



Lisa (O'Brien) Lubulwa & Family

H o l i d a y s & B r o k e n E x p e c t a t i o n s

***“Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.”***

***Isaiah 40:4***

Every month, The Shepherd Center hosts an outreach for street boys. Since our main ministry focus is to help rehabilitate boys who have been on the streets, it is natural for us to check in with those who are currently living the street life. We give them a hot meal, check in on how they are doing, share a Gospel-centered message, see if any need follow-up or could be recruited to enrolled in TSC.

During the Christmas season, we extend our

regular budget to expand their meal, and provide gifts. This year we were able to give the boys t-shirts and sandals, in addition to the soap we usually pass out.

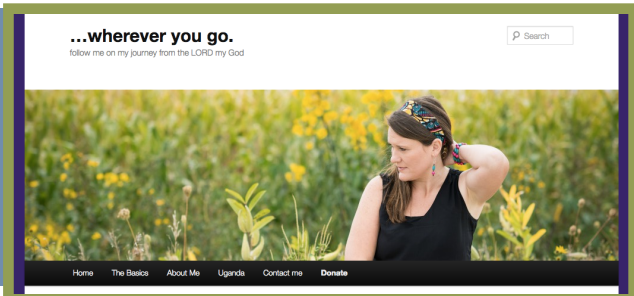
Since my children were out of school during this special Christmas outreach, they joined the TSC staff in serving the street boys. Several of these faces are quite familiar to my boys. Some they have seen throughout the years at outreaches. Still others we interact with regularly in town.

Solomon was busy helping each boy wash his hands before the meal. Simon helped serve a spoonful of rice onto each plate, and Micah gave out

sodas. Givers and receivers alike enjoyed the day, relishing in God’s blessings.

Just a couple of days later, The Shepherd Center held a Christmas party for all of our boys and their guardians. The party included graduating four of our boys from the program. It was a great day of celebrating the birth of Jesus through a service, feasting on a delicious meal, and giving gifts of food, clothing, & hygiene items.

Now we are preparing for a new school year. We have high hopes for our boys to have academic success and continue to grow in faith and maturity.



Follow me on Instagram at [golisaobrien](#).

Check out my website: [golisaobrien.com](#).

Take a look around the different pages to find out a little bit more about me and Uganda.



We have enjoyed many family activities during our 9 week break from school. Living away from my home country, in a totally different climate, it can be a challenge for it to *feel* like Christmas. Long ago, I decided to overcome that by doing my best to create traditions and memories for my family (and our friends) to help us celebrate the season. Now it is a time of year I thoroughly enjoy. We hosted three Christmas parties in December. The first was for 11 teenagers (the twins and their friends from school), complete with photo-booth, games, and an art project. The second was for the kids in our community, which included 16 children and 10 adults. We have a group of several families (expats and Ugandas) that function as an extended family here in our small town. The kids enjoyed games, crafts, songs, and so much more. The third Christmas party was for the ladies of this group. Along with tasty food, we reflected on our year while creating fabric wreaths.

Another tradition we have is to bless some families in our town with food packages for the holiday. We loaded up the car with items, and headed out to deliver them (picture to the right). It was quite humbling to see people so grateful for the simple gifts, with one woman exclaiming “God must

really love me that these strangers have thought of me!”

This year we also hosted our nephews from Kampala for two weeks. It was quite fun for everyone to have them in our home. Due to the generosity of various people, we were able to take a two-day trip together to Queen Elizabeth National Park. It was the first time for Kato & Waswa and Micah to go to a national park. Highlights for all of us were seeing multiple lions and huge herds of elephants (above).

We began 2026 full of hope and plans for our entire family to travel to the USA. Patrick and I have been working on his paper-work for 2 1/2 years, and are just waiting for his visa interview. Unfortunately, the USA administration has banned immigrant visas from Uganda, effective in January. We have been quite devastated with this news, and our way forward is unclear. Pray for us as we wait for clarity, and hope that the ban is lifted. Our family desires to travel to the USA altogether (Patrick has never been), and continue the pursuit of his USA citizenship as my husband and father of 3 children who are USA citizens. Meanwhile, we are holding onto the words of Isaiah 40:4 (on the previous page) as we wait.

Thank you for your support!  
~Lisa & family

#### REASONS TO PRAISE:

1. TSC graduated 4 boys.
2. TSC had a successful Christmas Party & Street Outreach.
3. Our family enjoyed our break from school.
4. The twins are making good progress in school.

#### WAYS TO PRAY:

1. TSC will find sponsors for all of the boys waiting.
2. The visa ban will be lifted so that Patrick will be able to travel to the USA and continue to pursue USA citizenship.
3. We will remain hopeful as we wait on Patrick’s paperwork.
4. Financial provision for monthly expenses and potential trip to the USA.



If you are interested in joining our support team, please visit

[www.cten/lisaobrien](http://www.cten/lisaobrien)

for details on giving online or by mail.

If you have any questions, please email me at [golisaobrien@gmail.com](mailto:golisaobrien@gmail.com).



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