



THE NEWSLETTER OF SHAUEN & KRISTA TRUMP

FIELD NOTES



writing to you from Kampala, Uganda

February 2009

FACTS IN FOCUS

Driving

- Ugandans drive on the left side of the road
- The steering wheel is on the right side of the car
- The turn signal is on the right side of the steering wheel—if you go for the turn signal where you normally expect it, you turn on the windshield wipers and everyone knows you're new to driving in Uganda
- In the States, personal space around one's car is usually in the 3 to 5 foot range—any closer than that and you'd probably beep your horn: In Uganda, personal space ends at your paint—you can come as close as you want to anyone or anything as long as you don't touch
- You dodge more than just other cars—the roads are full of motorcycle taxis; taxi buses; motorcycles and bicycles carrying all forms of food, deliveries, and furniture; bicycles loaded with dizzying amounts of stuff being pushed along the road; and pedestrians
- In Uganda, driving is all about reflexes and knowing exactly where your paint ends

Theological Education by Extension

The Lutheran Church Mission in Uganda (LCMU) is a young church body—only 13 years old and already God has raised up 64 congregations in their care! There is only one ordained Pastor in the LCMU and three Ugandan men who have just returned from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa, who will serve a six month vicarage before their ordination.

Each congregation has at least one lay leader who takes responsibility for the day-to-day care of the members of the congregation, plans and leads worship services, and even preaches. These lay leaders are typically trained through programs at the Mission Training Centers (MTC) which are established throughout the country. The LCMU has been asking for missionaries to come and work with them to expand the availability of theological education in Uganda. Fellow missionary Rev. Jacob Gillard and Shauen may be asked to teach in these MTCs in the future.

Right now, though, we have been asked to provide a more advanced level of theological training for a select group of lay leaders through a class called Theological Education by Extension (TEE). This group of 24 men have mostly completed their initial

rounds of training at their local MTC and have been identified as candidates for more advanced study and/or as key leaders in their regions. These men from across Uganda have been invited to come to Kampala for an intensive two-day course every two weeks for the next two years.

The men who complete this course are eligible to be sent to Seminary.



Some of our TEE students with Rev. Jacob



Shauen teaches on Baptism

The second weekend of class has just concluded. Shauen taught an extended session on baptism. He was, of course, nervous but excited. Next week when the test on baptism is administered we'll find out how effectively he conveyed the information. Time was also set aside for these men to group themselves by languages (there are 5 primary languages represented in the class)

to translate the Baptism liturgy. Many of these language groups don't have any translations available for things like baptism, funerals, or confirmations. One goal is for these

men to be able to immediately apply what they learn in TEE to their own congregation. Having access to rites like baptism in their local language can have an immediate impact. Praise the Lord for the laborers He is raising up in Uganda!

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Prayer Requests

- For those suffering from Malaria, that medicine and treatment be affordable and available
- For daily safety on the roads
- For our upcoming trip to Ibanda to celebrate the dedication of a new church building

In Praise

- For the successful start of our Theological Education by Extension classes in Kampala
- For Krista's birthday and baptismal birthday at the end of January
- For new friends



Getting Around

Getting around in Uganda can sometimes be a difficult task - refer to this month's "Facts in Focus" on the front page. The

seemingly mad weaving of the cars and vans on the roads here is simply a desperate attempt to

protect oneself from "pot-holes" that could sometimes eat a passenger car. There are places in Kampala (and some good shortcuts) that take you off of these "paved" roads and onto the one-lane, heavily rutted dirt side-streets.

In many of the cities and villages outside of Kampala, finding smooth pavement is a rarity often celebrated with high speeds. Just like our supervisor, we needed a truck that could get us around Uganda safely and reliably. LCMS World Mission provides an auto loan with a loan forgiveness program to help their missionaries purchase such a vehicle - one that (for example) an environmentally conscious boy from tree-hugging Seattle who once owned a Toyota Prius and a girl who wishes she currently owned a Toyota Prius would never consider buying otherwise. Our consola-



tion for the fuel-hungry SUV is that we actually do need its functionality.

We are grateful to have purchased a very capable 1992 Toyota LandCruiser VX Limited. It features full-time 4 wheel drive with a Turbo Diesel engine, lockable center differential, a lift kit, off-road shock absorbers, a bull-bar in the front that must weigh several hundred pounds, a winch, a roof rack, two spare tires, and window tint for security. It's one beefed-up truck. It comes at a price, of course. Diesel is usually between \$4 and \$5 a gallon and this truck eats it quick - especially since you never get above about 30 mph in Kampala.



In the next few weeks we'll be taking our first big trip in this truck as we travel to the dedication of a new church building in the west. Just a couple weeks into owning the truck we're already grateful for its capabilities. It's in much better shape than the Grand Marquis we advertised "For Sale" a few newsletters back. Please pray for us as we traverse the Ugandan roads!

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Nursing

Krista is excited to have made some new friends here in Kampala. She was invited to a women's Bible study in the northwest part of Kampala by a woman who works as a midwife in a local hospital. Krista drove to the Bible Study all on her own—her longest trip yet in an SUV, driving on the left side of the road, in Kampala traffic (all new to her!). She did fine, of

course. Her new friend Michèle is also helping her arrange for her Ugandan nursing credentials.

On Monday Krista and Michèle went to the Ugandan Nurses and Midwives Council. They applied for a temporary nursing license and a permanent nursing license simultaneously. Krista's temporary nursing license should be issued

within the week and will allow her to volunteer in hospitals or clinics anywhere in Uganda while her permanent Ugandan nursing license is processed.

Several of the women in this Bible Study are nurses, so Krista should have no problem finding a place to put her skills to use. Praise the Lord for Michèle's help and some new friends!