

Thoughts from Dave - In the early 1900's, the phrase "A Shot in the Arm" was created to convey a "sudden, strong, and positive effect" that something had on something else. It illustrated how a new activity or specific encouragement provided an injection to one's spirit to keep pressing on. In other words, be encouraged. Don't stop. Keep going. What are your "shot in the arm" moments these days?

Several recent "shots" have encouraged Joyce and me. First, new reports from Uganda enable us to see God's work through our Partners (see updates below). Second, studying and teaching God's Word continues to enlarge our Kingdom vision. Third, we received an actual COVID vaccine shot after joining others in an endless search for vaccine site options. We are grateful for God's continual infusions of encouragement and grace that keep us going during the limitations of this year-long pandemic.



Kiboga Vision Casting Visit – February 16-18

As part of the 2020-2024 Ugandan Emerging Leaders Project, this visit introduced the idea of training a new generation of leaders to existing pastors in a section of Uganda's Central Region. Pastor Andrew Mwenge, Daudi Nkuggwa, and Ronald Walyemira -one of our Trainer Trainees – made the visit. Though well received, they discovered many challenges facing church ministry in the Kiboga region and offered ideas on how to continue into the future.

The Challenges - 1) Most of the pastors lack theological training; which affects the depth of what they preach and teach to their congregations. 2) These churches are predominately of one tribe with a language which is not used in the local community. This has affected growth and outreach. 3) Most of these churches are meeting in makeshift places and are chased from place to place. One attendee said, "No one is willing to join us when we don't have a permanent structure. Everyone comes here one Sunday, disappears and never returns." 4) Teaching and mentoring Emerging Leaders in these circumstances is an uphill task as there are no activities to draw young people for the building of relationships. 5) The team was told that the Christians who come to these churches need to be encouraged in keeping their commitments.



The Next Steps - Several recommendations include: keep offering training events for pastors and invite identified young leaders. Pray that the continued focused training will open and widen new doors for outreach ministry so that the churches are encourage and strengthen in this region. **Please pray with us for wisdom on how best to continue training in Kiboga.**

Back to Tororo February 23-25 - Last March, the team left Kampala for Emerging Leaders Training in this new area east of the Nile River. While there, the government shut down everything. It wasn't until October and November that two more training events could be offered in Tororo. Last week, Pastor Andrew, Daudi, Elisha, and Maria returned to provide the fourth Seminar. The team was pleased by the receptivity of the participants. **Pray for Tororo's Emerging Leaders and churches in that Region.**



Thank you for your continued interest, support, and prayers for our global partners and Partnerships for Training Pastors.

From Dan. Wasula. Wasswa - LEAD PASTOR ENTEBBE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Pastor Dan is one of the graduates from the Trainers of Trainers Project)



“Dear Pastor Dave, Happy New Year and we thank God for keeping us alive and well.

Am grateful to God whenever I happen to use materials that I received through Partnerships for Training Pastors. Additionally, am also grateful for the biblical knowledge that you instilled in me through Partnerships for Training Pastors.

The materials have helped me a lot in running a discipleship class during a long COVID holiday for secondary school students between the ages of 13-20. Some have gone back to school and our numbers have reduced to that class in the attached photo.

Once again thank you for the last bunch of materials we received last year and the program through Pastor Andrew and Mr. Daudi Nkuggwa. We also thank God for their "follow up". Regards to your wife and to brethren who pray for us.”

Technology Update

Through the generous 2020 year-end gifts, progress is being made in upgrading our tech options for pastoral training. The first installment of \$4,500 was sent to the Uganda team to purchase sound equipment, a mobile generator, mobile speakers, wireless mics, projector screen, computer tablets for 7 Training of Trainers students, and in-studio filming equipment for Kampala curriculum development.

*A second installment of \$4,500 will be sent in March for the purchase of a Canon 6D Mark II Camera, a new projector, and I Mac computer for editing, along with camera and sound cards for recording in Kampala’s studio. With these purchases, virtual training, blogs, podcasts, as well as sermons from Kampala Baptist Church will be made available through virtual connections across Uganda. **Pray for these connections and ask the Lord to guide the use of each piece of equipment for the development of God’s people in Uganda.***

*The picture on the right tells the story regarding tech updates in Mechanicsburg. The purchase of a video camera, wireless mic, and necessary studio equipment will enhance the training capacity from our home. We’re grateful that Cory, a twenty-something techie from our local church, helped identify what we need for effective virtual training. **Join us in praying that this equipment will be used wisely for the growth of global leaders.***



Speaking Events for Dave and Joyce

Joyce’s Weekly Zoom Bible Study with Ladies from our local church

February 18 – Cornell FCA Meeting by Zoom – spoke about global partnerships

February 28 & March 7 - Dave’s Virtual Sermons for New Life Presbyterian Church in Ithaca

Partner Prayer Updates

- **Pray for Felix and the Huallaga Quechua team in Huánuco, Peru** as they record biblical programs for radio and WhatsApp on phones. Due to Peru’s COVID restrictions on churches, Felix estimates that potentially more than 50,000 people can be reached in their homes through 6 FM stations.
- **Pray for Bethany and Jeremy Colvin of Choshen Farm in Fimpulu, Zambia.** They report that COVID-19 is becoming more active in their region, which directly impacts their primary school and training programs.