

The Gardner Family

Ambassadors of Christ to the Ugandan People



Prayer Requests at a Glance

- 1 - For Mason to accept Christ as their Savior at an early age
- 2 - For our healing from the loss of Savannah
- 3 - For wisdom as we repair the church ceiling
- 4 - For my shipping container to get through all the red tape

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Greetings from Uganda! I wanted to thank each and every one of you who have been praying for my safety. The Lord truly did save the lives of my entire church. Approximately six months ago, we had a team of masons install a new roof in our church auditorium. It took a while, but when the construction was done, it was beautiful! The previous particle board ceiling that was there was causing several issues that needed to be addressed. This new concrete ceiling was much more permanent, and it addressed all the previous issues. One Sunday morning, the Men's Sunday School Class met there at the normal hour; the morning service followed like usual, and everything was just another day at church. The entire church left around noon, but when the choir members came back at 4 pm for practice, about 80% of the ceiling had collapsed! The pews were destroyed, the lights ripped out of their sockets, and the fans were ripped off the walls. We all immediately thanked God for allowing this tragedy to happen while the building was completely empty instead of when 125 people were sitting in the auditorium. Thousands of pounds of concrete would have crushed all of us. The Lord was also good in that the 20% of the ceiling that didn't fall down was over the platform. This meant that our pulpit, piano, speaker, and soundboard were all safe and could be used to continue services in another location. So again, thank you for praying for us. Those prayers make all the difference. We are now meeting in the auditorium at the orphanage that was only used for classes and school chapel services. It is now the temporary church building as well. Please pray for us as we clean up all the rubble and look toward what will be a better option for the church building.

I would also like to ask for prayer for my shipping container. A supporting church donated the funds for me to bring a shipping container over with many supplies that will aid me as I father my two children in the third world and as a single parent. The container made it safely to the country with no problems, but it has since been tied up with lots of government red tape. This has caught me by surprise because the first container that we brought with all of our things when we first moved to the mission field only took 4 days to get to Soroti after it entered Uganda. Please pray that the Lord will help the much-needed container get through the bureaucracy so that we can start using its contents.

Finally, please continue to be in prayer for Mason. My heart's greatest desire is that he will accept Christ at an early age. God bless you!

For the furtherance of the Gospel,
Matthew, Jedidiah, and Mason Gardner