



"And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory, through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

Beloved Adullam Newsletter readers,

Much has happened again since our last Newsletter No. 93 of November 2023, both in the Netherlands and on the African and Indian mission field.

India, Bihar

To begin with India, there it is becoming increasingly difficult for Christians to openly profess their faith, especially in North India, but now also in other Indian states, such as in Sikandra, Jamui District, Bihar, where evangelist Sunny C.P. and his wife are faithfully preaching the Lord Jesus and His Word.



On March 3, during the Sunday meeting, some antisocials stormed into the simple church hall screaming, beat the preacher Sunny and dragged him through the streets. Meanwhile, they forced him to repeat their Hindu slogan under caning and made a mockery of him on the streets.



They wanted from the preacher all the names and contact details of Kerala pastors working in Jamui, but he refused to give them.

They beat him more, but at the last moment, when they had wounded him, the police came and freed him. Now he is resting at the home of preacher James Joseph in the village of Jamui. Sunny will have to undergo a medical check-up. Please pray for repentance in the hearts of the cruel persecutors and for strengthening and healing of evangelist Sunny and his wife.

The same thing also happened in India's Janwada Telangana district by aggressive members of the extreme Hindu RSS ruling party, which wants to ban evangelizing among Hindu believers. Raju and Shanthi greatly appreciate our intercession and practical help and wrote recently: *Verily uncle, we know that when the Lord brought you into our midst, we have God's blessing through your preaching. We see you as our godfather and wish that you may serve the Lord in good health for a long time to come and continue to be our mentor and advisor. We pray that through you the Lord Jesus will bring forth more fruit and expand His Kingdom, in India and around the world. We thank the Lord God from the bottom of our hearts. Raju M, Shanthi and our entire team.*

Kenya

Our representative Robert Kakai in Moisbridge is very active in evangelizing among young people and teaching older believers the counseling course. More and more leaders are signing up for this 43-count course and many have already received a certificate or diploma in counseling and evangelism. A large donation allowed 1,000 complete English Bibles and 10,000 Swahili City Bibles to be sent.



had arrived at the port of Mombassa just as this newsletter was being written and have now been delivered to Moisbridge. There they were able to be stored in a newly built brick warehouse for further distribution to other places in Kenya as in Uganda. Robert is also now teaching students from the Net-Foundation who greatly appreciate his efforts. A Kenyan Adullam website of his own is in preparation, where Robert can share his own experiences and blessings.

Shortly before the delivery of the Bibles, Robert had to arrange his elderly mother's funeral. Quite an undertaking because, in keeping with tradition, days of preparation had preceded in order to accommodate the hundreds of visitors to whom God's Word could be preached.

Robert's father leads a congregation and provides for himself and his children and grandchildren through his thriving farming business.



Robert wrote during the serious illness that led to death, *"She passed away today. We did all our best, including the doctors, but God loved her so much that He took her to Himself. She was on oxygen in the hospital; she could not breathe herself."*

The funeral took place on March 2, 2024, pray for God's comfort and strength."

Burundi and Uganda

A lot has also happened here this year for which we can thank the Lord. Already in the beginning of this year invitations had been sent to our daughter, Marja Wassink-Beekhuizen in Australia and her daughter Jodie to come to these two African countries to teach counseling classes.

Jodie had been born in Uganda at the time Margreet and I were working there to introduce in Kampala and Busia, and later in Jinja, the counseling course of evangelist Aad van de Sande.

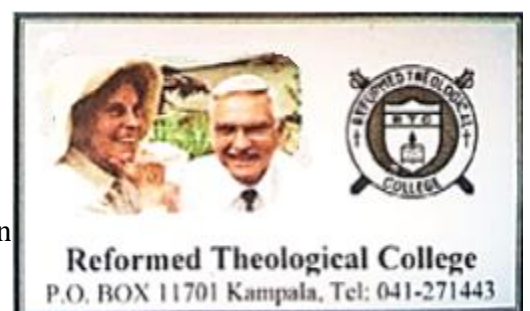
Later this work was continued in Burundi, where our Burundian Adullam director Mathias Ntakarutimana has continued my work broadly since 2020, as is done in Uganda by our young representative and IT manager Holiness and his wife. That one works mainly among young people, while Mathias is doing a great job in Burundi among the pygmy population.

In February Marja was allowed to do her counseling work among pastors' wives and young mothers with family problems, while her daughter and our grandchild Jodie were able to get to know her roots. A special experience that both want to report on below.

Marja and her husband Bart Wassink, son of the well-known now deceased missionary Henk Wassink, who worked for a long time in Suriname with wife and family, worked for a long time for the worldwide known Christian relief organization MEDAIR as field workers in Uganda, Soudan and Kosovo, and had their home near the office in Muyenga Kampala.

Margreet and I visited there regularly when we lived and worked in the border town of Busia and I also taught at the well-known Reformed Theological College outside Kampala during that time.

But I will let Marja and her daughter Jodie have their say so they can share their findings with readers in this 94^e Adullam Newsletter.



Below we will summarize the impressive reports of Marja Wassink and her daughter Jodie.

Mission trip Marja Wassink-Beekhuizen and Jodie Wassink to Africa in January and February 2024

29-02-2024, Mackay, Australia.

"But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will receive power and be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

What an amazing opportunity it was for me (Marja) and our daughter Jodie when we were invited to travel to Burundi and Uganda to teach and preach the Word.



The Adullam Foundation in the Netherlands sponsored our trip. We were enabled to visit two remarkable ministries that my father, Cornelis Bertus Beekhuizen, established many years ago when our family lived in Uganda, during our placement with the International Christian Relief Organization MEDAIR. We were now blessed to see the results of his work in those ministries:

Adullam Cave Burundi and Inspire Uganda Ministries.

Our first destination was Burundi, a country facing significant development challenges. We spent several days staying with the Burundian Adullam director, Matthias Ntakarutimana and his wife Maria, before visiting the villages in the mountains.



We were able to deliver to their family, children's books, toys and educational materials we had purchased in advance. Matthias and Maria care for 11 orphans in their home in addition to their two children.

A week of intense travel to various locations, including a refugee camp for Congolese refugees with about 10,000 people destitute of everything.



We visited a different location each day where we ministered the Word and focused on biblical teachings on healing heartbreak, forgiveness, addressing domestic violence, and sharing biblical counseling principles.



We focused mainly on the women in Bujumbura, in the Musasa refugee camp, in Rutambwe, Kimenyi and Kayoyo. Here we met the often disadvantaged and oppressed Pygmies. After a week, we concluded our ministry by preaching in Ruhsubi during a Sunday service.

Some meetings were combined with a graduation ceremony for women who had completed a 6-month sewing course.



As we spent time in each remote village, I was impressed by the faithful work that Matthias and his team carry out. His organization for these conferences, was incredible. He sent a cooking team ahead to prepare meals for groups over 100 participants.

He even provided materials in advance for some small communities to build sturdy wooden benches, as these groups are still in the process of building a church. We were able to take advantage of this right away!

Matthias had bought land for them, growing crops for food, and last year began organizing a construction team to bake bricks for the future development of a church building.

After the 3–4-hour teaching and preaching services, lunch was provided to the invited visitors, but each day we had enough leftover food for the many children hanging out while the conference was going on.

During the service, Jodie went with a young translator, who volunteers with Matthias, to play with the children in the woods. Each location had its own needs. But poverty was prominent everywhere, and there was always a lack of finances to build brick houses for some of the church's poorest Pygmy members.



Many of the Pygmies struggle to meet even basic needs, but we were amazed at how diligent they are. Whenever possible, Matthias brings goods, such as a cow or roofing sheets for a house, to improve living conditions.

Already after the first few days, the first testimonies began coming in from the first conference in Musasa.

Here, after the service, we had asked the men to stand up and offer forgiveness to their wives for possible suffering they had caused during their marriage.

As the women hugged their husbands, they talked in hushed voices or whispered to their husbands what had hurt them. Matthias received a call from one of the women who told him that her husband had woken up in the middle of the night and asked his wife, *"Was that really what I did to you and hurt you so much?"*

When the woman confirmed it, he asked if there was anything else she would like to share. Then the man again asked for forgiveness. They had never had this intimacy and transparency with each other before.



In other places, we asked women to come forward to be representatives of those who had been hurt by women in their lives. Or we helped those who were burdened by shame and condemnation of what had happened to them in the past or what had been done to them with painful consequences.



In Bujumbura, there were more graduation ceremonies of sewing machine courses and counseling classes. Matthias also showed us how he supports his own family. He rents pieces of land where he grows crops, and also keeps some animals for breeding and food.

His dream is to own one of these pieces of land as property where he can then keep the small farm animals and build a house and workshop for disabled people.



This group is often not cared for or given the opportunity to become productive members of society.

His work as director of the registered "Cave of Adullam Burundi" educational organization is intense. He is always planning various ministries and is available daily for the many requests for help in all kinds of areas.

He works with what he has and in the week we were there, he had to arrange everything with a rental car as his own car broke down! He is constantly adapting despite shortcomings and limited funds. He has little administrative support; he works with limited teaching materials there are often power cuts.



There is a limited water supply to his home (a challenge for his large family with the orphans). He puts a lot of energy into adapting the Bible teaching materials he receives from the Adullam Foundation in Holland and other countries so that at different levels of literacy among the people, he can serve everyone.

Saying goodbye was hard because we became strongly connected during our travels. We experienced that we had become part of new brothers and sisters in God's family.

Thus, in each location, I was moved by the beautiful singing, the heartfelt speeches and the willingness to want to share vulnerable hearts and life stories. Their openness found a way into my heart.

This trip was also an eye opener to be able to see the fundamental work my father did in Burundi. It strengthened the desire to come back and be able to pour out more love to the people we met there.

New challenges in Uganda

From Burundi, we traveled to Uganda, where Jodie, who was born there 21 years ago, now had the opportunity of a lifetime to reconnect with her roots. With her passion for conservation and wildlife, Jodie was pleasantly surprised when she was introduced to a Wildlife Conservation Organization, which gave her valuable connections that she can use in the future when working in that sector in Africa. She will talk more about that herself and show the photo.



With tears of joy, we were reunited with our former babysitter, who set up a childcare center and became a manager at the parliament building in Kampala.

She arranged for us to be present at one of the chamber sessions taking place at the time, discussing an outbreak of FMD (endemic Foot and Mouth Disease) in Uganda.



Kampala's heavy traffic was a challenge and an exercise in patience. Much had changed, including the incredible population growth that made the city a real hazard to navigate through.

We had only set aside a few days to catch up with some people we knew 18 years ago in which many good memories were made.

We continued our journey after this to begin the conference planned in Jinja. We are more at ease in the remote towns than in the metropolis of Kampala. Jinja is a town located on the mighty Nile where Jodie had the opportunity to experience Wild Water Rafting on the last day of our stay.

We were able to stay with Holiness and his young wife Shipha Kibumba, who are the leaders of Inspire Uganda Ministries. During this conference, I spoke about identity, relationships, heart healing and leadership principles.



Holiness mentors a group of young leaders and he organizes the "Discipleship Hub" from his home. An interdenominational initiative in which he trains and equips future leaders.

This time we didn't have to travel to different locations and Holiness had access to a building with power so I could share the lessons with a PowerPoint presentation.

Experiencing the African “time” schedule

Occasionally we started "on time. Around 10 o'clock, someone would come and pick us up and take us to church. Often there were power outages anyway, and a generator was arranged.

When we arrived each day, we were greeted with loudspeakers tuned to the highest decibel level. Until the power went out again, or the gasoline ran out in the generator.



Hail and rainstorms sometimes interrupted the cooking of lunch, which meant we didn't eat until the shower was over, the fire could be relighted, and the food wasn't served until about 3 p.m. We had to wait for the next day.

I often started with sometimes only 10 people, 5 young youth leaders, 3 girls in pretty dresses and an older couple, pastors in their church.

Slowly the church filled during my presentation. As I looked around, I wondered if my prepared material would make an impact. I prayed but simply whether I would connect with my audience in the way I spoke.

The number of children increased during the week. Most soon realized that food was being distributed around three o'clock.

Mothers sent their kids to church and the neighborhood children kept a close eye on the food preparation.

Jodie took it upon herself to organize soccer games in which the children competed loudly.

But every day in which I taught on "Relationships in the Kingdom of God" ended strong. During breaks and after lunch, I had deep conversations with women and young leaders struggling with violent home situations, brokenness in families, unfaithful spouses, and answered questions about marriage and sexuality.



It was another wonderful week of sharing God's word, but it was also intense, partly because all the sessions had to be translated. Each day was hours of teaching and preaching, talking and answering questions.

It was a privilege to hear in confidence the often-painful life stories.

Despite all the difficult life circumstances, there is the heartfelt desire to want to live for God. While there is always need in their lives, there is hunger for spiritual growth and willingness to serve in God's Kingdom.

God is always and everywhere at work.

Thank you for your unwavering support and prayers for Matthias and Maria, Holiness and Shipha and their faithful work in Burundi and Uganda.

Together, in prayer and support, let us be vessels of love and light, spreading the message of hope and salvation to the ends of the earth.



Contribution of Jodie Wassink

I think one of the biggest highlights of this trip was finally being on the African continent and experiencing Africa in reality. I had been born there but had left for Australia at the age of three.

Because of this, Africa for me was always this distant, obscure part of my identity that I could not grasp.

I always dreamed of working in Africa in the field of conservation, which was the whole reason for me to study Wildlife Science. I am almost at the end of my studies now, and the desire to work in Africa was still just a dream.



Impressive togetherness

However, this trip showed me the reality of life in two African countries. Especially the effect of poverty, but also their incredible sense of belonging and community.

It made it clear to me that, yes, although it would be a very different life from the one I grew up in, I could live just fine in an African country in the future and follow my passion. The vague dream I had for my future has become more attainable and realistic because of this trip.



The first week in Burundi was very special. It was a huge culture shock, and I was quite overwhelmed, but as the week progressed, Mom and I grew closer to Mathias and Maria. Their hospitality was amazing, and I can honestly say that I gained a spiritual uncle and aunt in Burundi.

I loved sitting in the back of the car on the long drives, holding Shalom their baby, eating local fruits I had never heard of, and watching the beautiful scenery go by.

In every village we visited, the people were incredibly friendly. I even had many well-meaning young men ask me to marry them, which was quite amusing.

Also, the dancing and singing was wonderful, and while my mother taught, I had the chance to play games with the children with the help of a very friendly interpreter who got along wonderfully with the children and figured out games using the limited resources available.

There was so much laughter and joy and it was so heartwarming to see, regardless of culture, difficulties or lack of basic needs, children playing, laughing, competing and complaining exactly the same way all over the world.

It was wonderful to get to know the rest of Matthias' orphans and have the opportunity to play games and offer much-needed school supplies and toys that we had brought with us.

I tried to learn basic words in their language to the hilarity of the children. I enjoyed the joy and laughter of the children when my attempts failed.





We traveled back to Uganda, where I had the absolute privilege of meeting Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka at her café, the Gorilla Conservation Café in Entebbe.

She was the first African wildlife veterinarian in Uganda. She is an amazing inspiration in the world of conservation and has accomplished much in the field of gorilla conservation.

I told her I was interested in Cheeta conservation and would like to work in Namibia with an NGO called the Cheeta Conservation Fund.

Amazingly, Gladys said she knew the director of the CCF personally and would give me her personal contact information! She introduced me personally, and she wrote me right back. I was absolutely delighted!

Another major highlight was meeting my nanny who had taken care of me in my first three years of life. Also, seeing the house I was born in was incredibly surreal.



We were able to visit the parliament building because my babysitter works there. She gave us a tour, and we were even able to listen in on a hearing that was taking place at the time, discussing the current problem of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in livestock throughout Uganda. I haven't even seen the Australian Parliament building, let alone been inside, so having this opportunity in the country of my birth was incredible.

We spent a week in Jinja, where Mom taught at a youth conference. I made good contacts among the peers there. There were also many children, who came mainly for the free daily lunch of beans and rice.

Since most of the kids could speak English, I could communicate well and usually ended up playing soccer games with them in the afternoon. They were very surprised that a Muzungus (white) girl could play as well as they did, and we got a lot of curious spectators.



We spent the last weekend at a guesthouse on the beautiful Nile, enjoying the playful monkeys in the trees and watching the dedicated fishermen in their rickety canoes. I got the chance to do whitewater rafting on the rapids of the Nile.



What a great adrenaline-inducing experience. However, I found, after two weeks of only interacting with the locals and their way of life, which sitting in a boat with other white people, mostly Americans, was pretty strange. I chose to sit in the back with the local raft guides and their children.

I left with a deeper understanding of the country I was born in, a clearer picture of future opportunities to live and work in Africa, and a deep appreciation for basic things we take for granted in the Western world, such as running water and stable electricity.

It was an unforgettable experience, and I am very glad I did it with my mother by my side.

Blessings of God our Father wished from Maria and Jodie Wassink

Final message and thanksgiving from the director of Adullam International in the Netherlands

We are grateful for:

The counseling and relief work that could be done in India, Burundi, Uganda and Kenya
International support for continued work in Africa.

The delivery of 1,000 English Bibles and the 10,000 NT City Bibles for distribution in Kenya and Uganda.

Prayer requests:

1. For faith-filled and encouraging support for persecuted Dalit Christians in India
2. For aftercare for women in Burundi and Uganda and local mentors.
3. For increased support to orphans and the young students in Burundi, Uganda and Kenya.
4. For the poor Pygmy people in the mountain villages that they get stone houses.
5. For more sewing machines in Burundi because many women and men want lessons.
6. For the daughters of the sick Gilbert Ojiambo from Busia in Uganda who attended the seminar.
7. For another car for Mathias serving the visits of Pygmy believers in the mountains of Burundi

I am grateful that, now that international travel is no longer an option for me because of my age, I am still able to do the work as Adullam coordinator and advisor for all activities in Africa, India, Bangladesh and also in the Netherlands. It is still possible to teach Bible classes and organize zoom meetings for Bible school students of the YWAM organization in Bangladesh.



I am grateful that it is still possible to take my place in the now relocated Kiosk at the Scheveningen boulevard every Wednesday, to show seeking and interested people the Way to the Lord Jesus as Savior and heavenly Counselor. Or doing Bible study together with believers who are in need of it.

There are always edifying conversations, sometimes followed up by home or sick visits and serving with God's Word in new home circles and various congregations.

The Dutch Adullam Board is grateful that the faithful readers of the Adullam Newsletters join us in praying and helping to continue the work at home and abroad until the Lord Jesus comes.

May the Lord Jesus bless you all. Pray for those who have expressed their needs and activities to us in this letter.

On behalf of all the staff and board of Adullam Netherlands.

Jaap Terreehorst - Chairman, Marcel van Keeken - Treasurer, Gerbrand van Burken - Secretary
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