



The Shaarda News



Josh & Mandy Shaarda
 PO Box 711 Soroti, Uganda
shaarda@hotmail.com
shaarda.blogspot.com



Thanksgiving

As we approach the end of 2009, we want to celebrate your partnership in sharing the gospel. We want you to rejoice with us at the ways God has been working here in Soroti, Uganda. Life here is not without frustrations. Some ministries do not go as well as we had hoped. However, it is easy to see God's hand at work. Please, give thanks with us! Your generous gifts helped to make this ministry possible. Your prayers throughout the year made this ministry effective. You played a key role. Here are some of the fruits we have seen this year:

1. Stewardship in Amuria: In April Josh taught a course about Christian Stewardship in Amuria District. Five months later seven church leaders testified that giving in their churches had increased significantly (despite drought and famine in the area) as they applied the Stewardship teachings in their congregations. Their churches had been empowered: evangelism was now funded, a permanent building had begun, an outreach team was hosted, a new church had been started, and youth events had been sponsored.
2. A Child Saved: Mandy noticed a sick (nearly dead) baby named Rukiya in the market one day. Mandy helped the grandmother take Rukiya to a children's shelter. Now, three months later, Rukiya is healthy, has doubled in weight, and has returned home.
3. Marriages saved: Josh began the Timothy Leadership Training in Obule in July. While applying the lessons on pastoral visits, the church leaders were able to reconcile three couples which had separated due to conflict in their marriage. Many others were brought to salvation.
4. The karamojong people are virtually unreached with the gospel. Disabled people are scorned in Uganda. We praise God that one Karamojong man and one polio victim were trained at Bethel Bible College (where Josh teaches) this year.



Josh praying for a church leader

Speaking Schedule

Yes, we will be in Michigan soon! Josh's younger sister is getting married in November and we are honored to be in her wedding. While we are in Michigan we hope to be able to see many of you. We also look forward to time with family, refreshment, and holiday celebrations. Lydia is excited to join her classmates in first grade at Hudsonville Christian School for a few weeks. Josh will also be going to Nigeria to encourage the church in Mahula (where we used to live). What a joy it will be for him to be reunited with our friends there. Below is our speaking schedule. Hope you are able to come!

November

- 15 Lucas CRC 6pm
- 22 Ivanrest CRC
8:30 & 11am
Jamestown CRC 6:00pm
- 29 Cadillac CRC 10:30am
Nov. 30 - Dec. 9 Pray
for Josh's trip to Nigeria

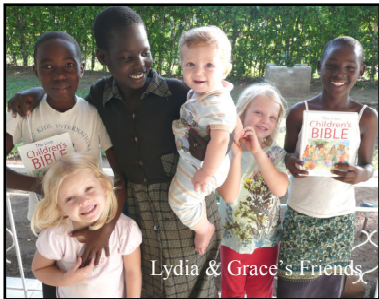
December

- 6 Kellogesville CRC
9:30am (Mandy only)
- 13 Georgetown CRC
8:30 & 11am
East Martin CRC 6pm
- 20 Highland CRC 9:30am
- 27 Mc Bain CRC 10:30am

January

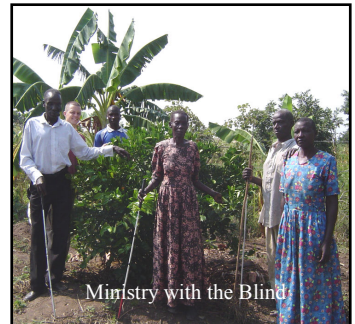
- 3 Roosevelt Park 10am
Faith Comm. 5:30pm

5. The Gospel Preached: Many shops in Soroti are owned by Hindus from India. Chinese men have come to build roads. None of these people had heard the gospel. This year we were able to fully present the gospel to 7 of them. None have turned to Christ yet, but the Chinese continue to show great interest.



There are many more ways God is working: our kids showing love to 3 unloved girls; Josh teaching 40 kids God's word every Sunday morning; trainings hosted; famine relief; helping 7 children go to school; blind ministry; marriage Bible study. Your gifts make all of these things possible. On behalf of everyone here who benefits, Thank You!

As we look forward to serving Christ next year in Soroti, we are excited about the ways He is working. We want to invite you to participate with us in this ministry for another year. Please consider giving another gift this year (see the form below). Thanks be to God!



Pray Items

- ★ We thank God for Grace who turned 4 years old on October 11!
- ★ Pray for David (his story was in our fall newsletter). It seems he is quite a con artist. Pray that David finds new life in Christ.
- ★ Pray for us as we travel 7500 miles to Michigan the middle of November. And for Josh as he goes to Nigeria.
- ★ Pray for our health. For all of you who read our blog, you know that we have had a lot of sickness in our family the last few months.
- ★ Pray for someone to come and help us home school our children next year.
- ★ Give thanks to God for all the ways He has worked in Soroti this year. Thank Him for using us and everyone who partners with us to minister here.
- ★ Pray about how God wants to use you to change lives in Uganda.



May God bless you for being a blessing,

Josh, Mandy,
Lydia, Grace, & Luka



YES! I'd like to partner with: Josh & Mandy Shaarda in Uganda

I will contribute to your support:
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THANK YOU!