

I visited a new Fellowship on Friday for a small group of Canadian supported seniors who used to have to travel a long distance to one of the other locations where fellowships are held. Traveling on the Boda Boda (motorbike taxi) is challenging as they are getting older to sit on a motorbike. The fellowship is called Sanga and is in a government school under construction. ROTOM is allowed to use the space for fellowship. It was lovely to see the familiar faces of those I have met many times before. They had no idea I was coming and were so joyful and told me they wondered where I was and how I had been affected by COVID. It had been the first fellowship for some time due to several factors. One being the cost of food that has increased a huge amount and fuel for transportation is very high.

Beatrice was so happy to be attending the fellowship again. Especially the new location closer to her home. She was smiling and laughing and generally enjoying being with her fellowship group. She was dressed in her traditional dress, a Gomesi, and looked very smart.

I visited Beatrice in 2019 the last time I was in Uganda pre-COVID and she was happy to see me again. She was also telling me that her Canadian friend had visited her and that she had the family pictures at home which she wanted to show me. She kept them safely in her metal trunk she had as a gift. Another gift she is so grateful for is her solar light. She no longer needs to buy Kerosene. Later after fellowship had ended we drove her home and she ran out to get the photos to show me of her sponsors. Beautiful family pictures.

She lives with three grandchildren. Peter is 13 years old and her daughter's son. He does now attend school. Pauline is 9 years old and has another daughter. Assa is 3 years old and her son's child. Pauline goes to school and is in primary 3, school fees paid by her mother.

She is so grateful for the water tank she now has and the relief to have water at hand. The rainy season which is now fills the tank up very fast. She also loves her outside kitchen. She is so grateful for her sponsors and ROTOM. She was born in Dec 1942 and certainly looks 10 years younger. It was a joy to see her again and enjoy the fellowship together.

In Gratitude

Linda Hallett

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