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with no attachments.

Guest House in Ngozi

Buye Diocese

Letter No. 1

January 24th 2012

Dear Family and Friends,

We were very sad to see the reading glasses impounded at the airport. Friends are trying to get them released but we don't know when we might see them. Please make this a matter of urgent prayer. Already 2 congregations of 50+ have gathered expectantly, only to be disappointed.

We are comfortably housed. There is an attractive group of ground floor 'ensuite rooms' with a veranda, built on the side of a hill with many flowering bushes and trees separating them. There is water most of the time, electricity nearly all the time and the internet some of the time! The menu is a bit restricted, but we are managing.

Pat preached on Sunday in Ngozi church - the wedding at Cana - to an appreciative congregation and afterwards Noel, the pastor, gave us lunch in his home. Next Sunday Pat will be preaching in Buye cathedral.

Each morning we are collected at 8.00 and I (Pat) teach for 2 hours at Buye Bible College, which is 7 km. away. Our drivers have all been careful, often weaving across the roads to avoid potholes and troughs or boys taking the cows to pasture. I am in a classroom with 12 students, the youngest of whom is 28 and the oldest 50+! How can the Book of Hebrews come alive for them? As I teach it generates its own power! There is a warm response to it, especially since Jesus comes through as a sympathetic human being as well as our Saviour. Next time I will introduce you to one or two of my students.

I (Pam) visited Mubanga yesterday and was impressed with the church, which was built by the local Christians with much toil and sweat, and is now a real credit to them. They fired all the bricks themselves, which is no mean feat and have put glass in all the windows. We gathered for worship and then had to tell them the sad news of the missing specs!

Today I went to Kabataha and saw the newly constructed 6,000L tank, attached to the church, which was also built last year. Friends had raised the money for this tank, so it was good to see it. It saves the women a journey of 3 km in one direction or 5 km in the other direction, down to the river - 2 journeys per day and 4-6 on Saturday, which is wash day and house cleaning day. No wonder that there were so many smiling faces!

Thank you for journeying with us.

With our love, Pat and Pam