Spring 2024



## MPagaja Family Musings

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." **Romans 8:28** 

TEENMISSIONS.ORG

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Greetings from the Mpagaja family! We hope you are enjoying the beauty of spring!

## **FAMILY OF FOUR**

We are excited to introduce our second son, Lazarus Zozizwa Mpagaja, who was born at 6:42AM on April 2nd, 2024, weighing 10 lbs 3 oz and measuring 22 inches long! Lazarus means "God has helped" and Zozizwa is Chichewa for "miracles". We have seen God perform miracle after miracle for our family



to get us to where we are, two of those miracles being our beautiful sons. Labor and delivery with Lazarus was all that I had been praying for. After taking castor oil and cotton root at my midwife's recommendation on April 1st, I went into labor that night and he was born the next morning! We are incredibly thankful for a quick, smooth delivery, and for the care we received at the birth center.



I didn't know giving birth could be such a peaceful and joyous experience. It was very different from Jedidiah's birth. There are so many things that can go wrong during birth and we are blessed to have had no complications this time. Glory to God! Bringing new life into the world is such a humbling and

incredible experience, and I'm thankful to have my husband by my side through it all. We are also very

grateful to our friends here at Teen Missions and at First Baptist who provided meals for us the first four weeks. We are blessed!!!

## **BIG BROTHER**

My mom flew down to be with us for two weeks, so Jedidiah stayed with Grandma while we were at the birth center. We got home at 1PM the same day, and it was the most precious moment seeing

Jedidiah meet his baby brother for the first time, I thought my heart would burst! He is quite taken with Lazarus, and loves holding him and being close to him. We love our sweet boys! Pray for Jedidiah as he adjusts to sharing our attention with his brother and continues growing and learning



as a strong and curious two-year-old boy. I am learning how to live life with two children, and every day is an adventure! These are the hardest and best days of my life and I'm just simply grateful for my babies.

## **MUD RUN**

We had the Tough Gator Mud Run here at Teen Missions on May 4th, and it was a great success! There were over 600 runners, and all the proceeds go to Teen Missions' ministry overseas. Jahswel was involved in setting





up the obstacles for the course, and also got to run the course with the other staff and students for the "test run". Then on Mud Run day, he was a judge for one of the obstacles directing people where to crawl through the mud. We praise God for the success of the Mud Run as it is always a big day for us here!

## **SUMMER IS COMING**

Now that the Mud Run is done, the full focus of the staff is on preparations for the summer ministry. Jahswel got to play a part in putting up the Big Top tent for Boot Camp, and has been working hard building permanent tent pads for the tent sites. They have built about 15 of them and will continue building more throughout the year until each tent site has them. This is a great improvement that will prevent the tents from flooding when the rain comes during the summer.

### THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

It is 40+ days until Boot Camp and we are all very much looking forward to seeing what God is going to do this summer. Jahswel has been asked to lead a team to the Dominican Republic, and I am planning to go as a family member with Jedidiah and Lazarus. There are three other leaders besides Jahswel preparing to come, and there are 19 team members signed up. Our project will be to help run a children's camp with Child Evangelism Fellowship, and to help construct a staff house on the CEF property. God has hand-picked each person who will be on this team and we are believing He will do a great work in each of our lives through this

experience. We are also praising God that we applied for Lazarus' passport and it came in the mail!

## **RAISING FUNDS**

In order for the boys and me to go with Jahswel on the team, we need to cover the cost of our flights, food, transportation and sightseeing. We have \$2,090 left to raise, and we ask for your prayers for the Lord to provide these funds. If you feel that the Lord is leading you to give, you can go to this link: teenmissions.org/involvement-detail/Jahswel-Mpagaja-1.

This will be Jahswel's first time leading an American team, and my first team since 2015, and of course, our first time as a family! We are very excited! As leaders, our ministry will firstly be to our teen team members who will be coming from all over the US. There will be many opportunities to minister and disciple them



throughout our time on the team and we ask for your prayers for that as well. We love the ministry that God has given us to do with Teen Missions!

Please let us know how we can pray for you. We are so grateful for your prayers for us and financial support, we couldn't do it without you.

Blessings!

Jahswel, Cheyenne, Jedidiah, & Lazarus

In the U.S. mail to:
Teen Missions Int'l, Inc.
885 East Hall Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953
E-mail: info@teenmissions.org
221 452 0250

In Canada mail to: Great Commission Foundation PO Box 14006 Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 0B4 CANADA

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Now you can donate online at www.teenmissions.org/give

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_ E-mail



Note: In order for your contribution to be tax deductible, checks must be made payable to Teen Missions (the missionary's name should not appear on the check). Please enclose this coupon with your contribution to assure proper designation.

# **NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Camp

Sinai Youth

Mount

# OPPORTUNITY Tough Gator 5K MUD RUN Highlights

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# **ISIDE:** News

MPagaja Family Musings

885 East Hall Road Merritt Island, FL 32953



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sharing the ministry of team opportunities v volunteer page to be





## **Teen Missions International**

# **Ministry Update**

## **Abby's Testimony - Learning A Kingdom Focus**

"My experience with Teen Missions International was life-changing. The training started at the Lord's Boot Camp in Florida, where we learned how to live on the mission field and work together as a team. Even though Boot Camp was not easy, I enjoyed it as it united my team and prepared us for overseas. Besides puppets, music, and drama, we had classes on construction and how to share the Gospel. We lived in tents, bucket-bathed with lake water, and washed our clothes in buckets. Our training also included memorizing over 40 Bible verses during the summer. Every morning, 30 minutes was set aside for personal devotions. Devotions became a precious time that I looked forward to each morning. It planted a routine I continued to do after the summer. I learned how important it was to be in God's Word daily, and my prayer life grew abundantly because I had no choice but to rely on God.



Spring 2024

On my first trip in 2021, the Lord taught me to serve in South Africa with a happy heart through long work days. We also went out to the local squatter communities to evangelize.

In 2022 on the India Leadership Development Team, we built a trench, gardened, and white-washed local churches and community buildings. We shared the Gospel in the villages and talked to the local Muslims and Hindus about the Lord. On this trip, I learned I needed to serve my team, and God taught me how to be a servant leader.

Each team goes through a unique experience that only those people understand. Growing together spiritually and experiencing hard things together brought my teams closer together. My teammates continue to be a source of prayer and encouragement.

I will be forever grateful that I said 'yes' to going on a Teen Missions trip. I cannot imagine my life if the Lord hadn't brought me here. I realized I need a Kingdom focus for serving the Lord and others."

\* Abby came back in the summer of 2023 and was an assistant leader on Costa Rica.

## The Lord's Boot Camp is Coming!

Pray for Unity, Spiritual Growth, and Safety.

Evening Rallies begin broadcasting from the Lord's Boot Camp via the web at teenmissions.org at 7:00 pm EST.

June 11 - Leadership Team Arrives June 18 - Preteen & Teens Arrive June 29 - Commissioning Service

## Pray for the overseas Boot Camps happening this Spring and Summer!

- Mvanmar
- India
- Cameroon
- Indonesia (5)
- Madagascar (2)
- Malawi (4)
- Philippines (2)

## **Volunteers are Vital for Boot** Camp Success!

Join the team and help launch more than 250+ preteens, teens, and leaders into overseas MINISTRY! You make a difference!

