



The UBS VOICE

October 2012 Newsletter

V.6 - N.7

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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.

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.

120 Students this October 2012

The new second bridge program started with 47 new students who will complete three one month long terms before qualifying to enter the UBS Certificate program. The first bridge program will finish their third term this November and begin the Certificate program that month.

The UBS campus was very busy with two different programs this month. The new bridge class met in the newest classroom. Three Certificate classes, one Diploma class, and one Advanced Diploma class also studied this month with the new bridge students. This was 120 students meeting in all six classrooms for much of October.

August 2012 Ministry data:

Diploma 22 students led 832 people to Christ and baptized 70 believers.

Advanced Dip. 5 students led 2107 people to Christ and baptized 1527 believers.

Advanced Dip. 6 students led 2888 people to Christ and baptized 41 believers.

Advanced Dip. 7 students led 301 people to Christ and baptized 25 believers.

Details this August: New Diploma class 26 and New Adv. Diploma 9 began their first term. Large crusades were reported in Pallisa District with 7 churches planted there. The Advanced Diploma classes reported many new preaching points this month.

September 2012 Ministry data:

Diploma 23 students led 2382 people to Christ and baptized 296 believers.

Diploma 25 students led 731 people to Christ and baptized 22 believers.

Diploma 27 students led 855 people to Christ and baptized 55 believers.

Details this September: New Certificate class 7 began first term. Many preaching points and churches were planted. Several Bible training schools for local leaders were mentioned.

October 2012 Ministry data:

Certificate 13 students led 589 people to Christ and baptized 132 believers.

Certificate 14 students led 518 people to Christ and baptized 19 believers.

Certificate 15 students led 471 people to Christ and baptized 38 believers.

Diploma 22 students led 84 people to Christ and baptized 19 believers.

Advanced Dip. 6 students led 254 people to Christ and baptized 10 believers.

Details this October: New Second Bridge class started with 47 students. Two classes (Dip. 22 and Adv. Dip 6) returned quickly from their last term to make up for the missed first terms. The total student body was over 120 students. All six classrooms were in full use this month.

In the last 3 months students reported: 17 Churches Planted & 21 Preaching Points started. Our students are on mission. We hope you are on mission too.

Total Student Ministry data reported for Jan - Oct. 2012:

26,521 people saved and 4,064 believers baptized

78 new preaching points and 61 new churches planted in 2012.

Ugandan students at UBS this September



UBS Chapel this September 2012. The international student body is growing. Rwandan students did not make it into the picture. The number of students from outside of Uganda is increasing. Tanzanian students were few in September; there are many in other classes. Once a year faculty and adjunct faculty members travel outside Uganda to interview new candidates for UBS programs. These trips are tiring, long, and difficult.

Kenyan Students at UBS this September



The second bridge program of this October is half international students, with many Kenyan and Tanzanian church leaders that were not in these pictures.

Congolese Students at UBS this September



Two UBS Advanced Diploma graduates just returned from travels in northern Uganda where they interviewed over 80 church leaders who might join the next UBS programs. Pray for more church leaders to take up the challenge to learn.

The Master of Divinity and the masters of Theological Studies are programs of SEBTS.

The dry season is here and it is hot in Uganda.

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

**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.

Thanks to "In Touch" ministries, digital messengers were given to every student at UBS this August and September and to the new bridge students and three Certificate of Theology students in October.

20% 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.



October Volunteers in Jinja and at UBS.

The volunteers are from Kentucky and spent about ten days in and around Jinja. The two pastors spoke in UBS chapel and volunteers worked in the UBS library. Faculty had a tea-time with them, and one day the volunteers ate with the students and talked with them.

Testimonies of UBS students

Ministry in Western Kenya

A Certificate student reported that many children attended a camp retreat at a local Baptist church; one child believed and was saved. Through sports ministry many youth were engaged with activities and invited to attend church. A large group of youth and adults attended church for their first time; five of them believed and were saved. Seventeen teachers were trained for effective children's ministry.

Tremendous Crusade

Seven churches were planted after a large crusade of fourteen days deep in Pallisa, eastern Uganda. The Advanced Diploma student reported that 1800 people made a decision to follow Christ in salvation. Fifteen hundred believers were baptized. Baptist Hunger relief was provided in these areas less than ten years ago, administered by the UBS principal and faculty. The Gospel was shared but not many believed then.

Why Did I Survive?

An Advanced Diploma student in central Uganda encountered a man he remembered from childhood and was shocked he could not speak. The student asked him what had happened. He motioned with his hands and wrote on a piece of paper that he had lost the ability to speak from the time of a terrible motor accident. He was traveling with friends when the vehicle crashed. Four of his friends died, and he was the only survivor. The student went home with the man and asked his parents and the man if he could attend an evangelism camp with the student. They were glad for their son to go with his friend. After the preaching that night, the disabled man asked if he could learn more about the Gospel message. After a few more answers, the man asked if the student would lead him to make a decision about Jesus. He was a sinner and needed the hope of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the answer for the world in need. How terrible it is for those who do not receive Christ in this life and face Hell without Him.

1990s Lango Wizard Story

One time in Lango the pastors were all scared. Agustav explained to me that the wizards had attacked the saved churches. It was nighttime and we sat around a large campfire as he spoke. Everyone was expecting me to help. I said, "we are taking this spiritual attack to the LORD in prayer". We identified three families doing the sorcery. We spent the next hours each praying one at a time. I started by asking God to do one of three things.

1. If these wizards would be saved that would finish the attack. *Rom. 10:13*

2. If they do not turn to Christ, then drive them from this place, because God's WORD says there is no fellowship between darkness and Light. *2 Cor. 6:14-15*

3. If they do not leave this place then strike them down because we cannot tolerate their evil crafts and threats to God's children. *1 Cor. 3:18*

A month later Agustav returned to UBS in Jinja. He told me it was unbelievable. All three wizards were driven from the district. One was to be stoned to death if he did not leave. One was going to be arrested unless he left. The other had no choice but to leave.

1 John 4:4 (NIV)

⁴You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

PRINCIPAL

The Real Problem was a Spiritual One

This Advanced Diploma student shared that two lost ladies wanted to share problems that were defeating them with him. One was married to a man of another religion. She shared that sickness had affected her son and she had spent much money on medical treatments without success. This is why she had sought him out---could getting saved help? The pastor made plans to meet with her and her son. The day came and he explained what the Gospel of Jesus was and that the pressing need was spiritual and a sin problem (Rom. 3:23). She and her son accepted Christ, and the problem went away. She is now a strong believer in the church, and her son is well. Another lady, married to a man of another denomination, confessed she was always sick---could getting saved solve that problem? The pastor agreed to make a visit and pointed out that the problem she faced was a spiritual one. Salvation does away with the problem of sin; only Jesus can save. She confessed she was a sinner and was saved. The sickness left her, and she became a strong believer in the church.

How UBS Began

God's Call in 1985

UBS began out of the desire of the Baptist Mission of Uganda and the Baptist Union of Uganda to start theological education in Uganda. Before 1988 pastors wishing to study theology traveled to Tanzania or Kenya to join active seminaries. The Baptist Mission gave their number one missionary request to the Foreign Mission Board for someone to start theological education for Baptist pastors in Uganda. That request was personally given to Jack Frost by a Baptist Mission of Uganda missionary who was at the FMB the same day Frost visited searching for direction in his call to missions in Uganda. The FMB's request matched Frost's spiritual gift of Bible teaching, God's will and the call to missions. Two weeks later Frost answered the request of the FMB to go to Uganda to start Theological Education. Late in 1985 the FMB placed Frost in Uganda to begin theological education for Ugandan church leaders.

UBS Began in the only Baptist Church in Jinja in 1988 *Life verse 2Tim. 2:2*

1986: 1. Swahili language for six months followed by, 2. getting married to an FMB career medical missionary, Evelyn, and 3. a meeting of the Baptist Mission where the decision about where Frosts would live and begin the seminary was decided by one vote more for Jinja than Kampala. There was one Baptist church in Jinja, and the Frosts began UBS in an education room of Nile Baptist Church. A single room building existed in the back of the church plot that students used as the dormitory. The first Diploma class began in May, 1988. Later Nile Baptist Church plot was purchased for UBS, and Nile Baptist Church moved to the other side of Jinja. Rubaga Baptist Church was planted at UBS by the families and faculty that stayed at UBS and met at the seminary until 2000. Rubaga then moved off campus and started a church building near UBS. Students and faculty still attend as this church is the closest church to the UBS campus. There are currently five Baptist churches in the Jinja community.

A One Man Faculty

At first Frost was the only teacher for the one or two week long residences that copied the Kenya Baptist Theological program. Teaching eight hours a day was a heavy load, and Frost looked for qualified help. Moses Ochwo had just returned from London Bible College, England, and he was invited by the Baptist Union and Baptist Mission to teach theology at UBS. Several other Ugandan teachers were added to the faculty and taught a few years and then left. One that has stayed was a part-time teacher, Herbert Kabuluku, who had graduated with a B.A. in Education from Makerere University in Kampala and was called by God to pastor the Kamuli Baptist Church. He completed the Diploma of Theology at UBS. He agreed to take up teaching full-time at UBS as an additional ministry that matched his spiritual gift of Bible teaching. Evelyn provided all the medical care to UBS students. At that time, we did not have adequate teaching, office, or medical space but we made do with what we had.

Insecurity in the first years at UBS was intense.

Principal - I and others from UBS and the Baptist Union have passed through these experiences by God's Amazing Grace.

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

UBS and Lango, Northern Uganda

The time students were home gave opportunity to restart a Bible School for pastors in Lango that had never completed a program. Baptist missionaries who had previously done this ministry had fled the political upheavals and war that were common in Uganda's history before 1985. A pastor from Lango, Agustav Odonyo, lived near the Bible school. Since he was in the first class of UBS, this was the time to raise up the Bible School and train the Langi pastors. A class of local Baptist church leaders was started using a Bible School program for pastors copied and translated from the Kenya Baptist Bible School program. Frost would camp out in Lango and teach with Agustav through a week. Then he made the one day drive back to Jinja on terrible roads to prepare for the next UBS class. This connection worked for about ten years, giving time to graduate Bible School students. Many of these pastors later came to UBS. Bible schools were started in Apac, Oyam, Lira East, Lira, and Dokolo. When we started in 1986 there were 18 Baptist churches in Lango district; ten years later there were over 80 churches. Much of that church growth was through the local training connected with the UBS and Bible school training.

Insecurity, Then Disaster Strikes at UBS

In the first ten years at UBS there was much thievery. Foam mattresses from the dorm were stolen; sometimes other supplies disappeared. A wire fence surrounding the 2.6 acres constantly needed mending. The principal and students were robbed in 1989 by men in uniform using AK-47s. Power problems continued into the 1990s that encouraged insecurity in the UBS community; mattresses were repeatedly stolen. A Baptist Union pastor, Fred Ekitwi, from eastern Uganda had returned from the Arusha, Tanzania International Baptist Theological Seminary of East Africa (IBTSEA) and had joined our faculty to teach in the Certificate program. At the height of insecurity in 1993 Fred and his wife walked with the cooks one evening to the front campus gate. Disaster struck as Fred returned from the front campus gate and gunmen caught him at his house on campus. Two men shot Fred, killing him instantly, and then they fled. The principal was called to the campus and for several hours the police took details and the widow was comforted. The present security wall around UBS was built after that incident. For many years since then Fred's widow, Rose Ekitwi, has served as a women's leader with the Baptist Union of Uganda.

UBS Enrollment, Faculty and Board of Governors up to 1998

UBS slowly grew from one class to two then several classes. The faculty grew from one to two to three members; the Principal was the only full-time missionary among the faculty until 1998. The enrollment grew to a maximum of about forty students in three classes. At first UBS was a branch of the IBTSEA in Arusha, Tanzania. That was discontinued by the Board of IBTSEA a year or two later. Then the local management committees for UBS made from Baptist Mission and Baptist Union representatives met two or three times a year. A board of governors began to oversee UBS in 1996, and that has continued to this day.

The next newsletter will cover the history of UBS from 1998 -2008.

UBS Prayer Concerns:

- 1. Pray for the SEBTS Masters Cohort.** The cohort studied this October at UBS.
- 2. Pray for the faculty as we go into six weeks of non-stop teaching.** The first bridge class will finish their program in November and will make the transition into a new class of sixty Certificate of Theology students in December.
- 3. Pray for the second bridge class as they go home the end of October to share what God is doing at UBS.** They will return in January 2013 to start their second term of studies.
- 4. We are praying** for many church leaders to see their need for training at UBS.

USA Contact for UBS:

Jim Benham

jtbenham@cox.net

Telephone Jim at:

Home - 225-769-0832

Cell - 225-205-7515

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

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 Region, Uganda. This is near the DRC.

Sam Kaswabi and his family live and serve God in Mutukula, near Tanzania.

On **July 16 -22** Mutukula Baptist Church went door to door covering the whole town with the Gospel message. A volunteer, Robert Whitefield, and Ugandan pastor Gingo Tucker contributed time to help in this outreach. They had seventy-two decisions for Christ; fifteen of them joined the Baptist Church. The Mutukula Baptist Church is now having forty-five people attend on Sundays.



Robert Whitefield visiting a sick Baptist church member and her family in Mutukula. Robert had formerly served for two years as ISC missionary with the Baptist Mission in central Uganda. Robert travels once a year to help missions in this central/southern part of Uganda.



The Sunday service meets outside the rented room because the number has increased and there is no more space in the rented room. **Pray for the church** to continue to grow and find space to accommodate members in a permanent place in Mutukula, Uganda.

6. Pray for the family of an Advanced Diploma 6 student who died last month. UBS sent a faculty member to represent the seminary at the burial.

7. Please pray for Baptist Bible Schools preparing for graduations in the coming year. Pray for Terry Nester and the UBS students working with him to help start a UBS Bible School program in Masindi. The student who passed away (above) had served in Masindi prior to his death.

8. Pray for families that are seeking a way to come and begin teach at UBS.

9. 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.

**UBS Motto is
"Preach the Word"
2 Tim 4:2**

**UBS enrollment
is 490 students,
including the
new second
bridge program.**

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

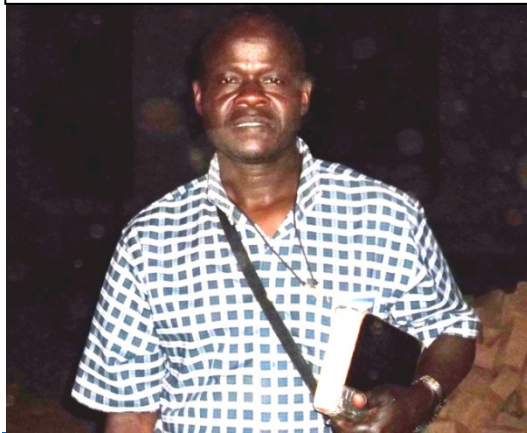
**Partner with
UBS to reach
central AFRICA
today for Jesus
Christ.**

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

**Thank You and may God
bless you for praying
for UBS.**

Principal - UBS

Gingo Ezekiel Tucker in Mutukula
Gingo is in the Master's program.



Sunday prayer for missionary Sam.
Robert Whitefield praying for Sam.



RESULTS OF EVANGELISM BY UBS STUDENTS

<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Over 16,000	11,542 Saved	
New	3,311 Baptized	24,245 Saved
Believers		3,380 Baptized

2012 Jan. - Oct.

26,521 Saved

4,064 Baptized

61 churches planted

78 preaching points

2010

29,799 Saved

4,426 Baptized

2011

34,701 Saved

4,374 Baptized

90 churches planted

136 preaching points