

August 2016

Thoughts From Dave – "Something special is happening I tell you." Those words, recently written by a Ugandan friend, describe what he experienced as he began to chronicle God's work in the Masaka region. Part of the developing story involves our focus on emerging leaders. Selected by area church leaders, 40 young adults will gather for worship, biblical study, fellowship and leadership development on August 15-16. This event brings together the participants from two previous emerging leaders events for a combined focus on the future.

Basing our biblical study on *Nehemiah*, clear principles for godly leadership will be offered. This Old Testament book emphasizes why prayer, vision casting and decision making, along with wisdom for facing opposition to God's work, are needed in today's leaders. Especially important is the understanding of God's providential relationship with Nehemiah and Nehemiah's faithful response to God's call to action.

Nehemiah's faithfulness begs a bigger and current question. Instead of focusing on building church buildings or Church Growth principles, we will consider how Christ loves and builds His church through godly leadership. That Christ loves His church is beyond question. *The greater question is, do we love the Church for which Christ died?* As leaders, how is that love displayed? Is it seen in a search for position, power and recognition? Or is the leader's primary task found in building up God's Covenant people to engage the world for God's glory? Godly leadership is

Dave's August Travel Schedule

5-7 – Joyce and I travel to Peabody, MA for a retirement celebration for Ralph and Sherry Wetherington, our earliest mentors, after 38 years of pastoral ministry at West Church.

9-10 - Travel to Kampala, Uganda

11-14 – Serve at Kampala Baptist Church, as well as plan for future Uganda Ministry through development of ministry resources.

14-16 – Masaka Emerging Leaders Conference in Kinoni, Uganda

17 - Kampala for rest and preparation

18-19 – Travel to Oyam in Northern Uganda for Pastoral Training Seminar

20-23 – Kampala Baptist Church and ministry development

23-24 - Return to Ithaca, NY

Prayer Requests

Pray for God to work in the hearts of the emerging leaders as they attend the upcoming Conference. Ask the Lord to develop these leaders for His glory in the Masaka region of Uganda.



April 2016 Group



Pray for the study of *Numbers* in Oyam. This session continues our foundational study of the Pentateuch, which unlocks the rest of the Old Testament. Additionally, pray for the 1 day seminar with eight key Oyam leaders.

Pray for Pastor Andrew and me as we spend time developing biblical resources that will be used in future training of pastors and church leaders in the central region of Uganda.

essential in today's global church, so please join us in praying for

this Emerging Leaders Conference and all who attend.

Pray for Joyce and me as we move back into a busy part of the year. Ask the Lord to give us strength and clear focus for the responsibilities God gives to us. Another trip to Zambia and Uganda is planned for late September into early October

Continue to pray for the development of financial resources as we move toward the end of the year. God continues to provide for the ministry as new opportunities continue to open up before us.

Blessings,
Dave and Joyce