

COME Uganda

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Christian Outreach Mission & Evangelism

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When the water reached 2 feet up the walls inside the staff houses one of the families decided to vacate and look for somewhere drier. The moment Juliet and her daughter Happy opened the door and stepped on to the verandah, the 3.5metre high security wall collapsed partly on Happy, narrowly missing Juliet. It was truly a miracle that Happy escaped with bruising only. Before the collapse, the wall was holding back enough water to fill an Olympic pool. The water raced through 5 of our staff houses (including ours), the COME office and the church as well as knocking over 2 more security walls, filling the pit latrines, and bending our side boundary wall so the gate won't shut! Sheets of iron from a fence 200 meters away landed on our property and the new power lines all came down.

We never thought there would be a flood in Lugala, but today the heavens opened and literally buckets of water and hail poured down. A combination of blocked drains, a neighbour who has a sunken garden, and unceasing rain, hail and wind for over an hour caused havoc. We have heard that some houses literally collapsed further down the valley where people have been buying cheap land and building in the swamp. In the other direction up the hill more than 10 houses lost their rooves to the wind. The pics on the right show some of the damage to the COME property.

Last week we purchased heaps of blankets to give to needy families, and this morning we had a delivery of 30 mattresses also for needy families. Tonight they are being used for displaced families in the HOPE Nursery School. On Saturday we also had a delivery of rice which was eagerly eaten by the affected families, and workers who quickly came to help.

There is an urgent need for emergency relief of \$10000 to assist those affected and to rebuild the walls.

Top pic: The collapsed rear boundary wall. The dark marks on the wall indicate that the water level reached over 1 metre.

Middle pic: The 3 high metre dividing wall collapsed on the COME office.

Bottom pic: The force of the water carried debris from the walls more than 30 metres. The water is shown here on the verandah in front of the office. The verandah is 400mm above ground level.



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