



2016 was a busy and fruitful year filled with both challenges and blessings. We were able to maintain and enlarge our ministry in Uganda. Here are a few recent "highlights:"

**Sunrise Christian School** is maintaining an enrollment of 350 students. The facilities are greatly improved with clean water, new toilets and improved classrooms. Although the school has a capacity for 500 students, we have had to limit the enrollment due to funding. About 70% of families are unable to contribute toward the cost and those who can do so struggle to give about \$50 per year. Our teacher/student ratio is about 1:50. **The students continue to receive a good, Christ-centered education.**

**Faith Bible School** has completed the first year of training for Ugandan Pastors. What a tremendous blessing this has been! We have 20 pastors who have completed the first year and we added 15 additional pastors this month. We lost one who had to be removed from the school but we are thrilled with the progress made by the others. The impact on these pastors – and their churches – has been absolutely wonderful. We have been able to construct a building with two classrooms. When we added a small solar panel and two lightbulbs, the pastor/students asked if they could extend the class day to include more studies.

**The Pastor Alliances** continue to grow in strength, effectiveness and numbers. We are now working with seven groups (Alliances) with a combined total of about 250 Pastors. The threefold purpose of these Alliances includes; Growing Biblical Faith, bearing Witness to the World, and Attending to Human Concerns. In order to accomplish these, Alliance members agree to Protect Doctrinal Trustworthiness, Strengthen and Equip Godly leadership, Adhere to Biblical Personal Conduct, and Work in Cooperation to Establish and Grow Healthy Churches.

Through a very generous donation, we were able to provide **suitcases full of books and printed materials** to aid the Pastors in their study of God's Word. These valuable resources are simply not available any other way.

**Short Term Mission Trips** continue to be a vital part of our work.. I travelled to Uganda in May and was able to work with the teachers at Faith Bible School, visit many of the Pastors in the newest Alliances and spend several days teaching at conferences. We had our first leadership conference in Kampala but I had to cut it short due to health issues. In October, I returned to Uganda with a team of 16 people from Maine and Oregon. Team members visited more than a dozen schools, sharing testimonies and presenting the message of the Gospel. Pastor Jerry Conklin and I taught Pastors and their wives each day and we were able to show the Jesus Movie during two evenings. Some of the team visited in homes and prisons as well. We are thankful for those who travel with our teams (at their own expense) to share in the ministry.

The work continues as the needs are still great but we praise God for the progress made. Each year, we see more of the ministry being done by Ugandan believers. It is encouraging to see them grow and serve so faithfully.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to hear more about the work of Hope and Mercy Mission.

God bless,

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