



October 28, 2021

Dear Friends,

Over the *past* 17 days, we experienced a wild ride of emotions while trying to get a visa for Dave's trip to Uganda. Submitting the application was easy. Paying for it was impossible. We tried multiple ways to get \$50 into the hands of the authorities. Each attempt failed. It was exhausting. Actually, it seemed that the door wasn't just closed- it appeared to be nailed shut.

The primary culprits were a blocked Immigration Services payment portal and an algorithm that kept flagging our attempts to pay with fraud alerts. No matter how many times we tried to get both unblocked, we could not pay. On Tuesday evening, we thought that the trip would be postponed.

Then, Wednesday morning at 5:30 am, a person from the Immigration office in Uganda called my cell phone. At the urging of a Ugandan friend and government official, they wanted to clear up the problem. In God's providence, we had houseguests and we used one of their credit cards to pay. One hour later, the visa was issued. By mid-morning, along with a neighbor, Dave was off to Virginia to get a 2-3-hour response PCR test. With the negative result, the door swung wide open again.

There's much more to the story, but join us in giving thanks for this amazing turn of events. It has been 22 months since we traveled internationally. Now, the *next* 17 days will be filled with opportunities for Dave to reconnect with church leaders, the Ugandan team, establish 2022 Ugandan training plans, develop curriculum, meet with the Training of Trainers Group, work on translation projects, and share God's love in person. It will be a full trip.

Of course, travel is always uncertain. Schedules can change in a Ugandan minute. So, as Dave prepares to fly from Harrisburg tomorrow, please pray for the journey and then use the following schedule to keep this trip in your prayers. Pray for the Lord's blessing on our partners and all that is ahead.

October 29-30 – *Dave flies to Uganda – MDT- DTW- AMS- KGL-EBB (arrives 10:55 pm on 30th)*

October 31st – **Dave and Daudi** visit a Trainer of Trainers (TOT) at Entebbe Baptist Church

November 1-5 – **Ugandan team** works on many curriculum projects and planning for 2022

November 8-10 - Meeting with the **Training the Trainers Group in Kampala**

November 11-13 – **Ugandan Team** continues work on Partnership translation and blog projects

November 15-16 – *Dave returns to US – EBB- AMS – DTW- MDT (arrives at 6:00pm on Nov. 16th)*

Thank you for your commitment to stand with us through the years. Your prayers, support, and encouragement keep us going. Upon Dave's return, an Update on the trip will be coming your way. Until then, may the Lord bless you and keep you strong and courageous.

With grateful hearts,
Dave and Joyce

Partnerships for Training Pastors
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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