

Shaardas' Story

It's God's
Story!

shaarda.blogspot.com

shaarda@hotmail.com

PO Box 711
Soroti, Uganda



Josh, Mandy, Lydia, Grace, Luka & Emalai

Working together with local believers to disciple and train village churches.

Home Service in Michigan

In just less than a week our fridge will be emptied, our bags packed, ministry will be wrapped up, and goodbyes will have been said. Leaving is more than the physical; it is unplugging, packing up, pulling away and preparing our hearts. We are so thankful we are at a point in missions that we love the people here, our local church, and the ministry. They are a part of us and we belong here. Can we call time in America "home service" when our home is now here?

On the other hand we are excited to see our families, visit friends, and share with our supporters. We look forward to the beauty, seasons, and comforts of America. After five months in Michigan we know it will be difficult to say goodbye again.

So, ready or not, here we come. Please pray for peace as we leave and safety as we travel many miles. We leave home August 21. We will spend a few days with friends before flying August 24. We have a layover in England where we will visit with friends and see many things we just learned about in our Middle Ages unit in History - learning at its best! We will arrive in Michigan August 29. From there we travel to Canada for a Freedom in Christ Conference. After that we will be speaking at supporting churches and the kids will be attending school. Pray for our adjustment back to the States and for God to use our time for His glory.

One more thing, we were given a car for our second vehicle while we are in MI! We are so thankful for the generosity of our supporters!

Home Service Speaking Schedule:

September

- 17 Rudyard CRC
- 24 Faith Community CRC

October

- 1 Kellogesville CRC
- 8 Georgetown CRC
- 13-14 FIC Discipleship Course in Falmouth
- 15 Prosper CRC
- 22 Christian Reformed Conference Grounds
- 29 Friendship Gaylord

November

- 5 Ivanrest CRC
- 12 Cadillac CRC
- 19 East Martin CRC
- 26 Lake City CRC

December

- 3 Jamestown CRC
- 10 Lucas CRC
- 31 Highland CRC

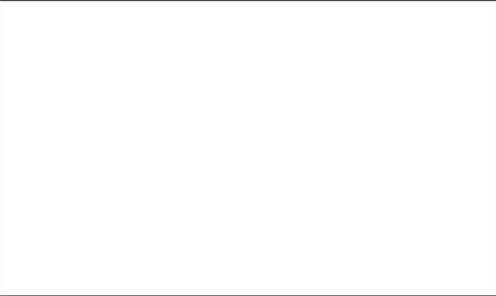
January

- 7 Vogel Center CRC
- 14 Calvin (McBain) CRC



Prison Graduation

Next Tuesday the ward pastors will be recognized for completing the training that Josh has been leading in the prison. This training has included both Freedom in Christ and Timothy Leadership Training materials. Please pray that these men will live according to the truths they have learned, will effectively encourage other inmates with God's word, and will experience life transformation as a result of renewing their minds. As part of the celebration Josh bought a



bull and rice to eat with the inmates.

(Normally they only get meat once a year on Christmas day.)

FIC Tororo Training

"I have attended many training seminars over the years," said a Kenyan pastor "but there is something different about this one." Church leaders from Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, and different parts of Uganda attended the Freedom in Christ Discipleship Course last week in Tororo. Josh, together with FIC teachers from Obule and a FIC worker from California, taught the church leaders about their identity in Christ, how to win the battle for the mind, and how to be free from the past. Once free, church leaders learned how to grow in Christ.

Leaders were excited to acquire extra discipleship materials to use when teaching others in their home communities. Some pastors, from our area of Uganda, were excited to have the books in their own language. Those from Tanzania and Burundi urged Josh to get them translated into Swahili as quickly as possible, a work which is now in process.

Please pray for each person to recall what they learned at the course and to be active in teaching it to others. Pray also for those who are translating the discipleship book into Swahili.

Marriage & Parenting Conferences

As we prepare to separate from friends here, our hearts long to see them experience God's kingdom come in their marriages and families. Few of the believers here were raised by Christian parents. Therefore, we focused much of our last week encouraging people to follow God's truth in their homes.

Last week we went with Pastor Martin and his wife Kristine to lead a marriage conference in Amuria. Josh taught about God's plan for marriage –



oneness between the husband and wife. Mandy helped people understand this concept by leading some interactive, visible illustrations to demonstrate oneness. We also had a three-legged race to help people understand the importance of working together and communicating.

At the end of the day, the local community chairman asked us to return in the future to repeat the teaching. He said that he would even mobilize non Christians to attend. He noted that much of his work involved sorting out marriage conflict. If people understood and applied God's plan for marriage, it would make his work much easier.

Yesterday we had about 10 couples in our home for the day discussing Biblical wisdom about parenting. We discussed what it means for parents' hearts to be turned back toward their children and the importance of treating children as a joy and delight (Luke 1:5-17.) We also looked at Luke 2:41-52, seeing how to stop *assuming* your children are going to the right place (heaven) and to start *knowing*



they are going to heaven. We ended by discussing how to help difficult children grow in wisdom, and stature, in favor with God and with people.

Please Send Support To:
Freedom in Christ Ministries – USA
9051 Executive Park Dr. Ste. 503
Knoxville, TN 37923

*Indicate that the gift is for
account #60 – Josh & Mandy Shaarda*
Give online at: ficm.org/make-donation
For help setting up EFT donations, call the FICM
office at 865-342-4000.

Thank you for your partnership!