



The UBS VOICE

August 2012 Newsletter

V.6 - N.6

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BAPTISTS IN UGANDA

UBS began in 1988 and is the main factor in the rise of Baptist church numbers and membership growth in Uganda.

Baptist Churches are gaining membership and are active in evangelism.

UBS Theological Programs

Advanced Diploma 3yrs.

Diploma 3 yrs.

Certificate 3 yrs.

Upgrade Classes are offered for UBS graduates.

The Bridge program is three - one month terms to prepare High School (equivalent) dropouts to enter the Certificate of Theology. The third term this year will begin in November, and the first term of the Certificate program will begin in December. This program



This July seventy-three students attended UBS for their second Bridge term - Students Robbed Traveling to/from UBS.

Two students this term were robbed of everything they had coming to Uganda.

One was a Baptist young man who says he was called by God to be an evangelist. Only his mother and he are believers in their Tanzanian family. As a secondary student he was knocked down by a bicycle while he walked by the road. This accident left him unconscious for a while and resulted in a serious permanent injury. As a result, he could not finish his education. He heard about the UBS bridge program, joined, and attended the first term. As he traveled to UBS for the second term, he was robbed of everything he carried. He reported to the police, and they gave him papers to travel on to UBS. Even the X-rays that would shed light on his health problem were taken. Upon his UBS arrival, his medical condition was so poor that he was admitted into a Jinja clinic for 4 days of observation and treatment. Every day at UBS he had to go into Jinja to have the bandages changed. In spite of missing many classes, he was the highest academic achiever in his Bridge class. On his way home to Tanzania, we arranged for him to stop for evaluation at a mission hospital in Kenya; we praise God that he is scheduled to have surgery this week!

The second student robbed was a young lady attending her second term of Bridge classes at UBS. She reached the Tanzania border in darkness and walked across what is called "no man's land". Six men attacked her with machetes. Two men held her arms and they said to surrender her phone, money, clothes everything or they would cut her. She surrendered her belongings and came to UBS--alive! We praise God for protecting her life in a desperate situation!

2 Corinthians 11:23ff gives the accounts of the Apostle Paul traveling in a lost world and the difficulties he encountered in his missionary journeys. All UBS students face trials traveling, as do the faculty and the missionary community. That is why if anyone

of Dr. Mock's BTCP ten courses will span three years of studies.

Uganda National Council of Higher Education licensed the UBS Diploma program in 2006. They awarded UBS the Certificate of Classification and Registration in 2010. That means UBS is fully accredited for Diploma education. UBS has begun the process for one degree accreditation.

The Master of Divinity is a program of SEBTS.

BTCP

Bible Training Centre for Pastors and Church Leaders: The Certificate of Theology is ten courses at UBS using ten BTCP books that are given to each student in Certificate class. This becomes a library for each student completing the Certificate of Theology.

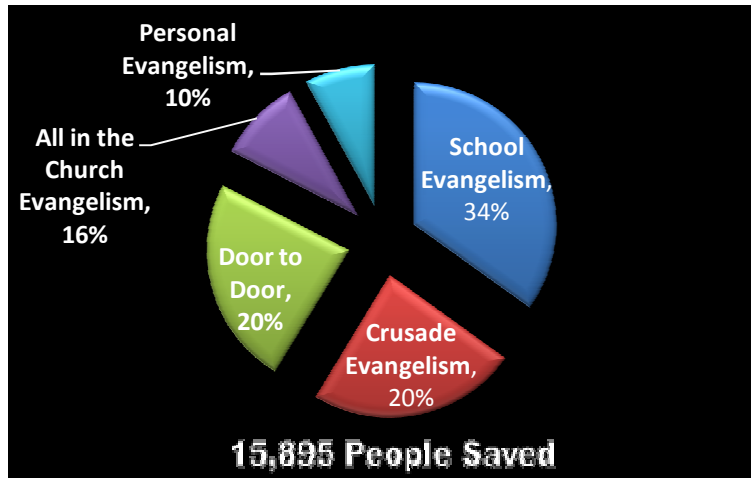
Uganda is currently having rains. Pray that Uganda has a good balance of rain and sun to grow crops that support people here.

is traveling they need many prayers. **One bridge student** from northern Uganda returned from his first term in March to find that everything he owned was gone. Thieves had broken into his house taken it all.

Total Student Ministry data reported for Jan - June 2012:

15,895 people saved and 1,887 believers baptized

58 new preaching points and 44 new churches planted in 2012.



UBS student data for all evangelism this year falls into these percentages. Pushing back the darkness, reaching the lost.

The Classroom is finished with your help and support.



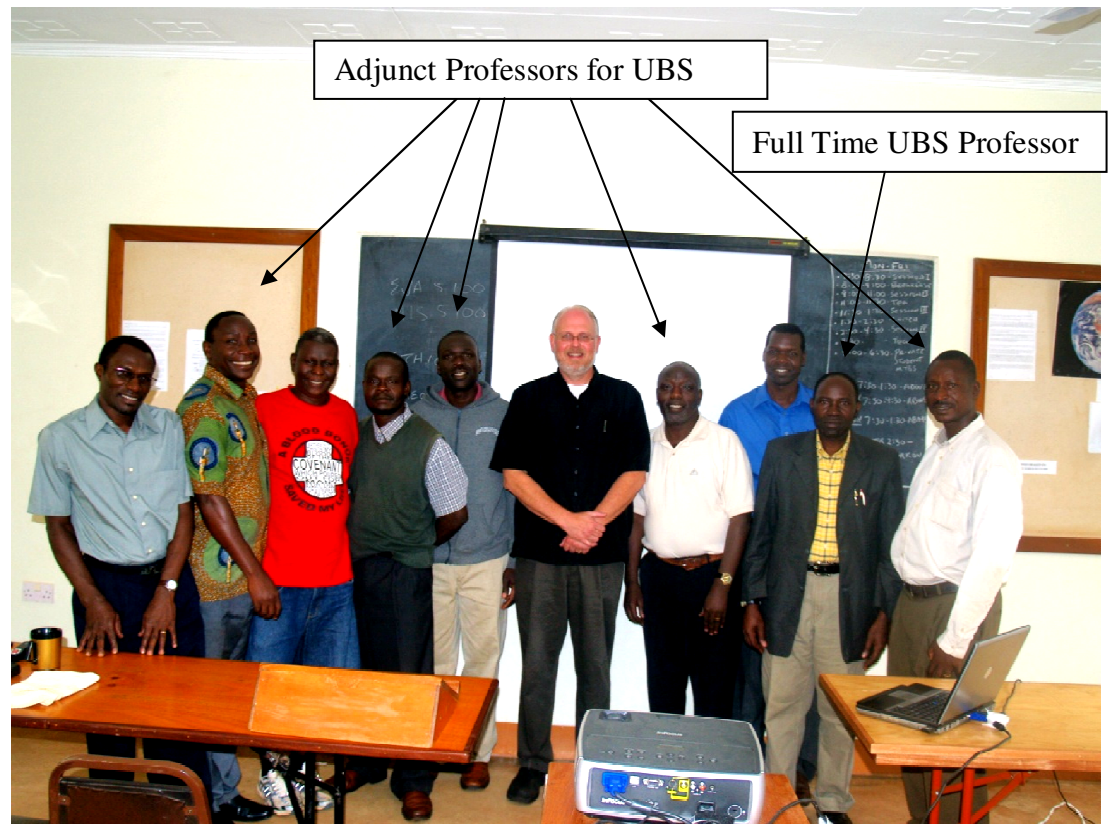
The Bridge students make full use of this newest classroom during the daily chapel. Faculty divided students into three classes in July to allow the missionary faculty to participate in an annual meeting of missionaries in Kenya. Ugandan faculty and secondary school teachers filled the classroom needs with these Bridge students. Pray that God uses them to extend the Kingdom to more lost people in Central Africa. They will finish the bridge program this November term. Then they will be tested comprehensively to see which students can enter the Certificate of Theology program.

**YOUR Prayers
Help UBS to
proclaim the
Good News to
Central Africa!**

**Many thanks go to
volunteer teachers
who travel to Uganda
and help teach UBS
students.**

**"In Touch" ministries
brought 400 small digital
messengers to UBS this
May. They can be charged
by solar or 240 volts. They
play back audio of Dr.
Charles Stanley's sermons
and the New Testament
scriptures. What a
blessing for church leaders
to use. Thank you for this
help to UBS students.**

**Thanks to "In Touch"
ministries for another 100
digital messengers were
added to UBS through
recent volunteers. These
were used to provide a
messenger to every Bridge
student (73) this July.
The rest were added to our
store of messengers that
will be given to all the UBS
students this year.**



The M.Div. cohort spent 7 long days of studies with Dr. John Ewart from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC. The adjunct professors in the photo above are only a few of the ones who help in teaching at UBS. Each month UBS requires three to five adjunct professors to help us accomplish our Great Commission purpose. The goal of UBS is to equip students to be Godly leaders in the churches they serve and be able Bible teachers as Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:2.

Testimonies of UBS students

Suddenly, Three Believed.

One Certificate student was preaching in church. As he finished his last sermon point three people suddenly stood up and said they wanted to believe in Jesus. What a happy surprise!

A Call to Persevere in Street Evangelism.

A Certificate student works in a city with many street children. They swear and make fun of the witnessing done among them. "We are tired of your God; we are used to the street life and do not want to change." Yet perseverance needed in sharing the Gospel with these children and youth. Since this ministry was started in 2010 by that church, twenty youth have accepted that Jesus has saved them and changed them from the life of the street to a life lived for Jesus.

The Truth Confronts a Different Gospel.

After his first term at UBS, one Certificate student realized he was preaching the wrong message. Now he admits he is on the right path and is striving to preach the Gospel truth. He reported that his Kenyan church has over 800 people attending! There is a growing need for Gospel preaching to be biblically sound.

Seeking a Better Strategy to Reach the Lost.

Open-air crusades reach many children and youth. Many women also are hungry for truth and accept the Gospel message quickly. Some parents come to crusades just to stop their children from putting their faith in Christ, if they can. There is real spiritual warfare going on. However, door-to-door evangelism is more effective at winning people to Christ. Many people are saved in door-to-door evangelism that reaches them in their homes, and they are successfully being added to the local church body.

A Bridge Student Shares His Work and Prayer Needs.

He shared they did evangelism in June at a number of places away from his church area. Fifty new converts to Christ were saved through evangelism, and a new church for these was planted. They plan to launch new evangelism as soon as he returns from UBS, and they hope to contribute to the spiritual growth of those recently saved in June. Now his wife is expecting to give birth this August; he asks for prayer because she has had complications in childbirth in the past.

A Bridge Student Shares What Peace and Unity Can Do.

God has now saved over twenty people in one student's village since the March term of Bridge. With these conversions, peace now has come between families where once there was only quarreling and enmity. God has given them a future where their minds can serve constructive needs in the church. They even started making bricks to build a church building. With unity they can think about the need of training more leaders too.

How UBS is Organized

Occasionally, we get questions about how UBS runs, and this brief article describes the nuts and bolts of our operation. We trust that it will help you be better informed to pray and to work together with us to keep UBS effective. Structurally, UBS rests on 10 foundational pillars: Integrated Faculty, Contextualized Applications, Financial Stability, Transparency, Administrative Structure, National Influence and Guidance, Shared Ethos, Regional Vision, Student Selection and Expectations, Legal, and Doctrinal Integrity.

INTEGRATED FACULTY

By this term, we mean that full-time and part-time faculty members are both African leaders and American missionaries. There are 6 full-time missionary faculty members who have lots of African experience: 178 years of serving in Africa as of 2012. There are 5 full-time African faculty members who had extensive pastoral and church planning experience before coming to teach at UBS; of the five members, four have their master's degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) and one has his BA in library science from Kenyatta University in Kenya.

In addition, there are nine part-time faculty members all of whom are pastors and denominational leaders. Of these nine members, five are in the latter stages of completing a master's degree from SEBTS. They provide students with real-life current issues and a broad range of experiences and perspectives of church ministry concerns. An integrated faculty insures that classroom instruction stays in contact with reality.

In additional, North American and European Baptist volunteers occasionally come to teach, as do Baptist missionaries from East Africa and other African church leaders and pastors.

CONTEXTUALIZED APPLICATIONS

Course selection deliberately focuses on African applications and issues in two important areas: pastoral needs and theological integration.

First, pastoral needs are specifically addressed in courses like African Traditional Religion, homiletics, counseling, ethics, leadership, church administration, and church planting. All students take these courses

Second, by having curricula that emphasizes systematic theology, a student is helped to apply the Bible to culture. In the Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses, systematic theology is required in ten out of thirteen terms. The reason is simple. UBS teaches a multi-cultural student body. In 2012 we are teaching students from 48 different cultures and languages in East Africa: Kenya – 12; Tanzania – 6; DRC – 4; Rwanda – 2; Burundi – 2; Uganda - 22. In the classroom, we cannot address all issues for 48 cultures, but

15% of UBS students are international students from Congo, Tanzania, Kenya, and Rwanda.

If you believe God is at work with UBS and want to help, please contact us!

UBS missionaries are church planting in Koboko, Lamwo, and Mutukula Uganda. Pray that they will succeed in this glorious ministry. Pray about how you can help them with the Great Commission mandate.



Pray for the UBS missionaries serving in the three locations above.

**UBS Student ministry
Reaching the lost!
Last 4 years - UBS:
Over 100,000 people
saved - Praise God!**

when students know theology well, they are empowered to make biblically appropriate applications and distinguishing between neutral and sinful cultural issues.

The curriculum at UBS is tailored to address African issues and needs. It is not a foreign import divorced from its African context.

FINANCIAL STABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Baptist seminaries in East Africa cannot operate on income generated from student fees alone. Let me just state this as a given, obvious fact. Churches, conventions, and unions in East Africa are not yet financially developed well enough to operate and fund seminaries. Therefore, if a seminary is to succeed here, it must receive outside-of-East Africa funding.

UBS began to develop external funding several years ago with the encouragement of East African IMB leadership. The cost to educate a student in 2012 is about \$580 annually. A student pays about \$100 of this annually. As of June 2012, there were 411 students. By October there will be 500+.

Financial transparency is guaranteed to the owner of UBS, that is, the IMB, and to the donors by having an IMB person in charge of the Business Office. Funds are received and dispersed in accordance with the donor's intention and IMB policies and accounting of the funds is rendered. Historically in East Africa, in my experience, the loss of transparency and accountability of funds has crippled seminaries resulting in their inability to accomplish their purposes.

To operate successfully, the Business Office of UBS must provide financial accountability and be managed by an IMB person.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

This component of UBS's organization is not readily apparent to westerners unfamiliar with the heterogeneous aspect of Africa that works against organizational harmony

To balance administrative stress and decision making, UBS has organized itself into five quadrants of administrative responsibility: the Principal (a missionary) who has the final say, the Academic Dean (a missionary), the Dean of Students (a Ugandan), the Registrar (a Ugandan) and the Business Office (a missionary). These five administrators meet to discuss seminary, student, faculty member, organization, and issues either current or future that may impact UBS. Decisions from this group are taken to the full-time faculty for discussion and consensus, and if necessary, then to the Board of Governors. This insures two important things: 1. All hot topics are discussed by the administrative five and in a larger faculty meeting; consensus is achieved. 2. The Board of Governors deals with formative decisions and issues rather than micro-managing non-critical items. A uniform flow of information is achieved and unity is maintained top to bottom.

Practically, if a hard decision needs to be made that is culturally difficult, one of the expatriate missionaries can make it. Or if a hard decision needs to be made that is culturally appropriate but is misread or misunderstood by an expatriate missionary administrator, African administrators make the correct decision.

I do not know of any other seminary that operates in this way. Most seminaries follow a model that places decision-making at the chief executive level without the necessity of consensus.

NATIONAL INFLUENCE AND GUIDANCE

A seminary is best effective when it responds to the needs of churches because a seminary is in league with local churches by training their leaders whom they send to UBS. To insure that there is a smooth flow of two-way communication, UBS does several things. First, we make sure that full-time and part-time faculty members have

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A website for UBS is operating through the contributions of Jim and Mary Benham and their son. Please Visit the site.

UBS Motto

2 Tim 4:2-5

2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. NIV

UBS Motto is

"Preach the Word"

2 Tim 4:2

church experience and stay active in local churches. Second, the governing body of the seminary, the Board of Governors, is represented by Ugandan church leaders. Of the nine Board members, five are Ugandan church leaders. The Board of Governors sets the broad directions for UBS, it handles the primary documents like the Constitution, the By-Laws and Policies, and it guides the direction and curriculum of the Seminary.

The Board meets three times annually and guarantees that all concerns are addressed.

SHARED ETHOS

There are administrative building blocks and there are spiritual blocks which cement an organization together.

The spiritual ethos shared by faculty members and administrators at UBS is this: the passion to see the lost saved, churches planted, and Christians disciplined into maturity. Missionaries and African faculty members join together to exert our maximum to disciple the 127 million peoples of East Africa, our primary target.

REGIONAL VISION

In 2012 UBS trained pastors and church leaders from six countries in East Africa. We have been doing this for more than seven years. Currently, over half of our time to enroll new students is spent outside of Uganda. As of July 2012 UBS representatives have worked in Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, and Uganda. We will spend another three months later this year continuing the enrollment process and travel across more of East Africa. In 2011 we spent about \$6,000 traveling to enroll new students. In 2012 we will spend nearly \$8,000. New students cannot come to study if they are not informed of the opportunities. It is our job to inform them, interview them, and invite those qualified to study.

STUDENT SELECTION AND EXPECTATIONS

The target student for UBS is a pastor or church leader in active ministry. The average age is 35 years old. To qualify, perspective students must complete a two-step process. First, they must fill out an enrollment form stating their calling to ministry, testimony of salvation, and academic background. Letters of recommendation must be received from church leaders.

Second, each student is personally interviewed by a team of two faculty members that asks questions about personal salvation experience, ministry experience, the spouse and family life, references, and educational background.

Once students are accepted to the Seminary, they must retain a ministry in a church. This is verified through a Ministry Report Form that is submitted at the beginning of each new term. Also, faculty members check on students as they travel and interview new students.

If a student drops out of active ministry in the course his studies, he is suspended from UBS until at such time he can verify that he is once again engaged in a church ministry.

LEGAL

By this we mean that UBS is in compliance with the educational laws of Uganda, the tax laws of the Uganda Revenue Authority, and the national retirement fund the NSSF (National Social Security Fund).

Educationally, we operate under the authority of the Ministry of Education and meet the qualifications necessary to offer academic awards for Certificate and Diploma levels. These awards are academically recognized across East Africa.

The Uganda Revenue Authority collects income tax from employees (PAYE). UBS turns in monthly, quarterly, and annual reports and funds to the URA as required; UBS employs 28 people.

UBS enrollment is 416 students, including the new bridge program.

**UBS Student Motto:
Winners never quit
Quitters never win.**

**Partner with
UBS to reach
central AFRICA
today for Jesus
Christ.**

**A website for UBS:
www.ugandabaptistseminary.org**

The NSSF collects retirement for employees in Uganda. UBS contributes monthly as required by law.

DOCTRINAL INTEGRITY

Doctrinal integrity is secured in two ways. First, all full-time teachers of the Seminary are required to sign the UBS Doctrinal Statement. The Academic Dean is responsible for monitoring compliance and confronting contraventions if necessary.

Secondly, ownership of the property by the IMB insures that teaching issuing from the classroom will comply with the Baptist Faith and Message because a specific doctrinal position is mandated by the Southern Baptist Convention.

As a final observation, doctrinal positions are usually a reflection of the schools from which faculty members received their education. All full-time Ugandan teachers are graduates of UBS and of SEBTS. Both seminaries have strong theological statements that reflect conservative, normative Southern Baptist positions.

Academic Dean

UBS Prayer Concerns:

1. Pray for the SEBTS M.Div. Cohort. The cohort studied this July at UBS. Dr. John H. Ewart of SEBTS and his daughter, a nursing student, were here for about two weeks. Pray for them to have great opportunities to share with God's people there in NC.

Rachel Ewart had many nursing experiences around Jinja, visiting the women's prison, teaching on health and assisting in a clinic in villages, and assisting with health care in nearby orphanages. The faculty members enjoyed sharing meals and fellowship with the Ewarts while they were here.

2. Several churches are celebrating fifty years of ministry in Uganda. Some of our students are praying for two celebrations in the west at Kasese this September and here in Jinja at Nile Baptist Church in August. Pray for a wonderful time of sharing and safe journeys for those traveling and those remembering the beginning of Baptist work in Uganda.

3. Pray for the Bridge students as they go home to share what God is doing at UBS. They have a huge challenge to make good preparations to return in November for the end of the Bridge program and to begin the first term of the Certificate of Theology. This requires them to pay for two terms up front and spend six weeks at UBS. This is something we have never tried at UBS. Pray that the students will have the means to pay in advance for the six weeks of classes. Pray for UBS staff to know how to plan for keeping this large number of new Certificate of Theology classes for an extended time.

4. A new UBS team of possible adjunct teachers just started travels into southern and southeastern regions of Uganda to seek new students. The experienced faculty members trained them for a week on what to do. They are both recent graduates of UBS. We are praying for many church leaders to see their need of training at UBS.

5. Pray for the 3 UBS/BUU missionaries.

Simon Nono and his family live and serve God in Lamwo, northern Uganda, near the South Sudan border.

Mark Vukoni and his family live and serve God in Koboko in northwest West Nile. Sam Kaswabi and his family live and serve God in Mutukula, near Tanzania.

Missionary Sam just had a crusade with much evangelistic outreach in Mutukula. A church in Kampala participated as well as one M.Div. student and a US volunteer participated in this outreach. Pray that more people will be saved through these

ministries and the contacts that were made.

All three pastors have graduated from the UBS Advanced Diploma program.

6. Please pray for Baptist Bible Schools preparing for graduations in the coming year. Recently a Bible School graduated fourteen students in Iganga District.

7. Pray for new families that are seeking a way to come and teach at UBS.

8. Pray for the Bible ministry.

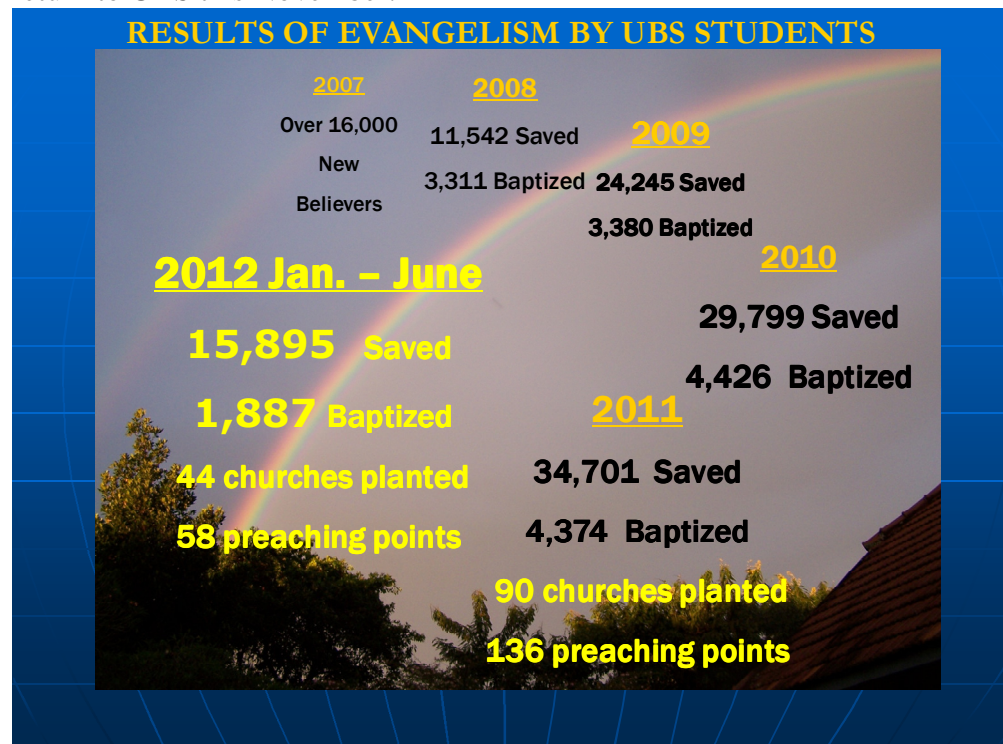
We give MacArthur Study Bibles and Ryrie Study Bibles to the graduates of the Diploma and Advanced Diploma programs. The Certificate students use and are given NIV Study Bibles. Please help UBS get the Study Bibles used for graduation gifts.

9. Just in the news is an outbreak of Ebola virus in western Uganda. Read the Fox news: <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2012/07/28/ebola-virus-breaks-out-in-uganda-officials-say/> **Pray for the quick stop of these terrible sicknesses.**

There is another sickness in Northern Uganda

<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/07/29/mysterious-nodding-disease-afflicts-young-ugandans/> Information about the nodding disease problem was displayed for the students to read.

10. Please pray for the Bridge student (mentioned above) who is having surgery this week in a mission hospital in western Kenya. We are thankful that funds have been provided for his care and surgery by a church in the USA. Praise God that this young evangelist will receive the care he has desperately needed and will be able to return to UBS this November.



Thank You and God Bless you for praying for UBS.

Principal - UBS