

Hello family and friends!

We left Grand Rapids 3.5 weeks ago...what an adventure it has been! Our plane flights went really well—THANKS for praying! We were able to get extra seats on all of the flights, so Avalien had a seat of her own and didn't have to stay on our laps! All three little girls played nicely and quietly and also slept a lot. Tim and I didn't get sick—Praise God! The only dilemma was that two of our bags never arrived and we had to spend an extra two hours at the airport to report them missing. After 3 weeks we have finally received one and we are still waiting on the other.

Our first week was spent in the capital, Kampala. We needed the time to adjust to the 8 hour time difference (Avalien thought that it was time to get up from "nap" at about midnight and then it took her 2-3 hours to fall back asleep again!). We also spent time buying supplies that we knew we couldn't get in Soroti. We were able to purchase some of our furniture and appliances. What's more, through a contact at one of our supporting churches we were able to hook up with an American man who buys and sells vehicles here in Uganda (little did we know, he is a well-known stock-car racer in Uganda)...our 8 passenger 4x4 van was ready when we got here! Praise God for reliable transportation! Our time in Kampala was a much needed time to transition into this new country before moving out to Soroti where we knew life would be a little more stressful.

We have been in our new home in Soroti for the past 2 weeks. The first few days were quite overwhelming. It was hot, the electricity was out more than on, we needed to unpack but had no cupboards, closets, shelves, or dressers in which to put our things and our house was home to a few too many cockroaches and ants. With no electricity our fridges didn't work and we weren't able to get the gas for our stove, so we couldn't cook (and there aren't many restaurants in Soroti!) We thought we would get internet soon after we arrived...we have been working on getting it practically every day and still don't have it (that is why we haven't emailed any of you!) To add a little more stress, Avalien had a fever of 102 degrees for five days. We asked ourselves a few times "what are we doing here and why did we leave N. America?" But, with each new day we feel better and better about where we are and what God has in store for us here. The needs here are great. Our Ugandan friends have been a huge blessing to us! We also feel your prayers!! God is so faithful!

Tim was congratulated by the neighbors for killing a cobra snake outside of our gate. People have told us that they aren't very common. I am just glad that he killed it before it got into our gate! Tim will begin teaching at Bethel Bible College in a week. He will teach a course on Discipleship.

Avalien is doing well. It was a little difficult for her at first—she was really clingy and cried a bit more than usual. Of course it didn't help when she got sick. She seems to like her new home now and is adjusting. She loves having her cousins, Lydia and Grace as neighbors!! She really enjoys going for walks and seeing all of her new friends. Many people here are very curious about this little black girl with white parents!

We have a PO Box set up here in Soroti. If you want to send us letters, small packages, magazines, etc we have been told that it takes about 2 weeks from the States (otherwise you can send letters to the International Teams address at the end of this email and they will forward them on to us). Our new Ugandan address is:

Tim and Angie Sliedrecht
P.O. Box 711
Soroti, Uganda

We also have cell phones:
Angie: 011 256 77 478 9728
Tim: 011 256 77 478 9718

We hope to have our internet set up soon, so we will be able to keep in better contact with all of you. Thank you to all of you who have written—you are such an encouragement!

We are now in Kampala again...applying for our work visas and getting our Ugandan drivers licenses. Please pray that this process goes quickly and smoothly.

THANK YOU for praying...please don't stop. We need your prayers as we daily look to God for strength and wisdom in knowing how to help a country that is in so much need. Please pray that Christ will shine brightly through our words and actions.



Moving with supplies from Kampala to Soroti



Our new duplex and van



Meeting our new neighbours



Reading by candle-light



Local kids looking through our gate peep-hole



Avalien, Lydia & Grace meeting new friends



Katie



Kids are always at our gate



Avalien & Lydia at the center of attention



Tim blowing bubbles for neighbourhood kids



Sunrise in Soroti



Killer cobra killed by Tim



Walks are always accompanied by a crowd



Angie buying bananas at Soroti market

For more pictures and info (including [Mandy's Journal](#)), please go to our [webpage](#)!

In Him,

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