



**Thoughts from Dave** – A few years ago Dr. Deo Mawano, a Ugandan dentist, explained how time is usually viewed from an African perspective. He said, “Americans have watches. Ugandans have time.” It’s safe to say that the unexpected pandemic initially disrupted our planned schedules and time for relationships. Government restrictions and quarantine requirements stopped our Ugandan and global partners in their tracks. Flexibility and creativity became essential for training. We thank God for our partner’s continual training efforts, even as they handled personal challenges in their daily lives. As we begin 2021, join us in praying that we will use God’s gift of time wisely; “*making the most of every opportunity*” (Ephesians 5:16) that God brings our way.

**Please Pray for our Ugandan Partners**

**Pray for the people of Uganda** as they emerge from a very contentious election season. Pray Micah 6:8 for government leaders and for the people “*to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before God.*”



As Covid deaths increase, the impact of other Ugandan health issues is taking its toll on families. **Pray for Pastor Andrew, Pastor Johnson, Daudi Nkuggwa, and other Kampala Baptist Church leaders** as they come alongside grieving individuals experiencing loss of family members, jobs, and financial resources.

**Pray for the family of Pastor George Mike Nam**, Oyam North, pastor and trainer of trainers’ leader, on the recent death of their 14-year-old son due to TB.

**Pray for Daudi Nkuggwa** as he coordinates the scheduling and training of pastors and emerging leaders in upcoming months. Pray also for **the Trainers of Trainers group** as they begin to plan for several training sessions in March and April.

**Pray for Pastor Abel Segirinya** as he leads the Baptist Union of Uganda in these challenging times.

**Give thanks for December in Masaka** – Daudi Nkuggwa reports that connecting with Masaka emerging leaders is always a breath of fresh air. And this time, it wasn’t just the emerging leaders but also their pastors. The meeting objectives were built on the recent November emerging leaders training in Masaka. They included: 1) To follow up with practical aspects of corporate worship in the church. 2) To illustrate practical sermon preparations. 3) To share practical ways of how to do planning and vision casting for the church. These sessions initiated great feedback from the participants! **Thank the Lord for these friends!**



*Elisha, a TOT grad, teaching a session on preaching*

**Give Thanks With Us** – Last November’s Accountability Group Meeting set a year-end giving goal of \$15,000 to address the growing demand for virtual teaching resources. Through the generosity of people, a total of \$23,800 was given to our Partnerships for Training Pastors Project under New Horizons Foundation. These gifts will allow us build our technological capacity along with video production and sound equipment for development and delivery of training material. Thank you for believing in what God is doing through Partnerships. We’ll keep you posted on how the upgrade of communication technology is being used in future updates.

***“Give thanks to the Lord for he is good. His love endures forever.” Psalm 136:1***

## ***Questions at the Beginning of a New Year***

***What are some challenges facing our Ugandan training partners?*** The nation is emerging from a very difficult January election that saw President Yoweri Museveni win his sixth term in office. As a result, a nationwide curfew is imposed. This action will require additional days for travel and training sessions this spring. Also, due to the pandemic, the loss of employment and increased deaths of family members place a huge financial burden on Ugandan families. Into these situations, our partners seek to pull all the pieces together in order to offer comfort and to strengthen the church through the growth of pastors and emerging leaders.



***What’s the status of the 2020 – 2023 Emerging Leaders Training Project?*** It’s still on track! Daudi Nkuggwa writes that *“The Lord has led us to do much more than we ever imagined in 2020. Even though we planned a busy year, we never knew that it would end the way it did. The Lord has been good to us on long trips up and down the countryside. Covid-19 has created a real panic for people to hunger and thirst more for God than ever before.”* As planned in January 2020, at our Entebbe retreat, steps now are being taken to move into additional locations across Uganda.

***What upcoming events are scheduled for early 2021?*** In order to start training in new locations, initial visits are established to lay aside any misconceptions in churches and among pastors about the training of emerging leaders. Two visits are scheduled - one to Kiboga in the central region on February 9-11 and the other to Buvuma Islands February 17-18. The return of training to the Tororo region is scheduled for February 23-26 and March 23-26. Keep these dates in your prayers as our partners move forward toward the goal of touching all regions of Uganda by 2023.



***When is it time for Dave and Joyce to travel again?*** Before our international travel returns, the pandemic must settle down. With new virus strains so unpredictable, we are uncertain if we will fly this year or wait until 2022. Until our partners and health officials say it is safe to travel, we will work from Mechanicsburg.

***What training materials are you working on these days?*** Joyce and I are in our final editing of a new Titus devotional, our second Pastoral Epistle devotional for Ugandan pastors and Emerging Leaders. With the help of Harriet Nakato in Chicago, it will be translated into Luganda for distribution in Uganda. We also will review and update the Leadership seminar (the 4<sup>th</sup> out of 6 training seminars) by the end of February. It is our hope that these materials eventually will be used by our other global partners in the future.

***Any Changes in the 2021 budget?*** As in 2020, the Accountability Group set our 2021 budget at \$126,000. Changes in budget priorities include: 1) Increased program initiatives in Uganda and Peru. 2) Daudi Nkuggwa added as part-time coordinator of Ugandan training. 3) Increased budget for technology and video production. 4) Reduced international travel. 5) Reduced grant for Dave and Joyce. 6) Increased amount for resource development and printing.

2021 Budget  
\$126,000



**31% - for Workforce International Grant and Housing Allowance**

**62% - for program Initiatives, travel and program support**

**7% - office, study resources, administrative expenses**

***Thanks for your prayers, support, and encouragement as we begin 2021.  
Any questions or comments give us a call at 607-342-1733.***

Check out our three completed Seminars on the “Ministry Focus” page at [www.partnershipsfortraining.org](http://www.partnershipsfortraining.org)

Copyright 2021... All Rights Reserved