

PT MINISTRY UPDATE April – May 2017

The last two months have been a very busy but exciting time for us. During that time, the PT Institute launched a course, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement (with 45 participants on a weekly basis) and an all-inclusive program of raising preachers, with a focus on Biblical Studies, Hermeneutics and Homiletics.

Our main ministry engagements since April have ranged from those initiated from within our local church (Berea), through those that operate from the PT platform, to the many opportunities that come through the Consortium of Evangelical Missions (ACEMU). About 30% of our ministry engagements have integrated all the platforms from which we operate by providing resources, mobilizing facilitators to teach the Bible, availing venues and so on.

Hosting 120 women for the PT Shalom Women's Annual Conference from May 22nd to 26th remains a great highlight in these recent months. The ministering women (mainly pastors' wives) came from several sub-regions of Uganda. There was great learning and sharing, as well as descriptions on how these conferences are making an impact on women.



Great testimonies too, from the ladies who have been attending these conference since 2015. They have learnt to work with their hands to improve their house hold income. The conference was well attended by women from Kisoro, Kasese, Mpigi, Busoga Region, Namayingo and one lady managed to come from Soroti.



Our theme for the PT Shalom Women's Conference was "*The Woman and the Word of God*", focusing on Psalm 119 where the organizing declaration was "Thy word is a lamp into my feet and a light

into path". (Psalm 119:105). All morning Devotions and Reflections were drawn from Psalm 119.

This 3-day conference took place at the Proclamation Task facility in Bukerere on Kagala Hill and learning was facilitated by 6 wonderful teachers who handled the word of God faithfully.

Some participating mothers came with their very young ones, totaling 19 kids and a provision for separate ministry was made under the tent in order to minimize interruption of their mothers during the learning sessions.

We were all greatly encouraged by the entire process of teaching and learning. The women were taught the meaning, significance and ways of studying, memorizing and applying the word of God in our daily living.

More women than men are not only according to the national census, but also in the church. So, PT considers the impact of women on the church by training and equipping them to handle Scripture correctly by priority.



After all, there are generally more women involved in church activities compared to men, although men remain the main leaders. The sessions included “Teaching the Word to Children at Church”, “The Word of God & Praying”, “A Woman of God and the Word in the Community”, “A Woman of God in His Word”, “Teaching the Word to Disabled Children” among others.

The current idea to link urban ministering men and women, with rural ministering men and women is a promising idea and gives godly impetus to our work in regard to the scope and interaction between the givers and receivers of ministry at any one time.



For example, during the recent PT Shalom Conference, we had about six women facilitating, who are trained well as Bible teachers and children workers. These women have the capacity to contribute to the entire ministry in several other ways. Some have donated mattresses; others gave out clothes which were distributed to the 120 women in great joy, while others keep in fervent prayer for the ministry.

We emphasized the fact that there is a tendency to think that only some portions of the Bible are for women or directed to women. Portions such as Proverbs 31, Esther, Ruth and feminine character study of women

in the Bible become singularly attractive whenever thoughts arise about women and the Bible.

But we taught the ladies that the Whole Bible is for Women!! Prayer, purity, service and wise words come from the whole counsel of God, not just portions that look feminine. It is theologically dwarfing when women or those who minister to them use the Bible as a cookbook on being a woman only, rather than look to it to see our God and Savior, who teaches us all things.

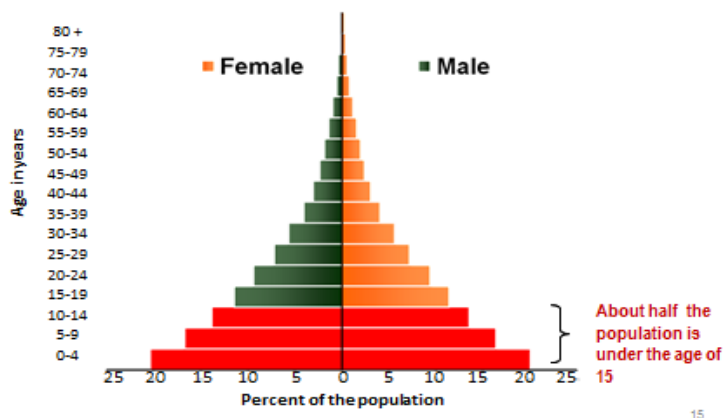
The eight PT Staff and some 18 volunteers are undergoing training in order to increase the workforce which will see us well scattered to give ministry in all the aspects of PT. For instance, we would like to be in 15 of Uganda's 43 higher institutions of learning, 15 urban local churches and at least five locations with professionals in the market place in the next two years.

The restructuring of PT into these aspects has rendered us the needed cutting edge in the entire society without scaling back. The diversification has allowed a single vision with a broader application and greater flexibility.

It has enhanced the agenda of indigenizing the PT work beyond those who were mainly considered as "ministry receivers", to several others who are considered as "givers of ministry".



Uganda has a very young population . . .



The PT Students' Initiative has also proved very strategic for us, in helping to render a more biblical shape to Uganda's future church. By reaching Universities today, we are preparing church leaders and church members in a very near future.

While students are just about one quarter in our Friday evening Perspectives Class, they number about one half in our Saturday early morning Preaching Movement.

Uganda has a very young population which is a serious demographic anomaly. About 57% of our entire population (about 41,652,938 people today) is below 18 years and this is increasing. Two out of every five

girls have given birth or are pregnant by age 19.

Teenage pregnancy and motherhood demonstrate the current state of morality since we do not expect many at that age to be in well-established homes to raise their kids. 18.7% of the girls aged 15-19 years just in Ankole region have had a live birth or are pregnant with their first child.

The other implication is that unless the church plans well ahead for 2030 and beyond, we can experience social strife in regard to education, jobs and general survival.

Total fertility rate has remained almost stagnant at 5.8 children per woman for the last 2 decades which is the major cause of increase in family size and population growth.

Questions about how households can have manageable families (1 Tim 5:8) are better answered by the church and not the government. We are teaching the Bible to the youth on a weekly basis.



Children from large families tend to have poor education and get married young, which leads to a cycle of intergenerational transmission of poverty and wretchedness. We are convinced more than ever, that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the core solution, and that the church has to be very strategic in this.



High fertility is creating higher pressure for the extended family. This is one of the reasons PT is currently involved in helping the largest evangelical entity in Uganda, the Anglican Church, to give extra attention to their established schools by turning them into real life “transforming transit centers”.

This church’s history, heritage, influence, structures and current state mean that we should work with them more closely since we have what to offer. It is in this regard that I was involved in their supreme meeting (the 23rd Provincial

Assembly) and why PT remains active in some dioceses at the invitation of their Bishops and other clergy.

Christianity in Uganda is estimated at 85.2% of the entire population, of which 41% is Roman Catholicism, and 32% is Anglicanism. The Pentecostal and the rest of Protestant denominations are rated at 12% including Baptists at 0.3%. So we are always thinking ahead and seeking to read the times well in our engagements for greater eternal dividends. Children are increasing more than adults and we are working to see that church ministry change to cope with the population dynamics.



With the thrust of ACEMU, we are becoming increasingly inclined to work from a statistical factuality for evidence-based ministry planning and implementation. We believe that what gets measured gets done better.

Berea Church

Through our local church, we are able to minister to over 400 young people (from 4 to 12 years) every Sunday morning – a great opportunity afforded to us by Trinity Kindergarten and Primary School.

We also run discipleship classes every Sunday afternoon with secondary schools among the 13-18 years. With more volunteers, an increasing workforce should enable us to make greater coverage and increase frequency.

PT has an ongoing outreach to fellowships of married couples in several churches to teach the Bible with a view to strengthening these important relationships as well as augment parenting. Preparing young people for marriage remains current in our home; weddings and other traditional ceremonies compete for the little time that remains.



The entire chain of ministry opportunities is aligned along the fact that the world needs to hear and respond to the Gospel, and that without preachers and Bible teachers this will not happen. So PT's ministry engagement is double-edged: while we achieve by serving, those that are assigned to serve are also undergoing training. They are serving to grow while they are growing to serve.

Taking university students on an evangelistic mission is more than seeing many souls won to Christ; it is also seeing the excitement of these growing preachers and seeing their hearts better shaped to the call. Preparation for the "servants of the word" (Luke 1:3) takes place in class but also in the field.

Therefore, although our ministry aspects as programs and their guiding philosophy remain unchanged, our strategy is in a constant adjustment to respond to needs as reality point to posterity.

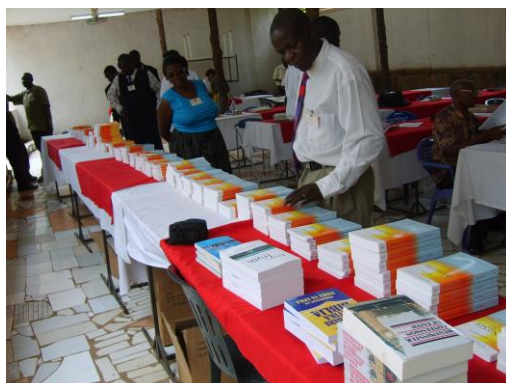
Our five-prong approach to accomplishing the PT mission, is grounded by 'teaching the Bible' in resolving life's purpose and destiny as a foundational priority for God's people.

Through the PT- Pastor Training we teach the Bible to equip ministering pastors



Through the PT-Shalom Effort we reach women with Bible teaching and to encourage pastors' wives to reach and nurture fellow women in Christ.

Through the PT-Literature Resource, we seek to gather and avail Christian literature.





Through the **PT-Student Initiative ministry** we reach tertiary institutions (universities and colleges) to teach the Bible and train Christian students' fraternity to correctly handle the Bible message in their setting.



Through the **PT-Workplace Ministry**, we help Christians in the market place to embrace their vocations as redemptive mission in their respective socio-cultural and economic placements.

The Bible Expositors' Movement

We are working beyond our traditional pastor training, to raise a new cadre of preachers mainly from younger people.

Every Saturday morning we meet about 20 young men and women to encourage "expository apologetics" — the practice of answering objections with the power of God's Word, which we believe is for everyone.



As evangelists in their schools and work places, they are expository apologetists; as preachers and teachers of the Bible, they are expository apologetists; as disciple makers or mentors, they are expository apologetists.

We are preparing them to always be ready to “give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it” (Titus 1:9).

We are helping them to be on guard, for “the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths” (2 Tim. 4:3–4).



This exercise is a bulwark against the tendency to forget how hard it is to believe in the face of constant opposition.

We have a two-day workshop in partnership with Uganda Christian University coming up early July to expand the scope and streamline the engagement of raising preachers.

We are convinced that no matter the circumstance, there is always a need to make the claims of the gospel both clear and memorable. So we are helping them to always “make a defense.”





Every Friday from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm we meet for the Perspectives Course which has drawn 45 participants. Perspectives is a fifteen-week course designed around four vantage points or "perspectives" — Biblical, Historical, Cultural and Strategic. Each one highlights different aspects of God's global purpose.



The Biblical and Historical sections reveal why our confidence is based on the historic fact of God's relentless work from the dawn of history until this day.

The Cultural and Strategic sections underscore that we are in the midst of a costly, but very "do-able" task, confirming the Biblical and Historical hope.

We are convinced that God has a "world-sized" role for every Christian in His global purpose.

Opportunity to teach the Bible, to preach, to exhort surround us in measures unseen before. Our calendars are well scheduled with no time to waste.

We teach in schools, in churches, in the market place, in weddings, funerals and wherever we find an opening for the Gospel.



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We preach, teach and run a preaching movement in Uganda Christian University, and the plan is to extent this program to other tertiary institutions.



We hold youth discipleship meetings at home on a regular basis.



We are privileged to lead the Sunday morning service at Trinity School every Sunday. This gives us an opportunity to teach the Bible to about 400 young people. We also have an opportunity every Monday from 1 – 2 pm, to teach the Bible to the teachers of Trinity Primary School. When we prayed for God to open doors, he really did. Invitations overwhelm us sometimes. But by God's grace, we are making satisfactory use of every link in this ministry.

Saturday 3rd June 2017

Uganda Martyrs CONFERENCE



• Revisiting the meaning and significance of a martyred church.

Facilitated By



VENUE : Kisaasi Kyanja
(PT Office)

TIME : 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

For reservation and direction call

Boaz : 0703 470 621, 0773 067 440 or Moses : 0700 477 537

We try to use every opportunity in bringing the mind of God to bear on all circumstances and occasions. For example, the 3rd of June is a public holiday in Uganda, commemorating the martyrs. This year we held a conference with 80 participants to look at the whole subject of martyrdom through history, its significance, its meaning and how it relates to the Christian mission.



Small groups played a great role in enhancing appreciation and comprehension of the subject of Martyrs.



Many who participated shared how their understanding has become better aligned with the Bible than tradition. Questions lingered in their minds as to whether we should just love the martyrs, revere them, or venerate them – especially those who got saved from a Roman Catholic background.

Our first session, “The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the Church” by Dr. Dennis Kilama placed this statement of Tertullian in its historical context and drew memorable helps for us.





Our home is also known for Grace's wonderful hospitality. May who come for ministry also find something good to eat.

Many meetings take place in our home and a large number of Christians now associate Bible teaching, counseling, training for ministry with this venue.

Once a residential house is built at the PT Center for us to live in, all such activities will follow us to what we believe is the right and fitting venue.

We are very active in mission conferences of university students as speakers and mobilizers for sending individuals to share the Good News of Jesus Christ near and far.



We teach the Bible to so young, the youth and the old at every turn, and it gives us joy that during each week we as PT Staff have more than seven opportunities on average.

We thank God that he has shaped us and fashioned PT to respond to a wide range of ministry situations where we are invited to accomplish the single mission: "teaching the Bible".

PT has come to be identified as such, and we take great pleasure in this. Our church, Berea, continues to model preaching beyond me now, and including three more men – Bernie, Stanley and Grace – who share the pulpit with me.

They also serve as the core trainers in raising more effective handlers of God's Word beyond Berea. It is a great joy for me.

Our involvement in higher institutions of learning open doors for us to commission those who graduate with the very words of Jesus.



Participating in other Christian institutions also continues to render credibility in the short courses we offer at the PT Institute.



We closely serve with Uganda Christian University, Africa Renewal University (where I will also be keynote speaker for their graduation next year), African Bible University, Uganda Bible Institute (in Mbarara) and we meet fellow instructors through various settings.

The Protestant Reformation at 500 years

We continue to arrange PT outreach activities for this year, taking the advantage of history as we commemorate the Protestant Reformation now at 500 years this year, from September to November.

During this year, we want to take note of the great role Africans have in the global mission work. We will be using this opportunity to awake Africans to the Gospel cause, given the shift of population dynamics southward. From its 1517 start, Protestantism grew to claim 133 million followers in 1900, nearly doubled that by 1970, and more than doubled again to reach an estimated 560 million this year, with a projected 626 million by 2025. The faith exists in nearly all the globe's 234 nations and territories.

Although Protestantism originated as totally European but that continent has only 16 percent of Protestants currently. Africa had few Protestants in 1900 but around 1975 became the continent with the largest number, currently has 41 percent of the world total, and will reach half of it around 2040. In recent years, Asia has surpassed Europe's total and Latin America has surpassed North America's total.

The United States still has the largest Protestant population in a single nation (56.2 million) followed closely by Nigeria (53.1 million). All five nations with the fastest-growing Protestant populations are in Africa. The largest specific denominations are China's Communist-authorized "Three-Self Patriotic" churches and the Assemblies of God in Brazil, which have bypassed the Evangelical Church in Germany and the Church of England. The Anglican Church of Nigeria lands in 5th place.

We want to allow these statistics and trends to shape our current assignments in a relentless manner, so that we play our role in Gospel work.

PT Building

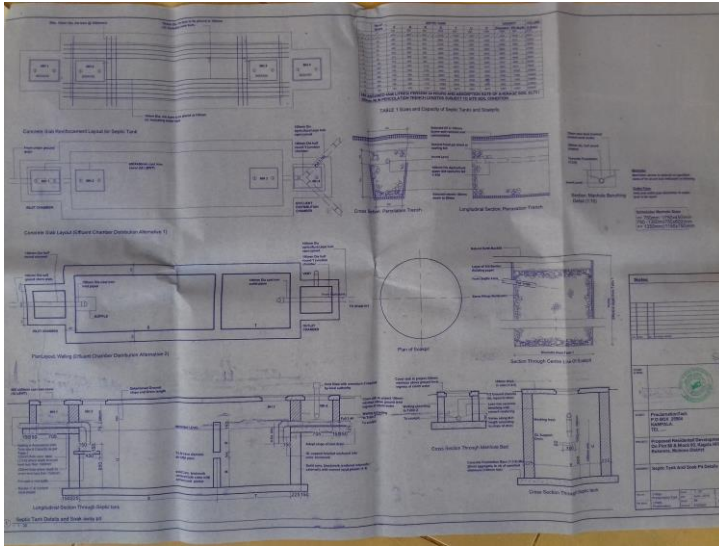
In small ways, the construction work at the PT Center goes on, mainly with making improvement that increasingly allow better usage of the facilities.



We still pray and wait of God for provision to put up two more structures: An administration building and the initial residence. With these two, the eight main training activities for the PT Institute through the year, with an average of 80 people will be hosted fully.



For the last four months, we have invested in coming up with architectural plans and sought permission from municipal physical planners to set these up. We applied for approval of plans and it was granted. So we at any provision however small, we know the next move and the entire journey.



FORM A

MUKONO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
THE PUBLIC OF HEALTH (BUILDINGS) RULES 1951
APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PLANS
(To be submitted in Quadruplicate)

TO THE DISTRICT ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

I herewith submit Plans, Sections Elevations, Block Plan and Details for New Building Alterations, Additions for use as Domestic Building, Dwelling House, Public Building, Building of the Warehouse class in accordance with Building Rule No. 6.

Plot No. Plot 99 & Block 93 Street or Road Kagata Hill, Bukere, Mukono District.

Having a frontage to Bukere Road

Foundations Strip & Pile Foundations for Columns (at Verandas)

Damp-proof Course 3 Layers of Mastic Asphalt DPC

External Walls 225mm Thick Burnt Brick Walls

Internal walls 150mm and 225mm Thick Burnt Brick Walls

Mortar in Walls Cement Sand Mix of ratio 1:4

Floor (describe all types of floors) Porcelain / Ceramic Tiles on 25mm max. Cement Sand Screed as finishes on solid floor slab

Roof (covering of) Gauge 26, IT4 Pre painted roofing Sheets to Client's Preference and Approval

Ceilings As Per Submitted Drawings

Description of Water fittings As Per Submitted Drawings

Means of water supply Shallow well to elevated water tank and in future, National Water and Sewerage Co-operation

Description of machinery to be installed Not Applicable

Name of Architect _____

Address _____

Cost of Proposed Works: shs. _____

I certify that the term under lease No. _____ will be fully complied with and that application and the accompanying plans are to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Architect _____

Date _____

Full Name and Address of owner (In block letters) _____
PROCLAMATION TASK
P.O. BOX 2594 KAMPALA Tel: 0772411073

I hereby give an undertaking:

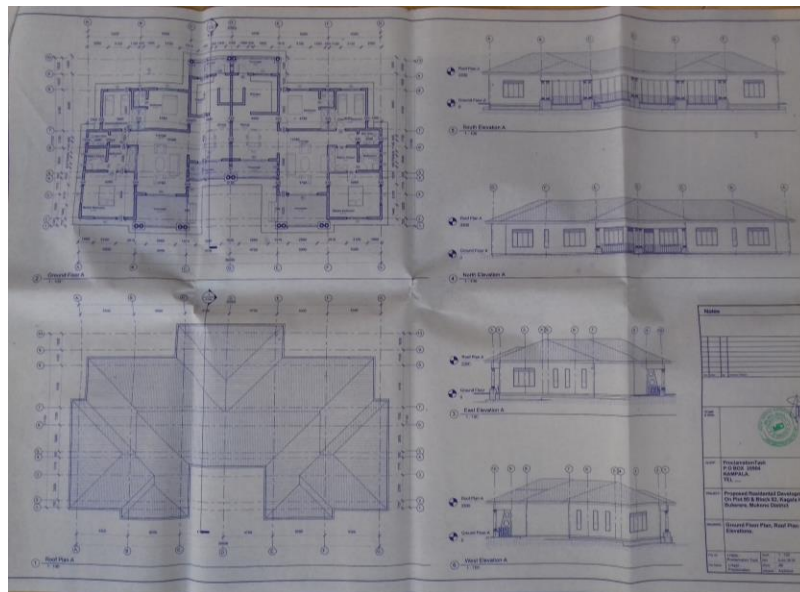
- to provide and maintain common parts and premises (Section 11 of the Public Health Building Rules, 1951)
- to provide dustbin bays at front of premises or in back yard to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health.
- To provide facilities in the backyard/ on flat roof for drying of clothes to be screened to the satisfaction of the District Engineer and Surveyor.
- To construct a footpath along the frontage of Building in accordance with District Engineer's requirements.

Owner's Signature _____ Date _____

N.B. Particulars of any proposed drainage must be submitted on the forms specified in the Appendix to the Drainage and Sanitation Rules 1950, or any rules amending or replacing the same, should accompany this application.

Delete description inapplicable.

This planned duplex would change the utilization of this Center in major way. Several staff would be resident on the training site to keep up with the ongoing training activity; with staff on the ground, we would cultivate crops and keep farm animals to assist in feeding trainees. Grace's chicken project would move from the city to this better place; the grounds would take on every activity that currently fails to fit there due to residence, office and simple library.



We are greatly indebted to all our friends who through their great encouragement, have kept fire in our chests to keep going without tiring. As I think about it, having an average of over 70 trainees on weekly basis (as it is now), marking the assignments of 45 of them, while planning many other ministry engagements is something that we could not possibly handle without your support. We are so grateful.