

March 2015

Dear Praying and Giving Friends,

Since Spring is just around the corner, I wish you all a happy Spring. May the good Lord lift your spirits, encourage your hearts, strengthen your faith and brighten your days. How days have dashed by! This is already my fifth month in Kisumu/Nyanza Region, teaching adult SS as well as guiding/counseling the Youth. Last December they had a Youth Retreat near Lake Victoria. Twenty-one attended including four young people from Rabour, a daughter church of GBC Kisumu. Next time they plan to hold it outside Kisumu, invite other youth from nearby churches like Ngiya and Nyamira.

Last September before returning to Kenya, TCM Director Ben Anderson suggested again that I visit the Grace Church in Uganda. We had a long talk about it in Aug. 2013, but it seemed not the right time. This time there was no more excuse for not going, so I asked Maureen Lihanda, a GPT student, if she's willing to go with me. Any work of God requires preparation. We began to plan and prepare together. We left Kisumu Jan.13 with Sally (Maureen's senior high daughter) at 2:00 pm and arrived in Uganda past 10:00 pm. Pastor Philip met us at the bus station, while Livingstone, the church elder, waited for us at the Guest House. This was quite nostalgic to me, having served in Uganda from 2007-2008, two months short of two years.

The next day we held a Bible study in church. Eleven came. I wish I could describe their happiness when they met fellow believers from Kenya! Interspersed with Bible studies, we

visited homes escorted by Livingstone. One man said he used to go for Friday prayers, but sensed there was something wrong with the messages, so he began to search for the truth. Praise God, Pastor Philip explained more clearly the Gospel to him.

Saturday we were asked to go to church. "It's informal," said the Pastor, "for fellowship with the members," he added. We understood because their church is the only Grace church in Uganda (unlike Kenya where we have more than 50 churches), yet they declined offers to join other mission organizations.

Sunday was the busiest day for us. Maureen taught Adult SS, then Children. Sally was to meet the Youth after the service. As a missionary, Pastor Philip asked me to deliver the message, then meet the women after the service. The church was full. The unexpected bonus was meeting the youth I witnessed to on the bus in 2007 (I had forgotten all about it) who initially refused, but is now an active member of the church. He (Steve) was even my interpreter. The spiritual harvest is often waiting, when to the human eyes there are no signs of it. Truly His Word will not return to Him empty.



Sally's meeting with Uganda Youth



Rabour worship Service



Women's Ministry



Luz Interpreted by Steve



Maureen teaching Children



Uganda Congregation



Luz and Maureen in Uganda

All in all it was a fruitful one week of ministry. At least ten leaders and youth are planning to attend the Kisumu National Conference this August. Things didn't quite go well upon our return to Kenya. Maureen went ahead with our luggage, while Sally and I went to the Immigration Office of Uganda and Kenya. We couldn't find Maureen, and she couldn't find us. Sally was carrying her Mom's handbag with her cell phone. After almost an hour walking under the blazing equatorial sun of Africa, we found Maureen. Immediately we took a bus to Kisumu and finally arrived home at 7:30 pm.

Meanwhile back in Kisumu, we had an annual meeting on Jan. 24. Among other things we discussed about the church renovation, National Conference, accomodation, programs, as well as a Women's Fellowship and a Teachers' Training Seminar in Rabour next month. Maureen and I went to Rabour last Sunday. The members requested that we frequently visit them.

Kindly keep me in your prayers as I travel to churches in the Kisumu region, hold Teachers' Training Seminars and do Women's Ministry. Please pray for safety in travels. I am sincerely grateful for your faithful praying and sharing your blessings in the Lord's service. Taking the money you earn and sending it to support a missionary whom most of you have never met, for whom you are also praying, is true sacrifice indeed and living by faith. May the Lord richly bless you in your commitment to serve along with me.

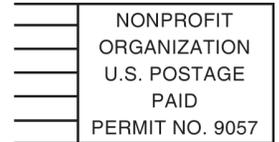
Yours in His service,

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