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July 2014

“I will build my church – and the gates of hell will not prevail”

Visit to Uganda June 11th – 30th

Every time that I visit Uganda my heart thrills to hear all that God has been doing – both in the places where we have been evangelising and planting new churches, and in the way the Lord is raising up leaders as a result of the training we have been providing. I hope you will appreciate some of the examples that have moved me so deeply!

School Harvest



Pastor Fred Mudde has been appointed as a chaplain to ***Seroma Christian High School***. With his Mission Africa training he is now seeing ***two hundred and fifty*** young people baptised each term in this school of 1200 precious children.

Three hundred students now meet for prayer ***every lunch hour*** as well as ***early each morning***. As you can imagine this has led to a massive change in the school's atmosphere, and to new fires being lit. Praise God for Fred – he is doing this extraordinary work at the very time that he is having to care for his wife, Grace, who is suffering from advanced cancer.

“...that all may be one (John 17 v 21)

Our mission in ***Nakaseke*** last September has given rise to a completely new level of unity among the pastors in the area. Each month no fewer than ***twenty-five*** of them now meet in turn at each other's homes, to share and pray for each others' needs. Each one of them brings the sum of 10,000 Ug /= (about £2.50) to these meetings **plus**, whenever they can, a special gift. At the end of each meeting the family of the host pastor comes in to be prayed for. The combined money gift – now a sizeable sum – is then presented to the pastor's wife. I was moved to tears to witness

one such wife being totally overwhelmed by this expression of God's love being bestowed on her by this dear group of fellow pastors.

As God continues to knit the hearts of these pastors together *please pray that He will greatly use this model of developing unity as a most powerful expression of joint evangelism in the area, and, who knows? – far beyond!*

God's plan for Joseph involved time in prison – and for Richard!

Pastor Richard Ssendi, one of our mission leaders, was deeply shocked in February to find himself being suddenly arrested and thrown into prison. His crime? Being late in repaying a bank loan he had taken out to pay the teachers at the school he runs.



Mercifully, Richard was able to prove this was a case of wrongful arrest and get himself released. During these intensely traumatic six weeks he teamed up with four other pastors and preached daily to the prisoners. Through God's strength, they were able to lead **forty-eight** prisoners to the Lord, including some who were convicted of murder. Although Richard is already an experienced Gospel preacher, this painful episode has birthed a huge passion in his heart to continue this ministry on a national basis. I was able to fund him the cost of obtaining the necessary permit that will give him (along with his team) entrance to **every** prison in the country. *–Please pray for many new souls to be won as the result of this one man's brief sojourn in prison!!*

God showed Joseph favour in prison and he did the same for Richard. Instead of having to sleep on the floor in a crowded cell as others were having to do, the officer in charge was a Christian and put him in the VIP section, with a mattress, mosquito net and even someone to wash and iron his clothes!! And we provided support for his family whilst he was in there.

“... Come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song” (Ps. 95 v 2)

Another great delight was to “cut the ribbon” to open two projects in which Mission Africa has been closely involved.

The first was for the consecration and dedication of a **fine brick church at Luguloire**, following our successful mission there. This replaces the small mud-walled predecessor that had been roofed with banana leaves. As I cut the ribbon at the entrance to the church, a purple robed choir came in singing. Streaming in after them was a large gathering of both believers and well-wishers. The place just **erupted** with whooping, rejoicing, dancing and praise for all that God had done; a foretaste perhaps of the sort of welcome we will all experience when we enter the gates of Heaven!

I felt prompted to speak on not just the need to consecrate the building but also to personally re-consecrate our **own** lives so that we can be used to promote God's longing for revival.

Although it was not specifically an evangelistic message, the glorious presence of God was so strong that day that to my surprise and delight **twelve** people immediately gave their lives to Jesus, followed by three more later that evening! God is so good!



The second opportunity came when I was invited to open a new nursery/ primary classroom block, borehole and shop in the village of **Kivule** (which has a population of 800). This project was wonderfully funded by the **Oxted One World Group** (to which some good friends of ours, **Andrew and Felicity Dick** belong).

The old school

Initiated by **Fred Mudde**, and supervised by **Daniel Kato**, the impact these are making is already huge.

As a large crowd gathered, music was played, the children sang, speeches were made and sodas were drunk. A very happy day for this little community!



The new classroom block

An Enswaswa moment!

A key part of my visit was to hold a three- day working retreat with the team at a peaceful centre on the shores of Lake Victoria. This proved to an excellent opportunity to encourage, review and plan. As we sat in a circle under the trees by the lakeside a three feet long reptile suddenly emerged out of the water and advanced rapidly towards us. It was an **Enswaswa**, a snake with an aggressive nature and a deadly poisonous bite for which there is no known antidote! I was able to grab a quick picture of it before the team urged me to make good my escape!



Ronnie with dead Enswaswa

Receiving a warning shower of rocks, the snake – much to the dismay of **Immac** and **Jane** – promptly headed off towards the long grass surrounding the ladies' shower block. It met its end when other members of the team (Ronnie and David) hurled a further volley of rocks at it. Immac and Jane could now enjoy their showers in peace!

See <http://www.ruachministries.org/missionafricareports/KalunguJan14-Report.pdf> for another occasion when Immac came face to face with a deadly snake!

Daniel – A Man with a Mission

It was good, as always, to spend time with **Daniel Kato** and his family. Daniel has an enormous heart to raise up young people with potential from the same sort of disadvantaged background that he himself has experienced. (He was orphaned at an early age). Whenever I go to his home there are always so many people living under the roof that he and Grace provide for them, and who they are trying to support educationally out of their own pockets.



Daniel regularly takes teams of young people who he has trained himself on missions to the nearby villages and hospital. Scores of people are won for Jesus each time they set out.

Having recently finished his theological studies it is a great blessing to Mission Africa that both he and Immac (Steve's daughter) are able to play an increasing role in supporting Steve as he oversees the whole thrust of Mission Africa's on-going evangelistic work.

Steve – A Man with a Vision

Ever the visionary, Steve's three-year old ministry at **Toggo** is expanding exponentially with new classroom blocks, dormitories, clinic and teacher's quarters. The clinic is now serving not just the **thousand plus** school children but also the local community. With **Betty** the school nurse, who treats **twenty** or so children each **day** for malaria, I was glad to be able to leave Steve sufficient money to buy two hundred and fifty mosquito nets.

We praise God for all that He is doing through the missions we have held in the last year or through what He is **continuing** to do in places that we have been to in the past). Not only have new churches been planted but some of the evangelists we have inspired and trained up are now embarking on international ministries. To Jesus be all the glory! He has achieved so much more than we could possibly have imagined when we started fourteen years ago.

None of this would have been possible without the faithful prayers, encouragement and support of you, our wonderful supporters. A very, very big thank you as we share in the labour and the harvest together.



*with our love, Terry Charlton and Steve Trint on
behalf of the Mission Africa Evangelistic Team*

