

And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick

Luke 9:2

DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS,

SEPTEMBER 2023

Thank you all for your faithful prayers and support as we continue in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ in Soroti, Uganda.

FULOUGH: In August Elena and I returned to the US for a five-month furlough to report to our supporting churches. It has also been a time for refreshing, to catch up on significant amounts of ministerial administrative work, and a most wonderful time of welcoming our first grandchild, Elliana Elena Ruth Sutphen! We shall be traveling mainly about the east coast with just three churches in the central time zone, so we are experiencing a non-stressful travel schedule.

THE WELL PROJECT COMPLETED: In March, the city water supply, which supplies Soroti's water, was interrupted, and rains had not resumed from the dry season. With many people praying for us, we received both permission from the gov't to construct a well, and the funds to drill it! It has now been completed. The water was tested, and it is now filling the water tanks at SOAP! We thank the Lord for His facilitation of this well, as water access is vital in the operation of the SOAP ministry.

LEADERSHIP: Matthew Gardner has taken over for me while we're away on furlough. He has done very well thus far, and I have not received any "distress calls" from him or calls for mutiny from my colleagues! It is a great blessing to have someone to manage the ministry and not worry what happens with the multiple ministry areas while we are away.

SALVATION DECISIONS: Bro Matthew has reported to me numerous salvation decisions in the Soroti area from our organized soul winning program, and many of these were followed by discipleship studies. I make mention this because some people who "confess Christ" fail to follow through for the foundational Bible studies needed for their necessary growth as new believers. News like this is a great blessing knowing that the work of the ministry, soul winning and discipleship, successfully continues in our absence.

BLESSINGS: The Lord continues to humble and bless us as we travel, faithfully supplying our necessities of food, lodging and fuel. He has done this many times through our supporting churches that we visit. It is also a great blessing to be supplied with a vehicle to use from our sending church, which makes travel so much more affordable and less taxing.

WITNESSING TO FAMILY: In October I'll have the opportunity to witness and share the Gospel with my aunt and cousin in Urbana, Illinois. I have not seen them in many years. My cousin, Sylvia, recently sustained a "spinal stroke" in which the blood supply to her lower spinal nerves was disrupted. This caused her to fall and was then transported to a hospital's OR for surgery, but with no resolution of the situation: permanent paralysis. She has been told she'll be in a wheelchair for her remaining years, and she is in her late 60's. One day she's painting as an artist, the next day she is paralyzed. Please pray for Elena and me as we visit with them to share God's gift, the Gospel, which provides salvation and gives hope no matter what life may thrust upon us.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For continued salvation decisions through the SOAP and soul winning ministries.
- For new believers to be motivated in discipleship, to want to grow and live for Christ.
- My cousin Sylvia and Aunt Charlotte, for salvation.
- Ms. Aguti: (cancer) for pain control and a successful pregnancy without complications.
- For us to be a blessing to the churches we visit during our furlough.

**ALAN AND ELENA SUTPHEN
UGANDA, EAST AFRICA**



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