



FACTS IN FOCUS

Uganda

- Uganda is about the size of Oregon
- Uganda has 30 million inhabitants
- There are more than 30 local languages in Uganda
- Uganda is located on the north shore of Lake Victoria, the second-largest freshwater body of water in the world
- There are two rainy seasons each year in Uganda
- Uganda's main export is coffee
- More than 50 varieties of banana are grown in Uganda
- Winston Churchill called Uganda the Pearl of Africa
- The Gray Crowned Crane is the national bird of Uganda and appears on their flag
- Ugandans drive on the left side of the road
- The headwaters of the Nile river is located in Uganda
- Uganda shares borders with Kenya, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Tanzania

Shauen & Krista Assigned to Uganda!

From the Lutheran Church Mission Uganda (LCMU) the call has rung out for the past 14 years—please send workers! Year after year the plea came to LCMS World Mission (the mission organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod). This year that call is answered. Reverend Jacob Gillard and Vicar Shauen Trump have accepted assignments through LCMS World Mission to work with the LCMU in Uganda.

Shauen and Krista applied into the Missionary Formation program after Shauen's first year of Seminary studies. Students in this program defer their vicarage until their fourth year and substitute electives with cross-cultural and mission-oriented classes. Early in the process Shauen and Krista expressed an interest in working in Africa. On Vicarage Assignment Day in April of this year they accepted an assignment to Uganda working with the LCMU. While the next two years are a vicarage (internship), it is anticipated that this placement will convert into a career call in Africa with LCMS World Mission.

Although the LCMU has only one ordained pastor, one deaconess, and six evangelists, they are experiencing explosive growth! Congregations are planted, grown, and led



Vicarage Assignment Day, April 2008

through the work of lay leaders who regularly assemble at Mission Training Centers located throughout Uganda. Shauen will be partnering with the LCMU in training, discipling, and walking alongside the leadership and lay leaders in this church body as God continues to work in their midst.

Krista is also excited about her return to Africa. Her parents, Tom and Bernita Krenzke, were Lutheran Bible Translators in Liberia. Krista's nursing degree and experience are in high demand in Uganda. She hopes to work with expecting or new mothers, seeking opportunities to build relationships and share the Gospel.

Making a New Friend & Learning Luganda

Uganda's official language is English, a remnant of the country's status as a British Protectorate in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. English was retained as the official language because there is no other common language—more than 30 languages are spoken across the country. English or KiSwahili are used when people of different language groups meet.

The local language of the Kampala area is Luganda, spoken by less than 5 million inhabitants of this small geographic area. Resources to learn Luganda are very limited. In our search to find these limited resources, we contacted a professor of African studies at Washington University who does ongoing research in western Uganda (far from Kampala). Imagine our surprise when we learned that her Ugandan research assistant, Janet,

would be arriving in St Louis in July for a 6-month visit!

Janet is from a suburb of Kampala! Her heart-language is Luganda! We are now visiting with Janet weekly to learn firsthand about the culture and language of the Kampala area. Janet is a faithful Christian excited to help us prepare.

Praise God for His perfect timing and for the friendship we now share with Janet!

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Prayer Requests

- For safety during travel to Chicago and Milwaukee the weekend of August 15th
- For a strong back as Shauen helps his friends move back to the Seminary in St. Louis as they complete their Vicarage
- That God would open the hearts of his people who hear of our assignment so that we may form new friendship and partnerships
- That new opportunities may develop for us to share what God is doing in Uganda with congregations and individuals
- For Krista as she winds down her last months working at the hospital in preparation to leave St. Louis



Getting There From Here

So what does it mean that we accepted an assignment to Uganda? What do we do between now and when we are scheduled to arrive on the field in January? There's a lot to do to get there from here.

Once Shauen completed his classes in May he began the transition from student and engineer to missionary. After writing software to take over his responsibilities and tasks, he resigned from his engineering position at Coin Acceptors

Inc here in Clayton, MO. We then headed north to the Concordia St. Paul campus for Missionary Orientation. We met many of the support staff who work on our behalf at the International Center in St. Louis, met this year's "class" of Long-Term and Career Missionaries, and spent ample time as the newest additions to the Africa team with our Regional Director for Africa, Paul Mueller. Several of the missionaries and staff we saw at Missionary Orientation knew Krista from her childhood in Liberia!

Once we arrived home from Missionary Orientation Shauen began working from home full time. It's a significant change to be away from an engineering office and a student's schedule. Much of his day is spent on the phone, email, and in various Microsoft Office applications writing letters, building presentations, and formatting information for specific audiences. Shauen is booking as many weekends as possible with speaking engagements so we can share this awesome

assignment with a wide variety of people across the United States. He's also reading books assigned by his Vicarage Supervisor, Rev. Jacob Gillard and doing research on his own into the culture of Uganda and the African context.

We have already enjoyed two opportunities

to share God's work in Uganda with congregations in Bloomington, IN and Chattanooga, TN. God has already blessed us with new



Missionary Orientation, Class of 2008

friends and long-term partners from both congregations! We've also booked speaking engagements in North Carolina, Missouri, Nebraska, and Washington State between now and January.

In our spare time we are sorting our belongings into things to put into long-term storage, a few things we can take with us, and things to give away. It's a refreshing task and it feels good to "slim down."

Krista continues to work at the hospital in the Labor & Delivery department. She's continuing to try and gain as much experience as possible before she resigns when we head west to Nebraska. She's recently learned how to "scrub" which means in surgeries (like c-sections) she is able to hand sterile instruments to the doctor.

Every week we meet with Janet, our friend from Kampala, to learn first-hand about Uganda and about the Luganda language. There's a lot to do to get there from here.

Gillards Approved for Departure

Please join us in praising the Lord for his blessings upon our fellow missionaries to Uganda, Jake & Michelle Gillard! Rev. Jacob Gillard is Shauen's vicarage supervisor. Rev. Gillard was called by LCMS World Mission a few months before we received our assignment. They are expected to arrive in Uganda a few months before we do. Together we will be



The Gillard Family

the first LCMS World Mission team in Uganda! Just like us, the Gillards were required to

secure funding before departing for the field. Because that funding is now largely in place, the Gillards have been given the green light to purchase plane tickets and begin final preparations!

Praise God for the partnerships he has brought to the Gillards and for their safe passage to Uganda!