and hikes together and travelled in our car A LOT together. We put on over 10,000km visiting churches, family, friends and supporters! We have also been able to put the kids into good local schools to shore up the children's education too! We have been able to re-connect with many friends and family that we have not seen in a while. We have also been able to add new churches and supporters to our team which is very valuable and exciting! We thank the many people who had us in their home or church while we travelled this spring and fall! We feel that God has given us rest and renewed energy to return back to our work in Uganda.



Our family at my cousin Kerri's wedding on September 30th



farmers helping farmers

Farmers Helping Farmers Helping Farmers

This October we hosted a couple of wonderful evenings where we shared our farmer training initiative called Farmers Helping Farmers with a number of farming communities in Saskatchewan. Thanks to the Richards family for hosting us at a great evening in Melville where we had well over 50 people from the surrounding farming communities. They heard about how we help farmers to become people who will be equipped with the skills and motivation to turn around and be a help to their own struggling farming communities. My parents also organized a great evening for farmers from around Lucky Lake, Beechy and Birsay who were able to come out and hear about and support this great initiative. The two evenings raised around \$5000 which will go directly to training costs which are mostly fuelling our vehicle. Head to our website if you would like to know more: <http://sperlingsinafrica.com/farmers-helping-farmers.html>

Staying behind

Many of you will know that our family has really struggled to find viable education options for our children. Without teacher volunteers over the last two years and with poor internet, online schooling for our older children has become both challenging and frustrating. We knew that we would need to find a way to give the boys the quality education they need in order to leverage the gifts and talents they have. We want them to be equipped for their future service of the Lord, in whatever way He calls them. During our time here we have decided to keep the older two boys, Kenneth and Albert, at a Christian school attached to our church called MEI (Mennonite Educational Institute). The boys will be staying with close friends, Rich and Nancy Balzer, who are also my cousins.

Rich teaches at the school and they had offered (before we even asked) to keep any of our kids in Canada in order to attend school. After much thought and consultation and prayer we have decided to leave the boys behind to finish their high school. We plan to bring them home to Uganda for Spring break in March, so we will be apart for about 3.5 months to start with. This is not an easy decision, but we believe the boys will be able to develop their skills and talents in a Kingdom atmosphere with great oversight from teachers and Rich and Nancy. Of course, we will miss them tremendously as a family but it we believe this is the right thing to do. Please pray for us all during this time of great transition. The boys are excited but mom and dad are not looking forward to the separation.



Mpola mpola

“Mpola mpola” is a Luganda phrase which means “take it slowly”. We plan to get going slowly as we re-enter work and life back in Uganda. Uganda life, is very busy and intense for us, involving continual interaction with local people and our many friends and family. We will take December to re-connect with Equip Colleagues, Farming God’s Way trainers, our farmers in Wante and Bukenke as well as our friends and family around Uganda. It will be the tail end of the growing season so there will be no pressure to get out to farmers for training. January will get busy quickly with a number of Farming God’s Way regional events planned and farmer training and follow-up to add to the “to do” list.

Anna, Ezra and Isaiah will be going to local homeschool co-ops in the Jinja area. This will mean daily commutes to and from school (about 10km+ each way) and Alin will be the only one at home 😞. These are big changes for us and mean that we will need to restructure our work schedules. It will be a blessing to have the kids in an organized school environment full time.



Please continue to pray with us in the following areas:

- **Please pray** that our travels back to Uganda will go well. For the first time we will have three flights, not the usual two, back to Uganda. Please pray that we will make all of our connections and that all of our luggage will make the same flights we do! **Praise** God for safe travels during our Saskatchewan tour – thanks for keeping our travels in your prayers!
- **Please pray** for a missionary family, the Browns, who lost their dad (49 years). They are from the UK and ministered in Kampala under New Hope Uganda. They have four children. The loss is devastating!
- **Praise for education solutions!** We have come to the decision to leave our older boys back in Canada to continue schooling here and to put our younger kids in local homeschool co-ops in Jinja. Pray for our family as we will be apart from the older boys for longer periods of time now.
- **Praise for more supporters!** A number of people have committed to monthly support which helps our support levels for sure. Continue to pray that our support level would come up. We have had only three months this last year that were above our monthly donation target.
- **Pray** for peace in Kenya through their second election in two months (Oct 28th) and the fall-out from that. Pray for peace in Uganda as a series of ritual murders have swept the central part of the country. Tensions are also high as the government considers amending the constitution to allow for Presidential age limits to be removed. People here often debate politics with violence! Pray for cool heads to prevail.
- **Thanks for all your prayers!** They are essential to our life here!

Physical needs:

- We need a new-to-us vehicle for our work in Uganda. I'm managing to keep our Isuzu going but it seems weekly now that something is in need of repair. It's driven around 300,000km in the last 10 years here in Uganda and hit way too many potholes. We're looking for a 4WD Landcruiser that can fit our family. Budget 20,000CAD
- More supporters to reach our monthly target which covers our salary, airfare and ministry expenses.



We're still around for another four weeks. If we haven't seen you we would still love to. Our contacts are below!

Love, from Chris and Jane, Andrew, Tugume, Kenny, Albert, Isaiah, Ezra, Anna and Alin

E-mail:
sperling_equip@yahoo.ca

To donate online go to:
www.sperlingsinafrica.com



Our contacts in Canada:
 Cell: 778-347-3580

 Mail to:
 34617 Harris Road
 Abbotsford, BC
 V3G 1R7

 cssperling on Instagram

In Canada donations can be sent to:
Equip Canada
PO Box 683
Duncan, B.C.
V9L 3Y1
 Attach a note "Sperling support" or "Sperling Vehicle Fund"

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