

# 2015 Report Year End Reflections



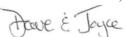
What an incredible year this has been! As we consider the growing number of ministry opportunities amidst enlarged global challenges, Joyce and I are experiencing a renewed sense of God's presence. One truth, expressed in a favorite hymn, steadies our hearts and minds: "This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet." Christmas reminded us that God's heart is for this world. Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection display God's eternal love in words and actions. Our bottom line remains- God is working in this world and it is our privilege to join him in that work.

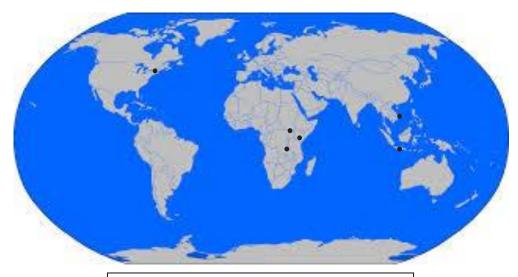
As you read this report, let these reflections be a window through which you see global glimmers of God's grace. Scripture tells us that Christ is building HIS church and nothing can stop the advance of HIS kingdom. Nothing! So, we join with Majority World Christ-followers and long for the gospel to bring transformation to this broken world through the peace that only Christ can offer.

Joyce and I are grateful for the many ways that God has encouraged us in this new adventure. We are experiencing a wealth of relationships and are thrilled that the partnership network continues to grow. We are thankful that he is providing for the daily needs of this ministry. We are humbled by your willingness to pray for and stand with us in 2015.

As we enter a new year, please keep praying that God will enlarge his reach through new Majority World partnerships as well as sustain his vision in our hearts. Thank you for your interest and for your partnership! Join us in giving thanks for all that God has done!

With Grateful Hearts.





In 2015, Dave traveled to Uganda, Zambia, Kenya, Timor, and Hong Kong with Partnerships For Training Pastors

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# **Pursuing the Vision**

Our vision is to encourage and equip less-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-** those living outside Europe and North America that constitute the largest demographic block of the world's population.
- **Less-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.

# Why Train Less-Resourced Pastors and Church Leaders?

Several years ago, Pastor Andrew Mwenge, of Kampala Baptist Church, developed a triangle diagram that described various levels of theological education within the African church. At the top are those few individuals with certified theological training, which number about 5% of the pastors. Still other pastors have Bible School education. Yet, Pastor Andrew estimates that nearly 60% of African Pastors are functionally illiterate and could benefit from simplified training that is designed to be very interactive. Because this is the least resourced group, how they lead their churches inevitably will impact the future of the African church.

What's true in Africa is true around the globe. It is this level need for pastoral training that issues the impetus for ministry connections between *Partnerships For Training Pastors* and our partners. Keep praying for new partnerships that will join the team addressing these urgent needs in Africa and beyond.



**Pastor Andrew and Family** 

## **2015 Ministry Partnerships**

Prayer Team and Financial Partners

New Horizons Foundation

Kampala Baptist Church, Uganda

Choshen Farm, Fimpulu Zambia

Kampala Evangelical School of Theology

Scott Christian University, Machakos, Kenya

Bethel Grove Bible Church, Ithaca NY

West Church, Peabody MA

#### Thanks New Horizons Foundation!

New Horizons Foundation (NHF) is the umbrella organization under which Partnerships For Training Pastors operates. Their support has been incredible and Joyce and I want you to know it. For more information on NHF, go to their website, www.newhorizonsfoundation.net, and watch the video explaining their organization and its mission. Thanks to everyone in Colorado for their wonderful encouragement and faithful stewardship.



# Partnering Through Prayer and Financial Gifts

## **PARTNERSHIP UPDATES:**

## **Prayer Partners**

Currently, 320 people agreed to receive ministry updates and pray on a regular basis. Though we fell short of July's goal for additional prayer partners, we are grateful for the consistent prayers and support of so many people. Why not join the team?

## **Partnerships For Counsel**

On the front page, two groups of people were identified. The *Accountability Group* provides encouragement and counsel in order to keep the vision clear and on the right track. *The Board of Reference* offers global ministry insights and recognition for "Partnerships" ministry.

## **Budget Increase From 2015**

The 2016 budget increased by \$16,500; with additional amounts identified for Program Support/Travel (\$10,500), Communication (\$500), as well as Salary and Housing Allowance (\$6,000). Check out the new ministry Initiatives mentioned on this page.

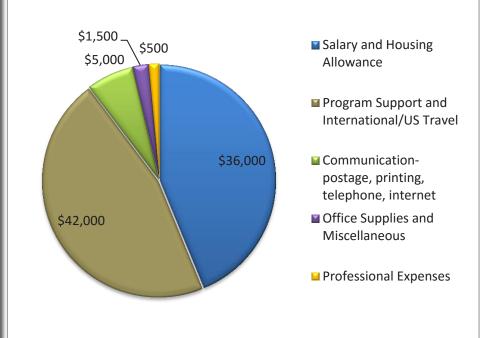
## **Meeting Budget**

Presently, 21 individuals/families/churches are providing monthly financial support of various amounts. Others are giving one-time gifts. If you want to join the monthly partnership team or if you desire to give a financial gift, connect with Dave at <a href="mailto:dave@partnershipsfortraining.org">dave@partnershipsfortraining.org</a> or call 607-273-1614.

#### **Filled With Gratitude**

Thank you for your commitment to God's work through Partnerships For Training Pastors. Keep praying that this ministry will touch lives around the globe so that many will hear and believe the gospel message of Christ (Romans 10:14-18).

# Partnerships For Training Pastors New 2016 Budget- \$85,000



## New 2016 Ministry Initiatives and Focus

**Resource Development** —In 2016, we hope to publish Pastor Andrew Mwenge's discipleship material, as well as develop an *Emerging Leader's Study Guide on 2 Timothy* and a *Christ in the Old Testament Study Guide*, both written by Dave Jones.

Masaka Emerging Leaders Focus - Masaka leaders affirmed the importance of training emerging leaders. Plans are set to establish a second Emerging Leaders group in April. At the end of 2016, forty-five (45) emerging leaders will be mentored and a new generation of men and women equipped to lead Christ's people.

**Exploring A Timor Partnership** – Last May, I traveled to Indonesia and saw the work of Ben and Emma Grimes in Timor. Using freshly translated Kupang Malay and Amarasi New Testaments, this Navigator couple is developing Church Leaders through Bible reading and study groups. Because Biblical training is needed, Ben and I are considering a 2016 ministry trip to Timor.

**Taking Seminary Students Along** – Informal conversations have begun, with two US Seminaries, to consider the idea of identifying a student to travel with me on two 2016 trips. This concept ties nicely into our new focus on Emerging Leaders.

# **Ministry Updates**

## Singing the Story

One way to get the Bible into hearts and minds of believers is to write songs that have a Scriptural emphasis. In August, "Partnerships" provided financial resources to record the music of Harriet Nandawula and Goretth Ssenyojo. The final CD product will be available for the upcoming January Pastors Conference and is designed to be a resource for Luganda speaking churches and individuals. Soon the songs will be available on our website. Pray for the use of these songs in the upcoming year.





## Resource Development

Developing biblical resources for pastoral leaders is one of our major goals. In 2015, we field tested the discipleship material and have nearly completed editing the *Handbook for Church Ceremonies*, written by pastor Andrew Mwenge. \$5,000 was budgeted for translation work and production of discipleship material and pastoral guides for church leaders

in Uganda. They will be made available in 2016.

## Teaching @ Two African Theological Institutions

In August, Dave taught *Pastoral Care for Christian Workers* at Scott Christian University in Machakos, Kenya. The week-long class was small but we had exceptional interaction around the subject matter. *Preaching for Change* was the title of the October class at Kampala Evangelical School of Theology. During our tea breaks, we had stimulating conversations about ministry topics (picture on right).





## Christ in the Old Testament - Zambia

Choshen Farm, in Fimpulu, Zambia, was the location of two teaching sessions on this theme. Working with Jeremy and Bethany Colvin is a great privilege, as our visions line up perfectly to encourage and equip God's people through the study of His Word.

An April visit began a two year commitment to teach *Christ in the Old Testament* by studying the Pentateuch. August's seminar brought a deeper connection between Fimpulu pastors and Mansa area church leaders as we examined Joshua through 1 Kings 11. Two trips are scheduled for April and August of 2016 to teach on Christ in Major and Minor Prophets.







# Masaka Ministry Updates Four Trips in 2015



**January's Large Group Conference** that brought together pastors and church leaders from twenty-five (25) churches in the Masaka Region of Uganda. The group studied the Old Testament book of Judges as well as considered church leadership issues. This Event brings people together and often future shared ministry plans are developed by the leaders and pastors who attend.

## May's Pastors and Wives Sessions

were held in four locations scattered around the Masaka Region. This outreach was the result of a need identified by the Masaka Church Leaders and was well received by each participant. Pastoral ministry can take a toll on relationships within the pastor's home. Our sessions sought to open up communication and provide a mutual vision for ministry in spite of the inherent challenges of Ugandan village existence.



## Thoughts On Emerging Leaders Seminars

"One of our ambitions, desires and needs is to train leaders. These emerging leaders will be working alongside pastors and some will be pastors sometime to come.... I thank God that this training is going very well".

Pastor Abel Sergirinya

"I am encouraged as a young pastor that challenges and suffering strengthen us by God's grace." Pastor Edson

"Learning comes through practice. It is good and important to have someone as a mentor. 2 Timothy taught us that if we begin on a certain goal we should fight to finish it."

Deo - Head Teacher

"If people would not respond to an invitation, I began to visit them in their homes and encourage them to participate."

Ruth - Women's Leader and Church Secretary.

"Like Timothy, I am learning how to get rid of fear and stand strong in the truth." Peter – Youth Leader

"The group asked great questions and displayed a grasp of Scripture that encouraged my heart." Pastor Andrew Mwenge

## August's Emerging Leaders Seminar was birthed by



Masaka Regional Church Leaders in a 2014 planning session. They selected eighteen (18) young adults to gather and study 2 Timothy as well as Kampala Baptist Church discipleship material. The group grew and shared an excitement for embracing

leadership responsibility within their home churches. An expanded focus on Emerging Leaders will take place in 2016.

## November's Follow-Up Visit

was designed to provide Masaka's leadership team time to evaluate 2015 ministry events and prayerfully prepare for the 2016-17 training events. Also, several team members met with many of the August



participants and discovered the impact the August Seminar had on their lives.

## 2016 – 2017 Masaka Plans

Pastors and Leaders Conference - <u>January 18-21, 2016</u>
New Emerging Leaders Conference - <u>April 25-27, 2016</u>
"Returning" Emerging Leaders - <u>August 15-17, 2016</u>
Pastors & Wives Conference - <u>September 5-7, 2016</u>
Evaluation and Follow-up Visits - <u>October 2016</u>
Pastors and Leaders Conference - January 16-19, 2017

# **Ministry Updates**



## **Oyam Uganda Training**

The Northern part of Uganda has experienced the devastation of past national conflicts and now is home to a large number of refugees from Sudan and other war-torn parts of Africa. Yet, in the midst of difficult economic uncertainties, God's people are living out the gospel in their daily lives. It is a privilege to work with Kampala Baptist Church as they fulfill their vision to serve the church in this part of Uganda. Our training seeks to provide a biblical and theological perspective for pastors and church leaders.

In April 2015, we traveled to Oyam for a two-day conference and the training was well received. The November trip was canceled because

of an unfortunate robbery at Kampala Baptist Church. 2016 will provide training for a large group of pastors and church leaders, but will seek to provide more direct mentoring to six pastors that are leading six churches in the Oyam Region. The picture on the left provides a glimpse of five of the six leaders. Keep them in your prayers as we move into the New Year.

## 2016 Oyam Ministry Strategy

January 2016 – Large Group Teaching on Exodus and Church Leadership Issues

April/August 2016 – 1 day Large Group Training 1 day with Five Pastors

## Questions for Dave and Joyce

Several people have asked about our future plans with questions like: "How long are you going to serve in this ministry?", "When is Joyce going to travel with Dave?", and "How's your marriage doing as a result of these periods of separation?" First, our marriage is strong, built over 37 + years of commitment and mutual trust by God's grace. In 2016, I hope to keep the trips to more manageable length and while at home handle the increased need to write and develop various training material and academic courses that will be taught when I travel.

Also, God has given us good health and strength, so retirement is in his hands. Joyce continues to work at Cornell University, where her job provides needed financial and health insurance resources for life in Ithaca, NY. We look forward to the day when we will be able to travel together. Until then, we ask that you keep us in your prayers for all that God has for us.

Finally, we are enjoying being grandparents. Matt and Ashley are incredible parents and Reagan is adorable. We were able to visit them around the holidays and we hope to make the trip to Philly more often in 2016. Can you imagine why? Keep them in your prayers as they embark on one of the most important missions God gives to us: being godly parents that raise their child in the ways and the thoughts of the Lord.

We are grateful for your friendship! *Dave* 

## An October Note from Pastor Amos

Dear Dave.

It is quite amazing how God has been faithful to us through our partnership with KBC and how I remembered my first encounter with you at Malongo through Susan's (Hay) connection on your first visit to Masaka area. I am always finding myself worshiping God for using you and the team behind this work you are called to do. Thank you for obeying the Master, our Lord Jesus, who called you to serve the rural pastors especially Masaka and Oyam that we have been able to tap from you through your teachings, what most of us had no opportunity to access not because we were not willing but because of our limited resources as you are very much aware from the home visitations of all pastors in Masaka Association you made. Thank you for updating us on the October daily schedule, we are anxiously waiting and praying for your family, ministry, safe travel and health as you serve God's people when you are with us and all over the world.

May God bless you, Pr. Amos & Harriet.

Pastor Amos is one of the Masaka Church leaders and works with us in organizing the Masaka training events on a regular basis. Amos and Harriet have big hearts for God's people.

## **How to 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 in this New Year.
- Our growing focus on preparing Emerging Church Leaders in less-resourced areas of this world.
- Wisdom and clarity in planning and preparing for teaching responsibilities while in Ithaca this winter.
- The upcoming January 10-23 Uganda trip and training opportunities in Masaka and Oyam.
- Wisdom in knowing what new training opportunities to pursue with Majority World churches.
- Wisdom in identifying two Emerging Leaders from US Theological Seminaries to travel with me in 2016.
- Clarity in establishing training opportunities with Ben Grimes in Timor.
- The development of financial partners to meet the 2016 budget.

Because prayer is vital to all ministry, contact us at <u>dave@partnershipsfortraining.org</u> if you or someone you know might be interested in joining the prayer team. You will receive a monthly ministry update and periodic requests to guide your prayers.

<u>You can volunteer</u> for basic office tasks 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



Taking your vision to the world

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 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)

OR

Go to the "support" page at www.partnershipsfortraining.org

## 2016 Partnerships For Training Pastors Budget is \$85,000

This budget 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. (See budget diagram on page 3 for percentages)

Dave and Joyce Jones 104 Joanne Drive Ithaca, NY 14850

