

PT Ministry Quarterly Report Jan – Mar 2014

Pastor-Training and Trips

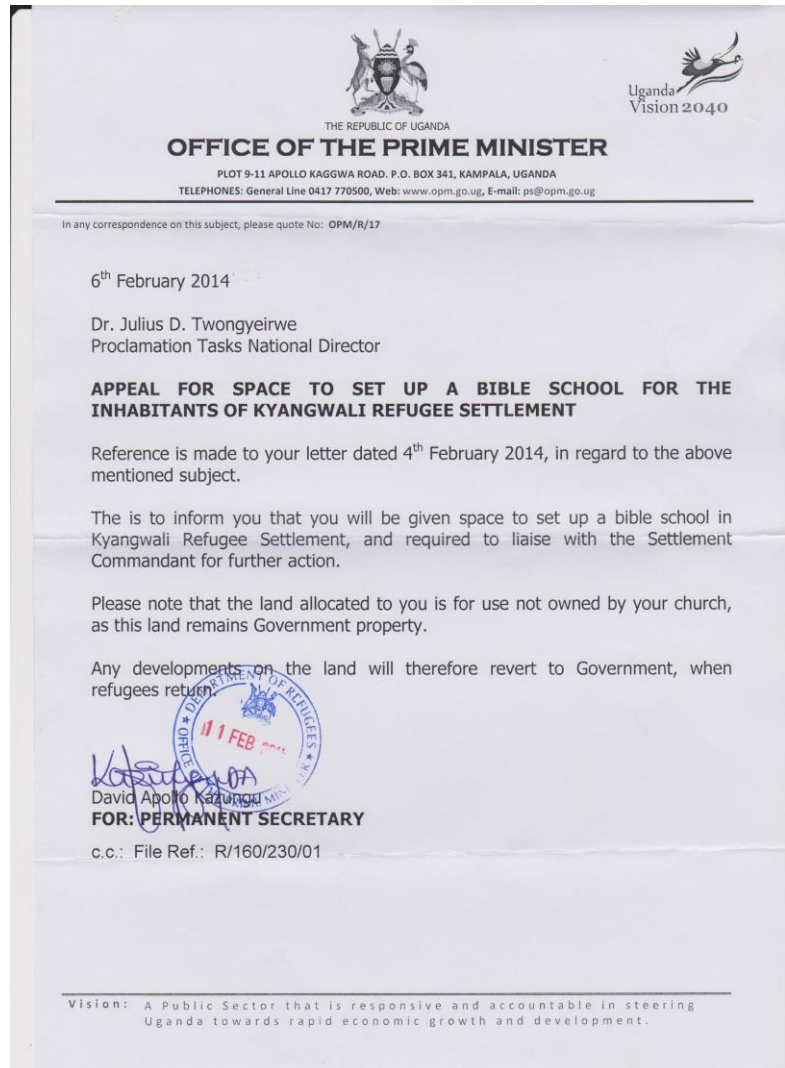
In this quarter, we continued to implement training in areas we have worked (consolidation effort) as well as areas we had not been (contact and relationship establishment). In our consolidation effort we have been to Munamba where pastors are excited to have secured land for their Bible School and in Soroti where training is already going at Atirir Bible School. In contact establishment efforts we have held two training events in Nnondwe, Mayuge District - a very needy area in regard to pastor-training, and where a steady relationship with us is now growing.

Plans are under way to work with local churches in Kyangwali and Rwamwanja to establish Bible Schools within these two refugee settlements of about 90,000 people for pastors therein who cannot easily access training outside such confinements.

Permission has already been granted to PT, to work with church leaders in Kyangwali and set up a Bible School. We are currently preparing a brief proposal to set up this work.

The Bible School program country-wide will greatly enhance sustained training for the growing church. These schools are envisaged to be eventually accredited as academic institutions that train through formal instruction, an established curriculum, courses with reading and writing requirements, qualified instructors who are mentors, and student evaluation through grades.

The education we seek is to train leaders at the pastoral level of the church, whose lives will be completely shaped by a biblical worldview, as proficient and adequately qualified to bring spiritual health to their congregation through the teaching and preaching of God's Word and mobilize the church for mission in the world as skilled shepherds.



PT Center Construction

The work of preparing facilities for pastor-training at the PT Center went on until two weeks ago when the toilet / bathrooms were roofed. The floor of the main block is now leveled with concrete in what was a considerably laborious undertaking. One classroom and the foyer were also plastered to completion.



The company that was contracted to drill a water well faced technical challenges and requested to extend the time frame to allow them reorganize their equipment. They will be communicating when next they are on site to complete the work on the water rig.



There was excitement among us as we tested how far we can use these facilities. A prayer retreat was held on site and it was a wonderful time for us. We used the room which is plastered, and the initial works on the floor allowed us a better ground on which to walk and stand.

Although the building is yet without windows or doors, a roof makes the whole difference. Borrowed chairs and tables worked well for us.



Our wonderful neighbors prepared food for us in their kitchen, served us on their utensils and we used their toilet as well.

It was a good test of how far we can use the facilities in their state and guided us in an opportune moment to pray for provision to improve the facilities.

Planning Meetings

The PT Board sat on January 23rd 2014 to evaluate the ministry, assess our current stand and plan for the future. During that meeting four more members were formally brought on board to enhance the deliberation process and render more vitality to the decisions taken. The four men – Isaac Okwang, Moses Elebu, Bernard Monday and George Mbonye – are all pastors who have received considerable input into their lives and ministries from PT in the last 10 – 13 years, and who pioneer the work of PT in their various regions. It was desired by the PT Board to have such men on board, who are on the ground where PT effort is primarily directed.

Other meetings include planning for Berea Church where three of us (elders) meet on a monthly basis to review, pray, fellowship and plan for our growing congregation, as well as other Christian organizations on whose boards I serve.

Berea Church

Growth in numbers from about a membership of 55 and average attendance of 70 last year, to a membership of 95 and average attendance of 120 adults have necessitated greater input as we plan for this ministry on a weekly, monthly and annual basis.

In order to prepare more leaders in the church and increase the labor force, the Berea School



of Ministry was launched in January to offer courses in Christian ministry. This church-based training effort has 22 students who are apprentices in the first course, including some husbands and their wives in the class.

It is envisaged that with this home-grown training, Berea

will develop workers faster and effectively to keep the growth of this local church on track. With more hands and hearts on the church, I will be able to keep PT in focus.



Shalom Effort

Our effort for sustainable livelihood among pastors' families is a constant agenda as we think of next steps and how to improve the already progressing projects. Active



home-based projects are in about six locations – Kisoro (sheep), Namayingo (agriculture), Munamba (chicken) and Alungar (cows) and Kampala (hair salon and a chicken coop).

Grace is currently rearing 500 broiler chickens (left) which will be ready for sale by end of May 2014.



In Alungar, Pastor Moses Elebu and his wife (right) are delighted that beginning with one cow they are now expecting a third one soon and more. Besides all other common benefits, cows in this region are also used for ploughing in agriculture. The more cows one has in a homestead, the more milk but also more is the land that is tilled for planting seed.

A typical week in Grace's life sees her among Bible Study group leaders on Monday for homiletics till early afternoon, house work on Tuesday till evening when she hosts a prayer meeting, joining about 300 ladies for Bible Study on Wednesday till early afternoon, leading a satellite study group on Thursdays, church planning meetings hosted at home on several Fridays, School of Ministry on Saturday morning where she is a student, and premarital counseling for intending young people later in the day. As the women's ministry coordinator, she organizes for their monthly fellowship every last Saturday. She is currently attempting to use two of the afternoons in a week for swimming or gym in order to take better care of her physical. I plan to join her in this.

Continental Ministry Engagement

One of the highlights from the Ghana 2013 Global missions Consultation was the formation of Africa Missions Association (AfMA). As a follow up to give structure, guidelines and governance, we held a follow up meeting in Nairobi from 5th to 7th February 2014. We considered which mission

bodies on the African

continent (such as AEA, MANI, ACM) that could be complemented by the work of AfMA, and what contact points would ensure complementation rather than competition.



We considered ways in which we can be innovative and creative rather than engage in

unhelpful repetitions by reinventing the wheel, working for uniqueness rather than duplication.

We took note that the place of the Bible in AfMA determines how everything else unfolds. But most of all we worked on the AfMA constitution which is now available to guide us on the next step as we rally African Christians for the mission worldwide. We consider this initiative as important as our godly purpose in this generation can be grasped at best.



Represented on this meeting were Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Burundi and Uganda. With travel expenses and visa problems, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Zambia and a few others from Francophone Africa could not join as we had anticipated. By skype, we were able to commune with one member who was in USA at the time. I am glad to serve on this team, to join hands with others in pioneering such thoughts and ideas for Africa and the world.

Global Ministry Engagement

Thinking globally in the Christian mission, I have opportunity for extended service through World Link University (WLU), a specialized educational network of Third World missionary training centers, directing its primary attention to an integrative approach to intercultural studies and training methodologies which are particularly appropriate in the preparation of Christian workers who plan to minister in cultures other than their own.

World Link University is a vehicle for researching and disseminating new learning that will help missionary training institutions in our part of the world to prepare their students properly for the challenges of cross-cultural ministry.

WLU fits well with what we have been doing locally in Uganda and is congruent to my all other ministry facets – as a local church pastor, training pastors and missionaries through PT, mobilizing the church in Uganda and Africa for missions through AfMA, and now ensuring that established Christian centers those especially located in Africa, South America and Asia which are engaged in the preparing of intercultural Christian missionaries. And, so apt for my role in WLU (academic affairs) is the research I handled during my D. Miss. Program at Western Seminary. This then, comes as a wonderful opportunity to implement what I studied, and at global level, with expected benefits of broader considerations, discussions and input from various people and groups.

As you pray for this world-wide work, remember all who are involved in preparing missionaries in their home countries as well as the administrators and their roles here below:

- Chancellor for Asia- Dr. Minoru Okuyama
- Chancellor for Latin America-Dr. Obed Alvares
- Chancellor for Africa- Dr. Seth Anyomi
- Chancellor for Middle East- Dr. Hisham Kamel
- Ag. Chancellor for Europe- Dr. Obed Alvares
- VC International Affairs- David Bogosian
- VC Administration and Finance- Dr. Elmer Inafuku
- VC Academic Affairs- Dr. Julius D. Twongyeirwe
- International Chancellor-Dr. Seth Anyomi

Many, if not all of these servants would be well-known at Worldview Center where I also first participated in writing the curriculum for this endeavor around 2009. It is along this global engagement that I was invited to speak at the Peru 2014 Global Conference in Lima, this October. I am praying that I may be able to go and it seems that I should find my visa in USA before proceeding to South America. I will keep you informed on this.

Teaching / Preaching Opportunities in Uganda

Besides our focused engagement in Gospel work through PT and Berea, many other opportunities never cease to come our way – to teach the Bible or preach its message.



God has opened doors for us to preach the Gospel at Trinity Academy, and during the Cult Awareness Seminar of ACFAR (March 14th -15th) as well as St. Francis Chapel, Makerere University.

I have also taught during the Ezra Bible Conference (organized by FOCUS) and will be part of the Refugee Highway Project this week (April 25th).

Coming soon is the Kairos Training Course towards end of May - a well-designed study for Christian ministry leaders who desire to prepare the church for missions in Uganda and beyond. The training is a condensation of the “Perspectives Course”.



The course is arranged in a coherent integration of the biblical, historical, cultural and strategic dimensions and in a comprehensible manner for all believers in Christ to garner the needed passion, knowledge and skills for missions.

On the Horizon

As peace returns to eastern Congo, preparations are underway to physically reach that region for pastor training. We hope to have a laid out plan by end of this quarter.

We pray for continued faithfulness in this work. When God opens doors for us it is in answer to our prayer and we desire to serve His purpose in our generation as fully maximize such openings.

We still pray that God may provide for us to make the PT Center facility usable soon. What we laid before God was that if it be his will, we commission the Center on July 11th this year and bring in the initial batch of trainees (church leaders who are Bible School directors and instructors) in August this year.

We are finalizing on the curriculum and hope to share how it serves our training philosophy at an opportune time with the pastor-teachers that PT has mobilized for over a decade. Working on publications is going on as we seek to put out material that will help strengthen the church for her mission. Please pray for me to be disciplined in handling this.

We thank God so much for preserving the lives of two of PT Board members – Isaac was at this life’s with abdominal complications and he is now recovering. George was involved in an accident and he too is recovering. We look to God for continued protection. Thank you for standing with us in this important work.

Julius Twongyeirwe
PT National Director