

ROMANS ONE ELEVEN TRUST (R1:11)

Charity No. 1012736

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Update June 2018 - Friends of R1:11

Dear friends,

Ups and downs, mountains and valleys, swings and roundabouts... Scripture encourages us to give thanks in all circumstances and, in effect, to pray through the bad times until we reach good ones. Philippians is one of the most positive and encouraging books of the Bible, yet just before the famous passage in chapter 4 about rejoicing and praying with thanksgiving in every situation (verses 4 to 9), we read this: "I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord." (Philippians 4: 2) Even in Philippi there were disagreements and the need for unity to be restored.

This is the constant theme in our ministry of mutual encouragement in Uganda. People there face discouragement alongside the encouraging times. Sometimes they do not see eye to eye with colleagues. They seek the Lord, for him to see them through and they turn to us to share with them in prayer. I want to focus this month on two of our closest colleagues there, who have known encouragement and difficulty in almost equal measure and who have asked for our prayers at this time.

Rev. Samuel Muhumuza has recently sent his annual report from his YAP (Jesus Cares) Project, which seeks to support orphans through their education and on into worthwhile work. Many of the children he helps are sponsored by friends of the Romans One Eleven Trust. During the last year Sam has managed to renovate Ssanje school and its classrooms, which will benefit this large primary school of 357 pupils. However, there are other needs, especially for a dining hall so that children do not need to eat outside. Sam has been raising funds for this but had to divert them when the school pit latrine collapsed and needed urgent rebuilding. He asks for prayer for these needs. He also finds it challenging once the sponsored children leave his school and go on to secondary education, where it is harder to keep in touch with them and to influence them for good. Despite all of these challenges, faced alone while his fiancée Grace was in America for medical reasons, Sam ends his report on a very positive note, writing, "God will give you strength for every battle, wisdom for every decision, peace that surpasses understanding." Amen to that!

Deus Kyomukama has written about a forthcoming Church Thanksgiving on Sunday 24th June. God's Power International Ministries (GPIM) began in a school classroom and all the subsequently planted churches will be represented as they come together to thank God. As Deus writes, "The function will also re-envision our members on our MISSION that we are following to fulfil the Great Commission for the glory of God (Matt 28:19-20, I Cor 10:31). We also believe this will introduce the church to the community since all local and governmental leaders of all levels and community members are invited." They expect to host about 500 people from all walks of life.

Please pray for Sam and for Deus, along with the communities in which they exercise their ministries.

Please pray too as Jackie Woodley, our new Assistant Administrator (who will take over from Chris next Spring), begins to familiarise herself with the complexities of the role. Pray for Chris and Jon as they try to work out how best to manage this handover during the forthcoming months. Chris has been involved in Romans One Eleven since 2006, has been its Administrator since 2012 and has visited Uganda 8 times, so she has built up lot of background information that she has brought to her role. Jackie is eager to learn and will hopefully visit Uganda next year but she is starting with very little background knowledge.

God bless you all as you pray.