



**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**



February 4, 2024

GIVE TOWARD GLOBAL MISSION

**St John's Parish Church
Uganda Report**

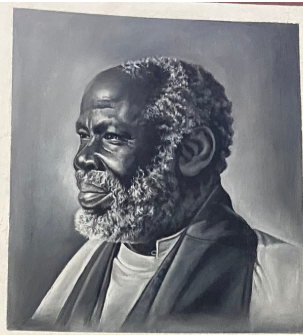
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

THE GOSPEL HAS NOT COME EASY IN UGANDA

UGANDA MARTYRS



ALEXANDER MACKAY



APOLLO



JANANI LUWUM



JAMES HANNINGTON

BY LORI MOORE

One cannot go on mission in Uganda without the profound yet humbling sense that you are “reaping for that for which you have not labored” (John 4:38). Our visit to the graves of those who first brought the gospel to Uganda and the Uganda Martyrs Museum dedicated to the memory of 45 young converts who were tortured and burned between January 1885-1887 confirm the cost of such a great harvest. The first Anglican Bishop of East Africa, James Hannington was killed in 1885. Alexander Mackay the first missionary sent to Uganda by the Church Mission Society came with a coffin that he was buried in 1890, but Mackay made a faithful disciple of Apollo, an indigenous lay evangelist who took the gospel throughout Southwestern Uganda and the Belgian Congo.



NAMIREMBE HILL
EAST AFRICAN REVIVAL
1929



TORTURE TREE FOR UGANDA MARTYRS 1877
AT MARTYRS MUSEUM



IDI AMIN MURDERED 500,000
CHRISTIANS INCLUDING
ARCHBISHOP JANANI LUWUM

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

THE GOSPEL HAS NOT COME EASY IN UGANDA

UGANDA MARTYRS CONTINUED

BY LORI MOORE

In fact, one of the hallmarks of the East African Revival in the early 1900s was that the gospel spread through lay leaders who committed themselves to daily gatherings of Bible reading and worship through the confession and repentance of personal sins and forgiveness of one another. From this gospel-centered movement, the church grew. Even today, people whose ancestors brought the Christian faith to their families through the East African Revival greet each other with the song of this revival--Tukutenderese Jesu, We praise thee Jesus. This emphasis on Christ's forgiveness that enables us to forgive one another permeates Ugandan Christian Culture to this day.

For example, after Idi Amin murdered Archbishop Janani Luwum and then tried to cover it up by hiding his body, people from all over Uganda and the world came to his memorial service in 1977 at Namirembe Hill. Threatened by the throngs of people, Amin sent military tanks and airplanes to surround the hill and stop the service. When the officiator of the service pointed to Luwum's empty grave and said "he is not here; he is risen," the crowds began singing "Onward Christian Soldier" and the tanks, soldiers, and airplanes withdrew immediately. Those present that day who had suffered greatly for their faith were renewed and strengthened to stand firm on the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Later one of Luwum's closest friends, Bishop Festo Kivengere (known as the Billy Graham of Africa) wrote a book called "I Love Idi Amin" as a confession of Christ's work in his life to forgive a brutal persecutor.

Another story, I read recently told of the Ugandan Army sent to capture the remnants of Kony's Lord's Resistance Army hiding in the Congo bush. When the Ugandan soldiers discovered their hideout, they forgave the starving, naked criminals and promised them rehabilitation and healing back home.

So whenever we go to Uganda, we're reminded of Jesus' words: "I sent you to reap for that which you did not labor. Others have labored and you have entered into their labor" (John 4:38).

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

GLOBAL MISSION PARTNER

BISHOP GODFREY LOUM
DIOCESE OF NORTHERN
UGANDA



UGANDA MISSION REPORT 2024

BY BILL ANDERSON

JANANI LUWUM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Our visit to AJL Theological College in November 2023 was filled with encouragement as we met the new principal, Rev. Sarah Cawdell. She and her husband, Rev. Simon, arrived in April, 2023. They reside on campus in quarters constructed by the Church Mission Society of England. Rev. Sarah takes over from Rev. Sandra Earixson, as we maintain a partnership with AJLTC that began over 10 years ago. The theological college offers sound ecclesiastical and leadership education at 3-year certificate and diploma levels to prepare students for lay-reader duties and ordained ministry. St. John's sends quarterly contributions of \$3,600 to provide operational support and teaching support. Students pay tuition and grow crops for their food.

The grounds of the theological college have been landscaped and planted with fruit trees and other plants that blend well with the massive teaks. The large open area is used occasionally for weddings and receptions, which provide additional income for the college.

Bishop Godfrey Loum thanked us often for supporting the theological college, stating that his priorities for the diocese are theological education and discipleship. Shortly after returning, we were informed that, due to our committed relationship with the theological college, a new chapel recently constructed on the college grounds will be named "St. John's Chapel" in our honor.

Archbishop Janani Luwum, for whom the theological college and vocational training institute are named, was a former bishop in Northern Uganda, and later Archbishop of Uganda. He was martyred in 1977 by Idi Amin, during a time of terror. Archbishop Luwum's statue is among the ten Twentieth Century Martyrs on the front of Westminster Abbey in London. The date of his death, February 16th, is a national holiday in Uganda.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



THE REV. CANON EUNICE OPOIL

UGANDA MISSION REPORT 2024

CLERGY CHILDRENS SCHOLARSHIPS

BY BILL ANDERSON

Thanks to the generosity of St. John's parishioners, our church provided 75 clergy children's scholarships for the 2024 school year. We had the pleasure of visiting with some of the clergy parents and their children one afternoon and to hear and video testimonies about their children's education and plans for the future. It's marvelous how the Lord uses small sums of money to assist families in disadvantaged areas for a worthwhile need, such as a child's education. Most Ugandans have large families and clergy are inadequately compensated, so our annual scholarships are especially helpful. The young girl pictured has graduated and is attending Nursing School. We also observed, for the first time, many more opportunities available to young men and women after they complete their secondary education.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The new Archbishop Janani Luwum Vocational Training Institute provides education for many skills needed in Northern Uganda's improving economy. Examples are carpentry, building construction, welding and fabrication, auto mechanics, hairdressing, tailoring, agriculture, and electrical wiring. Through God's grace, the Diocese of Northern Uganda has moved from an era of internally displaced person camps and the terror of the ill-named Lord's Resistance Army to a period of peace, even though generational trauma remains. St. John's is blessed by this growing educational partnership and the clergy families are blessed also.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

UGANDA MISSION REPORT 2024

ST. PHILIP'S HEALTH CENTER

BY BILL ANDERSON



DR. NICK

“St. John’s Church - USA” is inscribed on the waiting area wall for patients to see as they enter the Diocese of Northern Uganda’s principal health center. We’ve been blessed by a long-term partnership with Dr. Nicholas Laing since he became the new Diocesan Health Department Coordinator in 2013. He and wife, Tessa, are New Zealand Church Mission Society members who have learned the Acholi dialect and live in their local Gulu community. Dr. Nick is passionate about public health and coordinates over 20 Anglican health centers for the rural poor that are self-supporting with minimal medical fees. St. Philip’s Health Center’s reputation for service and top-notch medical care is validated by health visits by Bishops Johnson, Godfrey and their families. St. John’s has provided modest contributions throughout our relationship with the health center. However, the Allemall Foundation, through our parish, has given significant financial support-- enough to construct a maternity ward addition to St. Philip’s.



MATERNITY WARD



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

UGANDA MISSION TRIP 2023

BY NATHAN GILKESON



NATHAN SPEAKING
VTI CHAPEL

My trip to Northern Uganda was not at all what I expected. I expected poverty beyond belief and dire and destitute people. But what I discovered was the total opposite. Smiles, hospitality, kindness, and most importantly hope and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

(Pictured Left) At the Vocational Training Institute, Reverend Zechariah asked me if I had my bible (I did) and didn't think much of it after I told him I did. After singing some songs, however, Rev. Zechariah asked me to come up and read Revelation 13: 9-18 and explain what I had read. I thought "Oh my they just had to pick Revelation." For a second, I panicked but I let the Holy Spirit guide me. I feel so blessed to have been able to teach scripture on our trip. That truly was the highlight of my experience.

DISCIPLES FOR DEVELOPMENT

A group of men frequent the ghettos of Gulu reaching out to other young men to tell them about Jesus. Hearing their encouraging testimonies inspired us. They addressed the need to get men specifically young men in the church through accountable discipleship that produces growth in their relationships with God was amazing to see.

I took away from the mission trip how much happier and faithful the Ugandan Christians are compared to us in the United States. The trust in God for all they have was inspiring. I honestly believe we need missionaries from Uganda here in America more than they need us.



WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT
CENTER