



February 2014

Givan's at Goli

'Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" – yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life?' (James 4: 13-14)

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and e-mails, cards and calls over the past few months. It is hard to believe we last communicated through our prayer letter last autumn! Since then Raymond has been in Uganda and then returned to N.I. due to our daughter's illness in her pregnancy. Emily was born nine weeks early weighing 2lbs 13ozs (1.8kgs). We are grateful to Antrim Area Hospital for their care to our second granddaughter. During this period Jackie's dad was diagnosed with a bowel tumour and was successfully operated on. At last both of us are now together in Uganda!

Kiwoko

It has been a useful time to orientate to working in a Ugandan setting spending time at Kiwoko Hospital. Jackie joined Raymond at the end of January. Since being here we have been involved in both medical work and in discussional bible studies with Ugandan staff, Wazungu (whites) and nursing students. Some of the books we have been studying include Nehemiah, Esther and Genesis.



Facing the Unknown

There are always unplanned events in our lives.

The last few months have caused us to say on many occasions, "I don't know!" Many thoughts have occupied our minds such as "I don't know if I have done the right thing in moving house never mind moving continents!" "I don't know why having made the move God determined that I should return to N.I. again for a few weeks?" "I don't know how I will cope with all the demands of working out of my comfort zone!"

Happy kids at Kiwoko Village

As we considered these unwelcome events an old hymn began to be recalled, *"I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day. I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to grey."* The chorus brings peace to the troubled soul, *"Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand. But I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds my hand."*

Bits & Pieces

Raymond is now registered with the Ugandan Medical & Dental Council to work as a Medical Practitioner. He has just received confirmation that he has obtained his work permit. The next big hurdle is the purchase of a suitable vehicle and getting a Ugandan Driver's licence!

Moving to Goli

The work at Goli is progressing quite well. Recently a number of doctors from South Korea performed medical and surgical work over the course of a week. They were joined by Wilfred, a Nurse Anaesthetist who is presently working at Kiwoko but will be moving to join the medical staff at Goli in May.

Thank you for your concern and prayers for us as a family and as a couple. We have felt God's inner peace and pray that we will be of some use to our Master. We plan to travel to Goli North West Nile on the 14th February.

If you receive this letter by post and would be happy to get it by e-mail this would be appreciated. Either e-mail us or contact the Belfast Office through the Secretary Val Ellis, vellis@crosslinks.org.

Partners in Christ,

Raymond & Jackie Givan

PRAYER POINTS

Praise:

- For God's peace through the turbulent few months in our family circumstances knowing that His plans are perfect.
- That Raymond has obtained Ugandan Medical Registration and his Work Permit is also ready.
- That Jackie is now in Uganda and for the activities we have been involved in at Kiwoko Hospital both medical and spiritual.

Prayer:

- For a suitable vehicle.
- For our move to Goli in North West Nile.
- That we will be able to build good working relationships with staff and the Diocese.

Please contact your local Crosslinks office to change your contact details

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