



# FLYING FOR LIFE

in Uganda

Newsletter Hobo family

*"If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God you'll be at rest." - Corrie ten Boom -*



*Dear family and friends,*

*Hereby some news from Uganda again! Read more about Marlies' work among Somali children, Wim's medical evacuation flights and about help for refugees from Sudan. Enjoy reading!*

*Wim & Marlies and Yenthe*

## Hungry

"Teacher, I'm not doing well. My mother has no money and we had nothing to eat yesterday." Several times in the last weeks I've received messages like this from Aisha. It's heart-breaking to read and I'm trying to think about possible ways of helping her. The easiest and fastest solution is to take food with me and that is what I do the next day. Although Aisha and her brothers are very happy with the food, I do need to follow up with my colleagues to look for more structural help. Aisha is one of the children in my class...



By the end of last year I got into contact with a Christian organization that works among the tens of thousands of Somali refugees in Kampala. These are mostly mothers and children. The mothers are struggling financially and therefore unable to send their children to an official school. Although I never thought I would ever be standing in front of a classroom, I have to say that teaching these children math and English brings me a lot of joy. It's even more fulfilling to build relationships with them so that we are able to share the Gospel. Most of them listen attentively when I share the Bible stories and when asking them questions about the topic of the previous week, they know exactly what it was about. It is almost impossible to enter Somalia as a missionary, but it is great that we can reach the Somali Muslim community here in Kampala in this way.

## A flying ambulance

The thirteen-year-old girl looks blankly at me as I carry her into the plane. Her arms cramped, no strength in her legs and unable to speak. Malaria has affected her brain and she urgently needs specialist help which is not available in the remote village, so I fly her to Kajjansi. It was great hearing recently that the treatment seems to be successful.



However, sometimes things turn out differently... A few weeks ago I was asked to pick up a man from Juba, South Sudan. He was in a bad shape due to a stroke. When I landed in Juba and the patient was brought to the plane by an ambulance, it was clear that the man was in a deep coma. Some family members and a nurse with a small first aid kit came along on the flight. After a flight of more than two hours, flying as low as possible to keep air pressure differences to a minimum, we handed the patient to an ambulance team in Entebbe. Unfortunately, the man passed away in hospital shortly afterwards. Yet it was good showing that every life matters to God, and therefore also to us and MAF.



## On the run

Probably you are aware of the fighting that broke out in the Sudanese capital Khartoum last summer and continues to this day. Large groups of refugees have therefore fled to refugee camps in South Sudan. The conditions there are downright dire. That's why we have deployed one of our aircraft from Uganda to South Sudan for some time to bring materials for shelter, clean water, food and medicine where they were needed most.

Tens of thousands of Sudanese refugees have now found their way to the overcrowded refugee camps in northern Uganda. As a result, our partner organizations in Uganda are very busy and are using our aircraft every day. Did you know that there are currently more than 100 million people worldwide, almost half of whom are children, on the run because of war and violence? So much suffering! Do you join us in prayer?



## Thank for:

- Wim's health. He has been able to work full-time again since June.
- Marlies' ministry among refugees and children in the slums.
- A nice school environment for Yenthe.

## Pray for:

- Safe flights in the rainy season.
- The Somali children, that we can reach them with Jesus' message.
- The many refugees, that they may find a safe place and people who will take care of them.



## From our Support Team

On behalf of Wim & Marlies, we would like to thank you for all your loyal support in recent years! Whether that was through prayer, financial contributions, participation in the various sports/sponsor activities or in other ways. We greatly appreciate that, together with you, we can reach people in Uganda and South Sudan with God's love.

Wim & Marlies and Yenthe expect to be in The Netherlands for home assignment in June-July 2024. That will still take a while, but we are already looking for suitable accommodation for that period. If you have something in mind (preferably in a radius of 15 km around Leerdam), we would love to hear from you!

## ACCOMMODATION NEEDED!

