



## March/April 2020

*Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!*

1 Chronicles 16:8-9

The world we left behind two weeks ago when we left Uganda is not the same world we're living in right now. COVID-19 has changed so much - the way we are doing church, education, shopping, and nearly every other aspect of our lives. As we try to understand, process through, and seek God in all of this, we have begun asking ourselves what this all means for us and for our furlough time. Here in Minnesota, the governor has already canceled school through May 4th and restaurants and small businesses need to stay closed through May 1st. I'm sure your states have enacted similar guidelines and mandates. According to some reports, the number of COVID-19 cases in Minnesota isn't expected to peak for more than three more months yet.

The information about this pandemic seems to change daily and there is still so much uncertainty. It grieves us to announce this, but we felt at this time that we had to cancel all of our previously scheduled furlough speaking engagements through mid-June. We will be working on making a series of videos that you could show during your church services/virtual church services or Sunday schools. And as soon as it's safe for both you and us to begin traveling around, we would love to see as many of you as we can!

In the meantime, please continue to be in prayer for Uganda and our friends there. The country is almost in a complete lock-down state and there is a lot of misinformation being spread around. The public transportation that nearly everyone relies on is halted for now, which means people don't have a way to many much-needed items. As of early this week, private vehicles are no longer allowed on the roads, even for emergency purposes, so now there is almost no movement allowed outside of one's home at all there. Here in the U.S., it is easy to stock-up and hunker-down but for the majority of the world that is a luxury that they can't afford. And there are many there who are already severely immunocompromised.

The future seems unclear in so many ways - how this will all play out in the end and how deeply it will affect the world remains to be seen. But we are trusting in the One who is never changing. Let us fix our eyes on Him and praise Him in this storm.

Last week we began memorizing 1 Chronicles 16:8-9 together as a family. What a beautiful reminder of God's unfailing, unchanging promises. And our response to Him - to remember and tell of all that He has done for us. There is so much to be thankful for, friends! Just outside my window, a tree is beginning to bud. A visible reminder of new life and how God is at work today, even in the midst of a dark season in our world's history. Give thanks and sing praises to Him today!

([Click here to watch a video of our girls reciting these two verses](#). Can they get any cuter?!)

*In Christ,*  
*Brent, Emily, Amateah, Sarala, & Isiah Raan*  
brentraan@gmail.com

---

[Click here](#) for a PDF version of this newsletter.



Gifts can be given by [clicking here](#) or sent to:

AFLC World Mission  
3110 E Medicine Lake Blvd  
Plymouth, MN 55441

©2020 Association of Free Lutheran Congregations | 3110 E Medicine Lake Blvd,  
Minneapolis, MN 55441

[Web Version](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by **Mad Mimi**®  
A GoDaddy® company