



# Seek, Serve and Share with the Ainomugisha's



## Overview

Amy has been sent to **Uganda** for long-term missionary work with the mission organization **International Teams NL**, and her **Dutch Reformed home church in Hardinxveld-Giessendam**.

What is she doing there?

- **Evangelizing in Word and Deed among people with disabilities & their families.** She is leading an organisation called *Special Joy Mission Uganda*.
- **She is supporting** in building up the **Ugandan church**.

**Amy is married to Derrick** Ainomugisha and together they take care of **Alannah and Matthian**.

Derrick:

- **Coaches a soccer team called Sports For Christ** who share the gospel and unity across church walls through sports, preaching and music.

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

## 2024 through the months...

### JANUARY

A tough start of the year. Derrick's 'father'/pastor/boss (all in 1 ;) ) was shot at the beginning of January and an 'uncle' gave his life for him. A big loss. We are grateful that Pastor (that's how we call him) is still with us, but it was also a time of mourning and fear for safety. Since then Derrick has started a new job and is away from home during the week. Then he lives at the compound with Pastor and his wife, and drives every day as a driver in the secured convoy for Pastor. Derrick is only at home with us on weekends and his job is not without risk because of what happened. Quite a change for us as a family and quite bizarre that we find ourselves in this situation.

Also these early months of the year were used to prepare for the Business training within Special Joy that we gave in March.

### FEBRUARY

Amy's parents were in Uganda this month and we had a really good time together. It was very nice that they could 'do life with us' for a while, taking them to the families (see photo) and letting them experience what it is like to live here in Uganda.

Unfortunately, thieves broke into our compound in February and Amy turned out to be allergic to bees that our landlord kept in the compound. This, and the difficult relationship with our landlord, made us decide that we had to look for a new place to live.

At the same time, also great news, because Special Joy was officially registered as a non-profit company this month! A point of gratitude, because that didn't happen without a hitch. Our official name is now *Special Joy Mission Uganda*.

### MARCH

The search for a house was successful! We can live above our Special Joy office on the first floor. This month they worked hard to make it livable, because a lot of renovations needed to be done. We are excited about this opportunity, especially for Amy. This allows her to combine 'being a mom' and 'leading Special Joy' even better.

We also gave Special Joy's Business training this month. The mothers, aunt and Wasswa came to 3 Tuesdays the church which we were allowed to use as a training location.



See photo above. It was a success! We use a method from The Chalmers Center and are very enthusiastic, because in addition to Business training, the training is also a wonderful Discipleship training. A response of one of the mums: *"I have learned that if I honor God with my business, He wants to bless my business and help me."*

The other photo above shows a new family within Special Joy. The family of Abigail (in the yellow dress) and mama Resty with her 2 other children. Abigail is 6 years old and has Cerebral Palsy, a posture and movement disorder caused by damage to the brain that occurred during birth. Her father left the family when he saw Abigail's disability. When we found them, the 4 of them were living in her small container which was also her shop with some soft drinks. Her 2nd husband was in prison, so all the money went there to free him, but once that happened he ran away. She barely had food to feed her family. Now they live in a small house within walking distance of her shop, we have invested in her business and she was also able to attend our Business training, which, as she says, helped her a lot. We hope that Abigail can go to a suitable school and we can start physiotherapy.

#### APRIL

Derrick's visa and Amy's driver's license were applied for. Always a lot of paperwork. This month was also tough for Derrick. Already because of illness, but also because he experienced a lot of fear regarding his job and the security situation. Fortunately, this is less the case now, even though there is still a real safety risk. We thank God for His peace and protection despite the circumstances.

Within Special Joy, we started developing our '3-year Special Joy program' this month, which we want to offer to all families starting from 2025. The program consists of Discipleship, general training, home visits, sponsorship program, practical/medical/educational assistance where possible, but above all we want to walk with them for 3 years as Jesus did with His disciples. To EMBRACE, ENCOURAGE, EQUIP and EMPOWER.

In addition to that the 'normal' Special Joy activities (home visits, linking families to specialists, networking, administration, team meetings, etc.) also continued over the months as usual. April was also all about packing, because we moved at the end of April. Admittedly to a house that was not yet finished and that caused quite a bit of stress and frustration.

#### MAY

After a number of weeks with carpenters, plumbers and electricians visiting us every day, peace has now returned and we feel quite settled. Despite the hectic pace of a (Ugandan) move to a new place, we are very happy with our new home!

In May, Amy's friend Natasja came to visit us and that was very nice! She painted beautiful Bible verses on the wall of the Special Joy office! (See picture)

Derrick's visa has arrived! Unfortunately, Amy's driver's license not yet. So it's an extra blessing to live above her office, now that she can't drive.

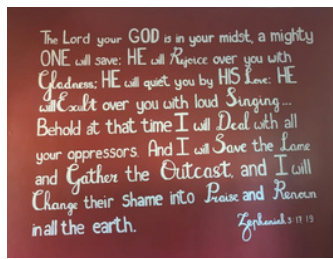
#### JUNE

The '3-year program' is taking shape! The team held many meetings in May and June and is working hard to complete at least the first 6 months of the programme before Amy leaves for the Netherlands in August.

Also 3 of the small businesses have started.



*Love and Blessings,  
Derrick and Amy*



## Will you share with us?

We believe that as children of God we are one family as the body of Christ, and that we have all been given our own task that suits 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 suits you? How can you share?

**You can share with us and be involved through:**



### Encouragement

Stay involved through personal contact, the newsletter and/or the channels below:



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



Special Joy Uganda



Amy in Uganda - Special Joy



### Praise and Prayer

- **Pray** for Wasswa who is waiting for another operation. Pray for patience because his recovery is not going well.
- **Pray** for safety.
- **Pray** for Noeline's health. She is very malnourished and eating is difficult due to a problem in her throat.
- **Praise Him** for our team and the registration of Special Joy!
- **Praise Him** for our new place to live!
- **Pray** for the businesses which started, that they run well and that God really blesses them and gives them wisdom, because it is not easy.
- **Pray** for focus and peace for this last month before we leave for the Netherlands, because there is still a lot to do.
- **Pray** for wisdom for the development of the '3-year Special Joy program'.
- **Pray** for the finances within Special Joy, which can sometimes be quite a concern.
- **Praise Him** for His care and guidance in every step we take.



### Finances

Amy does not receive a salary in Uganda and is dependent on donations. Derrick earns around 150 euros per month.

**ITeams**

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**ovv IA-UA de Jong**

These donations are tax deductible.