



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

*Luke 9:2*

**DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS,**

**DECEMBER 2025**

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** The construction of the Children's Church building was completed in November, and we held a festive dedication service on November 23rd. The following Sunday was a milestone moment as the children entered their new facility for their very first Sunday School and Children's Church service, finally moving out of the SOAP dining room where they had met for many years. We thank the Lord for this long-awaited blessing, a place where young hearts will be taught God's Word and shown the way of salvation through Jesus Christ.

**SOROTI ORPHAN ASSISTANCE PROJECT (SOAP):** The 2025 school year for the SOAP orphans concluded last week, and all the children have returned to their villages until the 2026 school year in February. This year, our four Primary 7 (P7) students completed the Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE), which help determine their future educational paths. Three boys have chosen vocational training, while one will continue academically into Secondary Level 1 (S1). Later this month, we will begin reviewing applications for new orphan admissions.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH TEACHER TRAINING:** We are grateful to have had fellow missionary Alisha Stensaas, from Masaka, with us at TBC last week to train members from seven village churches to teach Children's Church curriculum in the Ateso language. This three-day training equips them with practical skills, Biblical knowledge, and three months of curriculum for ministering to children in their local churches. After each three-month period of ministry, the trainees will return for additional instruction. This cycle will continue for three years, an investment that will build lasting strength into village ministries for the glory of God.

**CONSTRUCTION:** We praise the Lord that both the Children's Church and the boys' dormitory were completed on time—an answer to many months of prayer. The new dormitory provides additional space for more boys, allowing us to admit and minister to more orphaned children than ever at SOAP. **Mat 19:14** *"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."*

**CHURCH PLANTING:** There are many ministries of the church, but one of the chief goals of missionary work is the planting of Bible-believing churches. We are grateful to the Lord that three men are now moving forward in this vital ministry. From our hub church, Temple Baptist, Bros. Ebiru and Calvin, having completed their Bible training, are currently preparing their Statements of Faith as they look toward ordination early next year. Bro. Anthony has finished his first year of Bible College and has a burden to plant a church near his home village. Our prayer is that these men will step into areas where no Independent Baptist Church yet exists, still the vast majority of communities across Uganda, and establish churches that shine the Gospel light in places long dominated by false teaching. May the Lord raise up fruit that remains for His glory.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Salvation of souls through the outreach ministries at Temple Baptist Church in Soroti.
- Safety and protection for the orphans while they are in their home villages.
- Additional young men to surrender their lives to the call of church planting.
- Our colleague Phyllis, as she faces some challenging health issues.

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

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**Children's Church Teacher Trainees**



**Children's Church Ribbon Cutting**



**Children's Church Interior**