

2014 Report

### Year End Reflections



In America, the calendar year ends with two celebrations that bring family and friends together. For Joyce and me, **Thanksgiving** involves offering our gratitude to God for his amazing love and care. **Christmas** calls us to stand amazed at the wonder of his redeeming love displayed in his incarnation. Our gratitude and wonder are tied intricately to God's work for us and this world.

This year, these special times will take on new meaning. On June 30, we finished our commitment at Bethel Grove Bible Church with appreciation to God for the years of shared life and ministry at the church. Stepping away from something with such

deep meaning and purpose was not easy, but we believed a new ministry purpose was emerging. We give thanks to God for his leading and provision in this new adventure.

Celebrating Christ's birth means worshipping him as Lord. This gospel truth takes on an incarnational reality for all who follow Christ. That's why *Partnerships For Training Pastors* seeks to encourage and equip pastors and church leaders to live incarnationally and proclaim the gospel of Christ in their part of the Majority World.

We are grateful for the way that the Lord is developing these global partnerships. **Since June, several new opportunites have surfaced to join with churches, Theological Institutions, and mission agencies.** This end-of-year report offers a detailed look at these emerging partnerships and provides a glimpse into the work before us in 2015. Please continue to pray for the unfolding of this ministry according to God's purposes and plans.

**Partnerships For Training Pastors is gaining momentum.** Since mid-August, Dave spent more than 50 days in Uganda, while Joyce remained in Ithaca supporting the effort in a variety of ways. We are asking the Lord to allow us to use the gifts he has given as a team in the near future, so pray with us as we wait for the necessary financial support to allow this to happen on a regular basis. Until then, we see God's provision for us in wonderful ways.

*New Horizons Foundation* (<u>www.NewHorizonsFoundation.com</u>) has been terrific in providing help and oversight for these initial steps on the journey. Without their organizational support and without the partners who have come forward with prayer, financial gifts, and continuous encouragement, this ministry is not possible.

### **Prayer Partners**

By mid-October, we reached our goal of 150 persons who desired to stay informed and join the update/prayer team. We are grateful for this commitment to pray for Christ to extend his kingdom by forming mentoring partnerships that train global pastors and church leaders.

Because prayer is vital to all that will be accomplished for God's glory, <u>we hope to triple our number</u> of prayer partners by July 2015. If you know someone who might be interested in joining the team, ask them to send us an email address or surface mail address to dave@partnershipsfortraining.org

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Above all, Joyce and I thank you for standing with us in this new adventure. Thank you for your multi-faceted support that enables us to pursue God's call for this season of our lives.

With grateful hearts,

Explore www.partnershipsfortraining.org for an expanded picture of the ministry. Contact us at dave@partnershipsfortraining.org or 607-273-1614 (0). Send surface mail to 104 Joanne Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850.

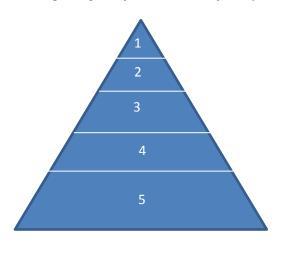
# **Pursuing The Vision**

Our vision is to encourage and equip under-resourced Majority World pastors through Biblical teaching and resources. Beginning in Uganda, we will assist national church leaders and mission partners as they nurture pastors and develop emerging leaders to the glory of God.

Unpacking the vision involves defining several terms and expanding key ideas found in the statement.

- **Majority World** peoples living outside Europe and North America that constitute the largest demographic block of the world's population.
- Under-resourced individuals who do not have the experience of biblical training or possess practical biblical resources to pastor the church where they serve Christ.
- **National church leaders** in-country leaders who have a great advantage over Western Christians in that they know the culture, speak the language, and are committed to see God expand his church into the future.
- **Mission partners** include Majority and Western World churches and pastors, global Theological Institutions, mission agencies and missionaries which serve under-resourced pastors.

Pastor Andrew Mwenge developed a diagram that provides the impetus for the connection between *Partnerships For Training Pastors* and Kampala Baptist Church. As KBC seeks to impact Uganda through a training outreach, we are privileged to join them on this journey.



#### The numbers represent the following categories:

1. Pastors/church leaders who have certified theological training. This is a small part of the church leadership at this time.

2. Pastors/church leaders with basic theological training, probably from a Bible School.

3. Pastors/church leaders with formal education, but no theological training, have potential to benefit from formal theological education.4. Pastors/church leaders who are semi-illiterate and can benefit from basic formal theological training.

5. They make a majority of Pastors/leaders in the African Church. Functionally illiterate but they can benefit from simplified training that is designed to be very interactive. They are the least resourced and how they lead will inevitably impact the future of the African church.

In *The Measure of a Pastor in Uganda*, Ruben Musiime illustrates the need for Majority World pastoral training: "In Uganda many of the pastors are motivated to teach God's Truth, but without proper tools they fall back into old habits of shouting and jumping with the Bible. And without proper methods of interpreting the Scriptures, impure doctrine sneaks into even well-meaning churches. And without understanding Bible doctrine, these pastors fear much into going into the deeper waters of practical theology. However, when given tools, methods and teachings, these pastors are thirsty to learn and have a passion to teach. Yet reaching these pastors is a long arduous task. Bible colleges are costly both in time, money and distance and often such colleges teach at a higher level. Remembering that many of the Ugandan pastors are rural with little higher education, the trainings must be simple and clear yet at the same time complete and profound as Jesus taught. We must strip away much and design a program for training which is at first based on a few essentials."

What's true in Uganda is displayed across the Majority World. Biblical training and resources are needed for the church to flourish and Christ to be made known. Partner with us as we pursue this vision to the glory of God!

# **Partnering With KBC**

#### www.kbcug.org



Ten years ago, Joyce and I were introduced to Pastor Andrew Mwenge of Kampala Baptist Church (KBC) when he visited Ithaca, NY and Bethel Grove Bible Church. Andrew is very creative and has a deep heart for gospel impact in Uganda and beyond. We hit it off immediately. In fact, Andrew has become one of my best friends. When I travel to Uganda, I stay with his family.

Since 2009, the two churches have partnered in providing pastoral training sessions, as well as other outreach ministries. When the new concept of *Partnerships For Training Pastors* began to take shape in my mind, Andrew and I talked long and hard about continuing to work together in this strategic ministry. As I come along side KBC and participate in their vision to build church leaders in Uganda, I give thanks to the Lord for his work in our lives. It is a great privilege to serve Christ together!



**Key Player at KBC** 

Daudi Nkuggwa is vital to the vision of training pastors and church leaders. Daudi heads KBC's mission committee and is responsible for coordinating the training efforts. Daudi and his wife Marion have welcomed their third child into the home.

### KBC Men's Retreat at Camp Musana October 31 – November 2, 2014

Joining KBC men on their retreat was a highlight. We hiked, prayed, laughed, played games, and focused our hearts on following Christ. My role was to present two talks that called these men to action, as well as develop questions for small group discussion. As illustrated in the pictures below, it was a time of engagement and wonder as God's Word pointed us to Christ and his call for us as men. Being part of KBC's mission outreach has offered us a place of service and great fellowship in Kampala. These growing relationships are a gift from God and important in a joint vision for ministry. Opportunities to preach at KBC and participate in small groups are frequent and the privilege of praying and serving together throughout Uganda is not taken lightly. May the Lord keep our hearts open to all that he has for us in the days ahead.

#### A Note from Pastor Andrew Mwenge

I was on a plane from Sacramento to Detroit to discuss with a group of people the Pastoral training needs in Uganda. God gave me a picture that has fueled my passion for equipping the least resourced Pastors in the Ugandan church.



I literally visualized a diagram in which I saw Pastors and church leaders in different categories in this triangular

diagram (see page 2). At the base of the triangle I saw the biggest category of our leaders; functionally illiterate, passionate, gifted, and engaged yet without any training for the task of leading God's people. It occurred to me that the church in Uganda was generally led by people who may never access formal training. These are people who do not read a book or use a pen in their day to day life.

Since then, I have been looking for opportunities and allies to impact this group of leaders. I am therefore, deeply grateful for Pastor Dave Jones and to Bethel Grove Bible Church who have participated in addressing this critical need for the Ugandan church.

Pastor Dave has a clear appreciation for the Scriptures, excellent expository skills, a wealth of experience in ministry and a passion for equipping the church leaders. I have personally found strength in working with him as we have shared our lives in the process of this work. It is exciting that of late he has been able to invest more time and we have been able to expand this work from Masaka to the churches in Oyam in Northern Uganda.

#### Andrew



# Masaka Outreach



**2014** *Ministry Involvement* - Partnership development involves a deep respect for one another and a firm commitment that Jesus is Lord. Each year, over the past five years, more than 60 pastors and church leaders were trained touching hundreds of people in local churches. This training includes biblical and theological study along with a focus on pastoral and church leadership principles.

In 2014, our **January** training session highlighted the Old Testament book of Joshua coupled with an emphasis on leadership development. **August** brought home visits of pastors and churches, which enlivened the relational connections and allowed the regional leaders to affirm the gospel in the context of their ministry. I thank God for all he has done and will continue to do in Masaka!





**Prayer and Planning Retreat -** A **November** planning retreat affirmed the work that Christ is doing in Masaka and helped us look forward to a new year of partnership. We prayed, laughed, and planned. We identified needs in the churches and leadership of this region. Pastors Abel, Aloys and Amos, along with their wives, are incredible leaders and we join them in asking God to extend his kingdom throughout the Masaka region in 2015.

#### 2015 Schedule for Masaka Events

#### January 19-22 – Four days of training in Masaka

Pastors and leaders from Masaka Region churches will attend for biblical study and church leadership training.

#### May 4-7 - Zonal/Regional Pastor and Wife Training

Designed for encouragement and mentoring, these one day events, in four zones, will highlight ministry and family issues for pastoral couples. This focus is in response to an urgent request by the regional leaders. Also, a **Kampala** 

**Baptist Church team** will coordinate four youth events, at a central location in each zone, as part of the outreach to this region.

#### August 24-27 – Emerging Leaders Training

Five emerging leaders from each zone will come to Masaka for training on basic Christian doctrine and theology. Selected by the regional church leaders, these twenty emerging leaders will receive instruction and mentoring by the regional leaders, as well as Pastor Andrew and me.

#### November Visitation of Churches, Pastors, and Emerging Leaders

In early November, a week is planned for visiting and connecting with many of the individuals trained through the year. Also times of prayer and evaluation of the year's events will take place in preparation for 2016.





Dear Brother Dave,

.....Thank you so much for the Entebbe meeting where you involved all of us to plan together for 2015, that was very unique and wonderful too, because some partners do a plan without the local people and later just bring the plan for implementation. Our wives too enjoyed the retreat; it was such a special time away from home, Love in Christ, Pastor Abel and Harriet.

Projected expenses of the four 2015 Masaka Training Events are \$11,000. Will you consider partnering with us to provide financial resources that can help cover these varied costs?

## **Oyam Training**



Key Player in Oyam

Thomas Abach is a former Kampala security guard who now plants churches in the Oyam District. As a man of peace, Thomas is *getting biblical training at* the Baptist Seminary in Jinja. Under his leadership, five churches have been planted and he will be the point person for the pastor and leadership training events. For more information on Thomas, visit the Partnerships For Training Pastors website.

**Under the Tangerine Tree** – In August, Andrew, Daudi and I visited the Oyam District to discover if church leaders had interest in regular leadership training. Sitting under the tree, we listened to their hearts, shared our ideas, and decided that training would begin in November. As we prayed, the reality hit us that three different languages, two nations and several tribes were brought together through Jesus. Only Christ can do this and we pray that our gospel ministry will impact many lives for God's glory.

Why Was the Oyam District Chosen for Biblical Training? Several compelling reasons led Kampala Baptist Church to this region of Uganda. Years ago, Pastor Andrew Mwenge was asked to be a resource for Thomas Abach (see sidebar) while Thomas planted churches in the District. The challenges were great as the traumatic effects of war created a hunger for spiritual guidance and God's Word. Individuals lived in fear and often went into hiding, so formal education and literacy levels are well below average. While many are not qualified to attend an accredited Seminary, church leaders are hungry for the basics of the faith to shepherd God's people.



**November 2014 Training** – Two days of training went beyond all expectations. We studied 1 Peter, which fit very well with the experiences of the group. Themes of suffering, Pastoral leadership, the identity of the church, living goodly lives in society were custom made for this time. Representatives attended from Baptist, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Pentecostal

churches. Several participants had been abducted by rebels. Others had family members killed, while some pastors didn't even have a Bible. In the end, the message of Christ and a practical application of 1 Peter touched lives.



Initially, after being greeted by the local officials, Pastor Andrew instructed each individual to draw a time line of their life. By using pictures to tell their story, we learned how the horrors of war impacted the entire group. As a result, they have a deep desire to study God's Word and learn how better to apply biblical principles to the church and their own lives.



At the end of the day, Andrew handed out two sheets of paper. On one, they were

to write name of one who hurt them so much they are still carrying the effects in their life. On the other, they wrote the name of a person they have hurt. On both accounts, each person brought their papers to a large container where they were burned. The action served as a picture of what it means to bring these personal issues to Christ and find healing at the cross.

*What's next?* Our next Oyam teaching session will be in April, with a follow-up session in November, 2015. These two training sessions fall under the direction of Kampala Baptist Church (KBC) and *Partnerships For Training Pastors*. Any other training will occur at KBC's initiative throughout the year.

**Please Pray** - Please keep the Oyam region in your prayers. These leaders and churches seek to bring the gospel into everyday life that is filled with challenges and hurts. Particularly pray that the times of training will be filled with purpose and healing as we gather together in the name of Jesus Christ.

"I have a special concern for you church leaders. I know what it's like to be a leader, in on Christ's sufferings as well as the coming glory. Here's my concern: that you take care of God's flock with all the diligence of a shepherd. Not because you have to, but because you want to please God." (1 Peter 5:1-3, The Message)

# **Preaching For Change At KEST**

www.kestug.org

Kampala Evangelical School of Theology (KEST) describes itself as a "Christian, non-denominational institution located in the heart of Kampala." The School offers formal programs leading to a Certificate of Theological Studies, as well as a Diploma & Bachelor of Theology degrees in Christian Counseling, Pastoral Ministry, Christian Education and Missions and Intercultural Studies.



Blessed with a good history of service in theological education, the School has seen difficult times in recent years. The current leadership is committed to turning

the ship around and is creatively expanding the School's vision and outreach. KEST needs part-time instructors so that the small number of full-time faculty are not be pushed to the limits.

In August, Principal Philip Wandawa and Academic Dean Emmanuel Akatukunda talked with me about teaching a course. Because of my travel schedule, one-week intensive courses work best. I agreed to teach *Preaching for Change*, which was scheduled for the last week in October. By saying yes, I simultaneously agreed to help and faced an immediate challenge. Never having taught a preaching course, I had five weeks to shape and develop it.



L - R : With Bernard, Solomon, Denis, Yusufu, Faith, Job, and Alson

The experience could not have been more favorable. The class included seven students who were keen to preach and proclaim God's Word. One was from Cameroon and the others were Ugandans. As we talked through the principles of preaching, we had a deep sense of God's presence and a renewed call to proclaim God's Word with clarity, integrity and joy. On the final day, each member presented a 15 minute sermon around a "big idea" found in a section of 1 Peter. It was an incredible day! I can't wait to see these students involved in serving God in Africa.

As is their custom on a visiting professor's final day, the faculty and

staff had a luncheon expressing their gratitude for teaching the intensive course. My feelings ran exactly parallel and I thanked them for the deep privilege of sharing their commitment to educate students for the glory of God. Looks like the doors are open for more teaching opportunities at KEST in the future.



Pray for the ministry of the School as it seeks to equip persons in Kampala and across Uganda. Also, join me in giving thanks to the Lord for providing a teaching spot that fits nicely with the vision of *Partnerships for Training Pastors*. What a great God we serve!

### Partnering with Other Theological Institutions in 2015-16

Conversations have begun to investigate whether I might teach a one or two week intensive course at several East African Theological Schools. All communication is in the preliminary stages, but there is great interest in seeing how this idea can work. Please pray with Joyce and me about this potential ministry option for our future. It could be a great place for us to work side by side in teaching a course on marriage and family counseling.

Our vision is to encourage and equip under-resourced Majority World pastors through Biblical teaching and resources. Beginning in Uganda, we will assist national church leaders and mission partners as they nurture pastors and develop emerging leaders to the glory of God.

# **Partner With Us**

You can pray -prayer is the foundation for all ministry that occurs. Please pray for:

- Majority World pastors and church leaders as they lead God's people into a new year.
- Wisdom and clarity as planning and preparation occurs for 2015 in December and early January.
- The upcoming January 8-26 Uganda trip to Kampala and Masaka that focuses on two training opportunities.
- Finalizing of details for Pastors training in Fimpulu, Zambia and Masaka and Oyam, Uganda in April and May.
- The development of financial partners to meet the 2015 budget.

Because prayer is vital to all ministry, <u>we hope to have 550 prayer partners by July 2015.</u> Contact us at dave@partnershipsfortraining.org if you or someone you know might be interested in joining the team.

<u>You can volunteer</u> for basic office tasks, to help develop biblical resources, and provide assistance in developing on-line communication tools that tell the story of *Partnerships For Training Pastors*.

### You can offer financial support at www.NewHorizonsFoundation.com



At the top of their web page is an icon - **Ways to Give.** Click on that icon and you will find **many options for your charitable gifts**, one being an on-line donation link. Our project is *Partnerships For Training Pastors* and you will find it under the "P" category with the familiar icon of the organization. On the upper right hand part of the page, a link is provided to donate on-line.

OR

Send your gifts to the Foundation's NEW address:

New Horizons Foundation, Attn: *Partnerships For Training Pastors* 5550 Tech Center Dr., Suite 303 Colorado Springs, CO 80919

(Checks should be written to New Horizons Foundation with Partnerships for Training Pastors on memo line)

### Financial Report On December 1, 2014

Start-up Budget for May 1 – December 31, 2014 - \$53,000.00(includes \$30,000 for salary grant)Financial Contributions as of December 1, 2014 - \$25,906.96(\$5,600 housing allowance received)Expenses as of December 1, 2014 - \$17,404.75(\$5,600 housing allowance received)Amount remaining as of December 1, 2014 - \$8,502.21(\$5,600 housing allowance received)

Projected 2015 Partnerships For Training Pastors Budget of \$65,000 - \$70,000

Includes program support, development and printing of biblical resources, translation of material, office supplies and equipment, communication expenses (internet/printing/postage), travel, and salary grant.

A detailed budget will be available in early January upon approval by New Horizons Foundation.

Consider partnering with us through volunteering, prayer team involvement, becoming a monthly financial contributor, or giving a year-end gift to meet our 2015 ministry goals.

Dave and Joyce Jones 104 Joanne Drive Ithaca, NY 14850



www.partnershipsfortraining.org