

Quarterly Ministry Report of PT

April – June 2008

This belated news update for April-June Quarter covers up to-date (mid August).

The period April – June was characterized by consolidating the work in three regions, while establishing and expanding the training work in a new region of Busoga (as far as PT work goes). Following the end of school semester at KEST in May, much of the travel was done during the months of June and July. The current mind and heart occupation in the PT ministry has to do with structuring roles in the upcoming and growing training partnerships, especially with KEST where Julius is now settled in one office to plan both the KEST aspect and entire PT work in Uganda. Under his department of *Biblical, Theological & Pastoral Studies* Julius is charged with strategizing to take training to the rural pastors. It remains a great opportunity for PT to serve as a channel for this double effort in training pastors. The joint agenda involves curriculum development, mobilization, envisioning of local facilitators, and coordinating resources in the concerted effort to realize a double impact as KEST in-put is channeled through the PT establishment. There is therefore, a sustained effort in organizing *Regional Training Teams* (RTT) of *Local Facilitators* (LF).

Organic Aspects of the PT ministry

PT continues to impact ministers and their ministries at local level and in specific ways. A pastor-to-pastor agenda is increasingly yielding fruit as heard through the testimonies of trainees. From its inception, PT became a forum of discipleship and the kind of mentoring that takes “persons” and their personal situations into account, other than quickly moving masses while losing individual faces. Every pastor is unique in a unique situation, requiring a custom approach to him as a minister, his family and his ministry. A man will lead God’s people in God’s way and to God’s destiny, beginning with his own family (1 Tim. 3:5). So we do not want the pastor’s face or name fall through the cracks of dealing with masses and statistics. Numbers help us to plan well, but faces uphold the vital relationships. Through this approach, we have been able to know and relate with individuals with a view to transform their communities. The approach is working and we are fulfilled in it. For every pastor transformed, a congregation stands in a much better place for change.

Summary Training Outreach Report

Date	Training Event	Pastors Reached	Region
May	Pastors’ Seminar (13 th – 15 th)	38	Rukungiri (Kigezi)
June	Pastors’ Preparatory Meeting (5 th – 6 th)	17	Munamba (Mbale)
June	Pastors’ Seminar (16 th – 17 th)	12	Butamira (Busoga)
June	Pastors’ Seminar (18 th – 19 th)	8	Busembatia (Busoga)
June	Pastors’ Seminar (20 th – 21 st)	25	Namayingo (Bugiri)
June	Pastors’ Seminar (27 th – 30 th)	39	Kisoro (Bufumbira)
July	Pastors & Wives Conf (Joint effort) 3 rd – 7 th	83	Lwakaka (Mbale)
July	Local Church training 26 th & 2 nd Aug	7 & 10	Kampala (Buganda)
Aug	One-Day Local Facilitators’ Training (8 th)	57	National Scope (Uganda)
Aug	Bible Exposition Conference (11 th – 15 th)	88	National Scope (Kenya)

Theological Books Network (TBN)

We are glad to report that through KEST, PT has distributed 27 cartons of study books to individual pastors who had applied for study materials. We are grateful to TBN and Uganda Christian University – Mukono which facilitated the transport means for these books to Kampala. These books form a personal library for each recipient pastor and serve as a training base for pastoral enrichment in the respective regions where these book have been distributed.

A Prospective Staff-worker

We in PT are planning to bring on a staff worker (*Robert Atwongyeire*) to help Julius in coordinating PT and KEST’s middle line in our joint effort. Robert will be working under the direct supervision of Julius in serving the core interests of PT, KEST and LP (Langham Preaching). Robert’s work will initially focus

on linking individuals together and coordinating training activities. He will work to strengthen the RTT effort by mobilizing instructors and establishing an on-going training. He will help in transforming the PT-KEST-LP effort into a well-articulated curricular to fit each region as we seek to take standardized equipping to servants of the church in all regions of Uganda. Robert is a finishing student at KEST, conversant with the Langham Preaching materials and well-acquainted with PT. He is also in local church work, serving as the pastor of Uganda Evangelical Church in the north-east of Kampala city. So, on the regional front, Julius will find in Robert, one more head and two more hands to share in this work. Robert is already working and acquainting himself with the dynamics of this particular role and some specific details. He will be officially taken on as staff when the PT Board has ratified this move and communicated it to KEST.

Berea and School Ministry

Berea Baptist Church is now 10 months old, and is growing well. With the active youth ministry, we are realizing that priority ministry of our engagement is 'school ministry'. Berea is hosted in a school setting (Trinity Academy) where the proprietors of the school welcomed Berea with a higher purpose to reach primary school pupils and secondary school students through various ministries. Since we engaged the school, we have seen over 78 pupils and students make decision for Christ. Through the music training every Saturday afternoon, we are using the forum to disciple about 36 of these converts. Berea is a church that was planted to locally model what we in PT teach and instruct in a wider scope. Our growth trend at Berea has served the purpose of keeping us to the ministry ground of evangelism and mind lowliness among children and youth. When serving among relatively mature church leaders, we are tempted to forget realities by operating only on the national high grounds of adults (pastors). Berea is now serving as a reminder that the reality of ministry is also local, is family-based, is among children and youth, and that we must invest ministry in them for a better church and society in future.

Flamings Visit & PT Website Review

We are glad to have had Marv & Meredith Flaming visit Uganda to see their daughter's family and to fellowship with us. The Flamings are family friends to Chris & Andrea Lum, our friends and partners who live in the Portland area of Washington State across the river. The Flamings, the Lums and the Burdicks go to the same church. Marv & Meredith came to Berea and brought with them great encouragement for us. Having come from Chris & Andrea, their visit was also used as a capable link to make a review of our website. Together with them we worked on the site content, appraising the ministry content and updating information to PT's fresh strategies and new agendas. We have changed pictures to exclude many and introduce new ones that match our current PT ministry times. We are still to correspond with Chris as he helps us rearrange the site for a better and attractive browsing.

Partial Ministry in the third quarter (July-Sept)

In this quarter, we have been to Mbale for a pastors & wives conference (3rd – 7th July), held a one day seminar for Local Training Facilitators (LTF) in Uganda with 57 participants (8th August) and now as I put together this update (Wednesday, August 11th), I am in Nairobi, Kenya.

I flew into Nairobi on Sunday to help train Bible-handlers in Kenya. There are 92 participants in this "St. Paul University & Langham Preaching Seminar" which runs from 11th to 15th August. This is the same work we have engaged in back in Uganda for the last seven active years. Besides other facilitation errands I was assigned to prepare and handle three sessions: "Preaching the Whole Bible", *Preaching from Old Testament Narratives*" (for Level II preachers), and "Preaching that Understands the World". Just like we in Uganda have had Kenyan facilitators come to join hands with us, so am I here to join hands with them. It is of great joy to have our brother, Doug Johnson who was one of our instructors for the Cornhill Training Course (London, 1998-99) and his wife Ann with us here now. Doug is handling several sessions among us and it brings to me great memories of 10 years past. And we have found great value in this "cross pollination" endeavour as we seek to enrich our Bible Exposition Conferences. Besides pastors in this conference, we have Bible study leaders, women leaders, para-church workers from mission agencies and a spectrum of all who stand before others to bring God's Word. The training will go on up to Friday this week and I return to Uganda on Saturday.

Some of the facilitators on our team with came from Langham Preaching in UK, which continues to be of great help in sponsoring similar trainings in other regions of the world. Langham Preaching is an arm of the Langham Partnership International and helped pioneer Expository Preaching in Uganda beginning 1989 when John Stott visited the country. KEST became the base from which this work would be promoted and now as part of my (Julius) duty at KEST, this presents a great opportunity to shape the training strategy that PT is advancing and at the same time benefiting from. The aspects that shape PT training are being carefully and prayerfully selected and emphasized so as to improve the PT philosophy and relevance in Africa, other than replacing it. In its effort to transform the cultural core of church leaders, PT continues to learn better ways and improves while giving out the best it is and has.

The training that stretches Africans to think both structurally and relationally is proving to suit our context when it comes to training African pastors. The Anglican Bishop of Kampala Diocese (Rev. Dr. David Zac Niringiye) has requested us to plan and train all preachers (ordained and lay) in his diocese before the end of this year. David Zac has been at the helm of Bible exposition in Uganda and he is one of Julius' mentors. Zac is believes that while the clergy may be educated and quite informed, the (exegetical) skill to understand the Bible text, the (hermeneutic) mind to explain it and the (linguistic ability) to proclaim it will indeed enthuse congregations to enhanced biblical discipleship. PT, KEST and LP are privileged to share in this work as it continues to grow.

Finances and Support

We are grateful to God for his provision. Our work has become much smoother, predictable and thus enjoyable due to the enduring generosity of our donating partners. Up until the end of our second quarter, we have had enough to allow us plan and execute the ministry agenda. We went through July on a decreased travel rate and into August, as we wait for further financial replenishment from our team members who handle the often-not-easy logistics of gathering and relaying to us support. Some fund from partners in UK and from the sale of our former vehicle sustained us since July to date. Our local support is also building up at a slow rate, making some noticeable progress. But there is still work to do in order to involve more Ugandans in the pastoral training agenda. We are also into a phase where the training we offer is needed enough to hopefully generate income from the direct beneficiaries. For example in some regions (such as Teso, Buvuma and Kisoro), PT no longer spends enormous amounts in rallying together the pastors. Instead of waiting on PT resources, they raise their own support and often contribute to PT staff's welfare during the time of active ministry among them. This is a major step in the right direction.

The Twongyeirwe Clan

We are doing fine at home. Isabel will be back from school for holiday by the time I return to Uganda (from Kenya where I am at the moment) and we look forward to the reunion. The boys (Isaac and Isaiah) will also be on a short holiday from school work. Abigail is growing well (now 14 months) and she is such a source of joy and fun at home. She keeps Grace quite busy, but Grace finds the greatest fulfillment in taking care of us at home. We are very glad as a family to have Grace's motherly aptitude at home. She is also quite busy with our new church plant, especially in the women's ministry.

Coming Up & Prayer Points

- KEST is now in session and we will be attempting trials to the PT-KEST joint work.
- Training of prospective missionaries at Entebbe Pentecostal Church (Aug 25th to 29th)
- Joint training for Anglican and Baptist Church leaders in Kisoro (8th -12th Sept) with APF.
- The end of year training for all regional coordinators who are traditionally PT and other incorporated workers from LP Conferences and KEST graduates (towards end of November).
- Berea's sustained student work and a need for permanent premises for this church
- Robert's coming in as staff-worker in a joint effort under the direct supervision of PT

We appreciate you for all you mean to us as friends and all you do for the ministry as partners with us in Kingdom work.

Report by **Julius Twongyeirwe**,
National Director, Proclamation Task