

BANMAN MISSION UPDATE
KAMPALA UGANDA
SECOND QUARTER 2016

MISSION

UPDATE



GREETINGS FROM ANDREW AND TERRY

The second quarter was very full. In fact, the second and third quarters have been so full that this report is being written in August rather than June. I hope you will forgive the late report and enjoy it just the same.

The most significant demand on our time during the second quarter was the house build. We were back and forth from our home in Mityana to the new home in Kampala so many times that it's possible the car now knows the way by itself. Then finally at the end of April we moved in.

The new Kampala home was not the only thing on the second quarter agenda though. Terry took on little baby Jacob who was only one week old when he arrived June 1st and I continued to work with the Era92 team on building the business.

To round out the quarter I made two trips to South Sudan and joined Bruce Friesen traveling to Kenya and Mozambique to visit ministry partners. The people of Mozambique are friendly and good looking. The young girl on the cover of this report was a nursery school student in Mozambique. I enjoyed getting to know our partners there and specially walking through the local village and meeting the students families.

We're enjoying life in our new community. Living here has reduced driving times and increased our opportunities to engage with people. We are quickly feeling connected and seeing needs however we are taking time to determine where to engage.

The words of the godly are a life-giving fountain; the words of the wicked conceal violent intentions. — *Proverbs 10:11*

2 LIFE IN THE BIG CITY

Work on our Kampala home began mid February. It was supposed to be completed in 5 weeks, but we were still trying to get it ready to move in at the end of April. We finally forced the issue and moved in on April 26 in spite of a number of remaining issues still needing to be completed.

Some of you may remember that we were planning to build a three story building. This was to be a guest house as well as our residence. In the end that plan was far too expensive. Our solution was to renovate and add onto an existing home in the same location.

Houses are built very differently here in Uganda. Wood walls with Gyprock are replaced with brick and mortar. Shingles are replaced with tin sheets.

Electrical and plumbing require that you rip long grooves in the walls. Then once installed, you use a sand mortar to cover the cable or pipe and close up the wall. When one thinks about how many runs a house needs for electrical and plumbing, it's hard to see how the brick structure remains sound.

It is always satisfying to be able to specify exactly how you want things to be. Where will the sink go in the kitchen, what light fixtures will be used, how high should the shower head be? We were able to make the house very comfortable for us as well as future guests.

Working with trades people here is a learning experience. The skill levels are far below what would be expected in a North American setting and there is little coordination between trades. A tiler will do his work and then just shuffle all the dust down the drains with no thought to the plumbing. A painter will happily drip paint on the work the tiler has just completed. A carpenter would drop a tool on the new tiles without thought to what might happen.

The lack of knowledge, lack of professionalism, and lack of care on the part of the trades workers was frustrating and hard to be patient with. And the end result was that much of the work had to be redone (almost always at our expense).

Regardless, Terry and I are very pleased with the final product. Today we have enough rooms to house Terry and I, both children, and a team of 10 guests. And we must never forget that the funds to build were a gift. We are very fortunate to be living right in our target community with a location that can host others who wish to engage with us.



3 WELCOME JACOB

HOPE Centre Mityana called Terry in June and asked if she would be willing to help them get a little baby started. This child was born prematurely and had been abandoned by it's mother. His name was Jacob and Terry immediately agreed to nurse him.

He arrived at our house at 1.48kg at about 1 week old. Jacob was his name. While we had 2 children, we had not cared for such a tiny little boy. We had to move Grace from her bed in the playpen into a full-sized bed so we could make up a place for Jacob to sleep. Then we found a tall table to act as a change table.

Terry then produced a number of baby clothes and bottles and cloths and proceeded to setup to look after Jacob's needs. Would you believe that Terry had seen this need long before she left Victoria? She had everything she needed, right at her fingertips.



We took little Jacob to "The Surgery" where our Paediatrician gave him a full physical. Jacob was fine considering his beginning, but he needed Lactose-free food and he needed to eat much much more.

Jacob was eating but we learned that he was not strong enough to stay awake and eat enough food and this was stopping him from gaining the weight he needed to survive. Terry altered his food as directed by the doctor and started feeding him a defined amount based on his body weight. When Jacob was not able to take the full meal, Terry would finish the feeding using a tube the doctor had inserted down Jacobs nose and into his stomach. Jacob started gaining weight and growing rapidly right away.

Jacob will stay with us until he is able to eat by himself and is strong enough to go back to HOPE Centre. He will need to be healthy and thriving to fit in.

This picture was taken the first day he was with us. We will enjoy watching his growth next to this little bear we found for him.

**A Person's a Person.
No Matter How Small.
-DR. SUESS**

4 SOUTH SUDAN MEDICAL CLINIC

Between April 14 and 16 we worked with three Ugandan doctors to provide medical care to the small village of Wotakujong in South Sudan. We have been engaged with this village since 2010 and this was an opportunity to help many who would otherwise simply go without.

People in rural villages in Kajo-Keji South Sudan don't leave their villages very often. In fact, the first few times we went there they had to use machetes to open up paths and let us get in with our car. They are subsistence farmers growing food to provide for their families. Usually, these families start running out of food a number of weeks before the next harvest. In these cases, they eat once every day or so until the next crop can be collected.

Medical care for these people is scarce. Everyday issues like yeast infections just get ignored. More complex ailments like Malaria are often suffered through as well due to a lack of access to treatment.

While treating the people of Wotakujong, we saw a wide variety of conditions. We

treated a number of cases of Malaria, bacterial infections, and respiratory issues. We also dewormed hundreds of children.

As we had a surgeon with us, our team also did 2 surgical procedures to remove large growths from a young girl's face and from an older man's knee. Without this amazing medical team, this young teenaged girl would have continued to go through life disfigured. While this was not a life threatening tumour, it was a life changing surgery.

This clinic served more than 500 people, did 2 surgeries, and ambulated 1 person to the hospital for more treatment. It was a huge blessing !!



**MEDICAL CLINIC
SERVES HUNDREDS**



5 LIVING THE ADVENTURE

In Mozambique, I visited a group called Africa 180. This group operates a nursery school, a feeding program for children, a vocational school, and does Palliative care in nearby villages.

The nursery school was without doubt the best I have seen in Africa. The class sizes were small and they had both a teacher and a helper in each. Learning was student centric and fun. Teachers and helpers engaged the kids and cared for them. I was very impressed.

While I had an opportunity to learn about each of the ministries they do at Africa 180, I was most touched by the walk I took through the local village to meet and interview parents and past students. What impressed me was the amount of connectivity that the school staff had with the families. They knew them by name and knew their stories. Teachers knew what challenges students had at home and were treating each student holistically through these relationships.

One of the amazing additional programs this nursery school was engaged in was Alumni classes. Teachers had seen that students moving on into government schools were not getting the same level of care and that students were actually losing skills. To combat this, the school started a weekly alumni class where graduates could come and practise skills.

In the community I met families with alumni students and they confirmed the positive impact that the Africa 180 team had made on their lives.

I have been looking for a school for Joshua and Grace to start in and this little pre-school in the middle of Mozambique was just the ticket. Too bad this school is more than 2000 kms from home!

