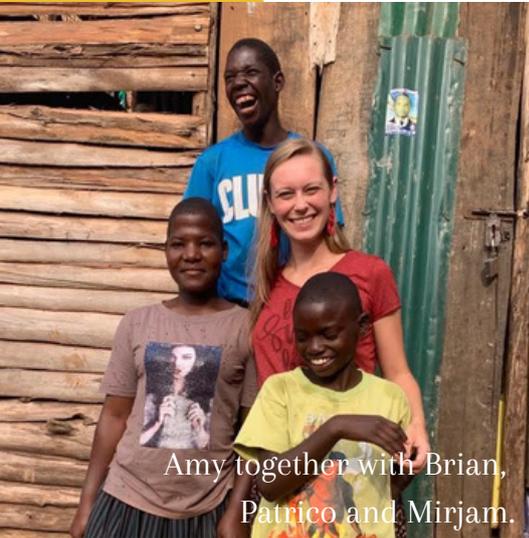




# Seek, Serve, Share with Amy



Amy together with Brian, Patrico and Mirjam.



Brian and Derrick

*Taste and see that  
the Lord is good.  
Oh, the joys of  
those who take  
refuge in Him!*

- Psalm 34:8

## Overview

Amy is living in **Uganda** for long-term missionary work, working together with the mission agency **International Teams NL**, and her **Dutch Reformed home church**.

What is she doing there?

- **Working with Special Needs People and their families** under the name **Special Joy**, by working together with several Ugandan NGO's and with the church Streams of Life.
- **Being part of the Ugandan church** by being an active member of the church Streams of Life.
- **Learning Luganda**, the local language.

*'We love, because He first loved us.'* - 1 Joh. 4:19

## An honest look at the past months...

As a highlight I got to say 'yes I do' to my dear husband Derrick on December 17th! In addition, it was also very nice to have my parents, sisters and some friends here in Uganda so that they got a feel from the country we call home!

At the same time, it has been a very intensive couple of months for us. Both the preparations for the wedding and the wedding itself were anything but flawless. This brought disappointment, frustration and stress. That is why I have been quieter on social media for a while and it took a long time before I had answered all whatsapp messages and emails. During the period before, during and after the wedding, Derrick and I needed time for ourselves and wanted to be there for our family and friends who were in Uganda from the Netherlands.

For me personally it felt like I was in 3 life events at the same time. Life events are events that have a major impact on your life. As you know, not so long ago I moved permanently to Uganda and went through a period of transition and culture shock. I know this is part of it and it's normal, but to call it fun, no ;-). Getting married is also seen as a life event and Derrick and I definitely had/have to get used to life together, no matter how beautiful and wonderful the marriage is! I will tell you about the third life event later in this newsletter.

All in all, a few intensive months behind us, but now we are looking ahead with fresh courage! I really enjoy watching Special Joy grow, and being involved in relationship building, practical help and team building. It's also great to be able to do this together with Derrick! The language study will also soon continue through online group lessons, so also practicing the language continues steadily (:

*With love from Uganda, Derrick and Amy*

# Special Joy update

Recently, we have been able to really invest in building relationships with people with disabilities and their families. That's exactly a big reason, the drive, the vision and mission of my stay here, so I can't tell you with enough joy that it's wonderful to see that taking shape!

The families we support do not receive any help. The need and help of us also differ per family. For some this is financial help, for others medical help, and for others practical help. We do what we can and what is in our power. We also work closely with existing organizations and contacts. In recent years I have invested a lot in network building during my short trips to Uganda and that is now coming in handy! Nice to be able to work together like this!

The core value of Special Joy is relationship. To really see people, to leave people in their value or to encourage them in the fact that they are of value, to love people as Jesus loves them. We often see that these people are more of a burden than a Joy. And I have to admit, families with people with disabilities face many additional challenges, in the midst of pre-existing poverty, corruption, unemployment and/or poor health care. This can be really difficult, which is why we want to support them as best we can. We are grateful that the people with disabilities within Special Joy all have a family around them who takes care of them, as best they can. At the same time, we see a lot of room for improvement and to make things easier for them in various areas, and that's why we want to stand next to them out of God's love!



Our wedding day



Happily expecting!

# Babynews!

And now the 3rd life event, because Derrick and I have special news to share with you. We are expecting our first baby! We hope to welcome our baby in late July. We look forward to welcoming this baby, loved and received from God's hand, in due time!

# Do you want to share along with us?

We believe that as children of God, we are one family as the body of Christ, and that we have been given different tasks that suit us. Together we may let this body bring Love in this world, with Christ as our Head. And, Love becomes more when we share it together.

Which task fits you? How may you share along?

**You can share along with us by:**



## Encouragement

Stay involved through personal contact, the newsletter and the channels below.



[www.amyinuganda.com](http://www.amyinuganda.com)



Special Joy Uganda



Amy in Uganda - Special Joy



## Praise & Prayer

**Praise** God for the fact that Ugandan schools are open again. Education is one of the most important needs in the world, so it was high time that schools reopened after an almost 2 year lockdown.

**Praise** God that the language study will soon be continued.

**Pray** for Daniel, a child on Special Joy's program, where we try to get proper medical care for his epilepsy. Unfortunately at the moment he is very weak and sick because of the heavy new medication.

**Pray** for a good team around Derrick and Amy, for a group of people who we can take along in the vision and mission of Special Joy, and who get excited about it!



## Finances

Amy is not receiving a salary in Uganda and is living by financial support.

Bankaccount: **ITeams**

**NL86 RABO 0356 0009 23**

**IA-UA de Jong**

BIC code: RABONL2U

These gifts are tax-deductible.

