

2024 in Review



Twenty years ago, Joyce and I met Andrew Mwenge during his visit to Bethel Grove Bible Church in Ithaca, NY. As pastor of Kampala Baptist Church, Andrew shared the need for solid biblical education among less-resourced pastors in Uganda. For many years, the two churches creatively partnered together in a variety of ministry projects. But it was in 2014, after we began *Partnerships for Training Pastors*, that our ministry partnership expanded in incredible ways. We are eternally grateful for God's blessings through the years.

Now in our eleventh year, we echo the Apostle Paul's doxology in Ephesians 3:20-21: *Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more that all we ask or imagine, according to his power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.*

Keeping You Updated

This report offers you a glimpse at our 2024 focus areas. Our commitment is to keep you informed of what God is doing. Monthly updates offer you an important guide for prayer on behalf of our partners and us. Our website attempts to provide resources and insight into this equipping ministry.

In 2024, the use of video updates increased. Many have expressed appreciation for the way these videos offer a more detailed picture than words on a page. We will keep sending you links for your visual connection in 2025.

Chris Tabu is a master at his craft. It is an immense privilege to work with him and his company, *Tabu Capital*, to provide you with video updates. Chris produced a *Year-End Report Video* so you can meet some of the people who are part of the ministry outreach in



Uganda. Click on this link to meet these friends and get a glimpse at what God is doing through them: <u>https://shorturl.at/0DqkC</u>.

Year-End Gift Opportunity – During our September meeting, Accountability Group members identified this year-end gift in support of a three-pronged vision for a new training group called TRAILBLAZERS. Chris Tabu produced a *Year-End Gift Video* which gives you the details behind our request. Click on <u>https://shorturl.at/fRfBC</u> to revisit the purpose of your gifts. There is still time to help us meet our goal of \$30,000. Below is a reminder on how to participate if you haven't already done so.

<u>Giving details</u> - Go to https://admin.newhorizonsfoundation.com/donation/create/378 if you desire to give on-line. OR send a check to New Horizons Foundation Inc. Attn: Partnerships for Training Pastors, 731 Chapel Hills Dr., Colorado, Springs, CO 80920. Please make checks out to <u>New Horizons Foundation Inc</u>. with Partnerships for Training Pastors on the memo line.



2024 in Review

Ugandan Ministry

COHORTS– In November, the COHORTS completed their eighth week-long seminar since the group began in January 2023. God has developed a group dynamic that is truly amazing in the individuals that come together from many Ugandan regions. 2024's seminar themes included: Servant Leadership for Today 1 & 2, Leadership Communication, Stewardship, and Leadership Accountability. Back in their home churches, these COHORTS equip and disciple emerging leaders and other church members using the Promise Book curriculum and our extended seminar material. The



COHORTS graduation ceremony is set for January 26-28, 2025. *Give thanks for this gifted group of leaders and pray for them as they prepare to mentor regional emerging leaders in 2025.*

TRAINERS OF TRAINERS GROUP – Affectionately known as the TOTS, this group has been united since 2017. Coming from Oyam, Masaka, Uganda's Central region, and Kampala, they met three times in 2024 to study, pray and plan. Each session builds on the fellowship established from



the beginning. TOTS are responsible to lead brief seminars for pastors and emerging leaders, as well join with other TOTS to offer larger training events in their region. We are grateful for the vision God gives these TOTS for the building up of God's people!

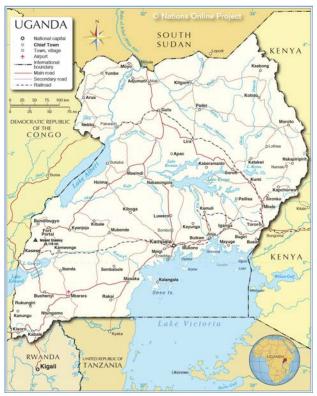
In November, Dave and Gabit (*KBC Team member on left in picture*) visited Pastors Felix and Sam for a worship service in a village church. Felix is one of the TOTS in the central region of Uganda. It is thrilling to see how God is using the TOTS in their home regions. *Pray for the Oyam, Masaka, and Central Region TOTS as they prepare for large equipping events in January 2025.*

EMERGING LEADERS – One of *Partnerships'* main strategies involves establishing a new generation of church leaders. Ugandan statistics tell us that 52.6% of the population is below the age of 18. In 2024, we offered equipping events in Kasese, Tororo, Kiboga, Kapchorwa and Kween. A total of 115 young adults participated. Following the events, COHORTS mentor these emerging leaders on a regular basis. It's a team effort that is bearing much fruit. **Pray for the movement of the Holy Spirit to guide this group of young adults to serve Christ in whatever occupation they discover**.



PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS – Equipping events were held in Mubende, Oyam, Bukwo, and Buvuma Islands reaching 184 participants. Our 2024 strategy was to select several areas where there is a special need for pastoral development. Then, we encourage the TOTS, and our Ugandan Team, to speak into those needs through a brief seminar and a conscious effort to follow-up those who attend. *Pray for wisdom as we seek to offer 2025 pastoral training on the* **Buvuma Islands, and in Bukwo, Kiboga and Kapchorwa.**





world. Please join us in praying for this new opportunity.

DEVELOPMENT OF DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL – 2024 yielded a huge step forward in writing, translating, and printing study material. In January, the COHORTS took *Promise Book 1* home and begin a discipling movement. The results were incredible. By midyear, we translated *Promise Book 1* into Swahili, Luganda and Langi. In August, *Promise Book 2* was printed in English. Our goal is to



complete printing the Swahili, Luganda and Langi versions by Swahili of Book 1 and English of Book 2 year's end. *Pray that these books will strengthen God's people as they live for Christ each day.*

A Tribute to Dr. Diana Weber

In 2016, *Language, Literacy and Life* (LLL) began under the auspices of the New Horizons Foundation. It was Dave's privilege to help Diana connect with New Horizons to get the project off the ground. Since 2020, we have provided resources for pastoral training in the high-reaches of the Andes Mountains.

For more than a year, Diana courageously fought pancreatic cancer. As always, she trusted the Lord to the end of her earthly life. On June 16th, Diana entered the presence of our Lord. With her passing, our link to LLL is complete. We thank God for Diana and our shared ministry in Peru. Well done good and faithful servant!



The Ugandan Team, of Elisha, Andrew, and Daudi, finds great joy in working together as ministry partners. We all are extremely grateful for the gift of Siinza Tumusiime, born to Suma and Elisha on Sunday morning, December 8. We thank God for all he is doing and has done.

530 Brook Shire CT, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6224 - Phone 607-342-1733 <u>www.partnershipsfortraining.org</u> - <u>dave@partnershipsfortraining.org</u> *Copyright 2024 - all rights reserved*

2024 in Review

From Pastor Andrew Mwenge

As we begin the TRAILBLAZERS Group in January, we are responding to two realities. Ladies will be included for the first time. While playing many roles in the church, they often are excluded from training programs.

Second, we are mobilizing trainees from refuge communities in Uganda. Our country has a growing influx of refugees from the Congo, Southern Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and most recently from Northern Sudan. Training leaders from these nations equips their pastors, as many refugees face barriers plugging into a Ugandan church. Language is the biggest inhibitor.

A significant number of these refugees are Muslim. Therefore, empowering leaders from these nations also prepares those who hope to return home whenever the situation in their country improves. Just like in Acts 2, those transformed on the day of Pentecost returned to their homes and the gospel spread across the



2024 in Review

Thanks for Your Partnership!



The Accountability Group met in September on the shores of Keuka Lake in NY. This Group gives wisdom and insight for the development of yearly vision, budget, and ministry direction. At the end of 2024, **John Kegarise** will retire from the Group after ten vital years of service. We are grateful for John's faithful participation since *Partnerships* began in 2014. (*pictured from L to R Dave and Joyce Jones, Mim and John Kegarise, Susan Hay, and Dawn and Bob Jewell. Andrew Mwenge joined us by zoom*).

We are grateful for faithful friends who help sustain this ministry through prayer, encouragement, and financial support.

Supporting Churches – We give thanks for our partnership with *Bethel Grove Bible Church* and *Christ Chapel* (Ithaca, NY), *West Church* (Peabody, MA), and *Dillsburg Brethren in Christ Church* (Dillsburg, PA) as they stand with us through their mission outreach.

Thanks to the *J. Russell Foundation* for their generous grant of \$30,000 towards expanding ministry to a new generation of church leaders across Uganda.

Thanks to Ugandan Supreme Court Justice Mike Chibita for his time with us in Falls Church, VA. Partnering with Doug Weber of Capitol Hill Navigators Ministry, this special event highlighted Judge Chibita's role as a Christ-follower serving in Uganda's public square and the role *Partnerships for Training Pastors* plays in his country.

We are grateful for the ongoing response to the 2024 Year-End Gift that allows us to meet first-year expenses of the new TRAILBLAZER group, printing of material, and an Envision Conference in May. (See page 1 for a Year-End Gift video link). Final gift amount will be presented in January.





Thanks to *Kampala Baptist Church* (KBC) for their on-going partnership! It is a great privilege to serve with the Ugandan leadership team and with Ann Nambogo. Ann is KBC's financial manager. Working alongside Daudi Nkuggwa, Ann's interaction with New Horizons Foundation and stewardship of this project's financial resources is exemplary.

Thanks to the New Horizons Foundation team for their financial and organizational oversight. New Horizons has been amazing in its faithful

stewardship of your gifts and support for this ministry. A Financial Summary of 2024's income and expenses will be provided in January 2025 after closing the books on the 2024 year.

Final Thoughts – Our vision for serving in this global outreach through 2027 is exhilarating. Working with the Ugandan Team and the explosion of young hearts and minds for God's purposes in Uganda brings us great joy and purpose. It is our deep privilege to walk with you and our global partners for the sake of the gospel. As we move into 2025, the new *TRAILBLAZER* group is front and center in our minds. Please keep our partners and us in your prayers; praying for God's blessing in all we do (*Psalm 90:17*). *Dave and Joyce*