



FIELD NOTES



writing to you from Kampala, Uganda

September 2009

FACTS IN FOCUS

Malaria

- Only female mosquitoes can transmit malaria.
- Malaria's etymological roots are in the Italian language: "malaria" translates literally as "bad air."
- Every year there are about 250 million malaria cases worldwide and nearly one million deaths.
- One in five of all childhood deaths in Africa are due to malaria. Pregnant women are at high risk not only of dying from the complications of severe malaria, but also miscarriage, premature delivery or stillbirth.
- Malaria is responsible for about one third of preventable low birth weight babies and contributes to the deaths of an estimated 10,000 pregnant women and up to 200,000 infants each year in Africa alone.
- Four Nobel prizes have been awarded for work associated with malaria.
- Of the ten species of Anopheles mosquitoes found in the United States, the two species that were responsible for malaria transmission prior to eradication (in the early 1950's) are still widely prevalent; thus there is the risk that malaria could be reintroduced in the United States.

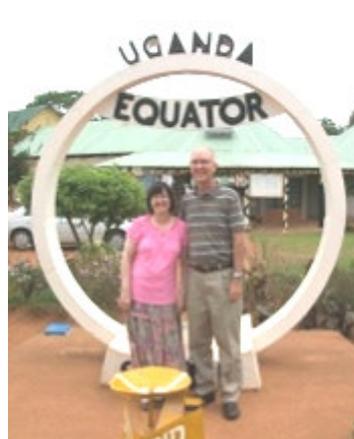
Pastor Jim—Theological Educator

Reverend Doctor James (Jim) Heining is currently enjoying a 3 month sabbatical from Redeemer Lutheran Church in Rochester, Minnesota. Because his congregation is connected to our fellow missionary to Uganda, Reverend Jacob Gillard, Pastor Jim and his wife Jolene jumped at the suggestion that he spend a portion of his sabbatical here, in Uganda.

Pastor Jim arrived in Uganda at the end of August and quickly headed to the southwest to join the team providing Word and Sacrament ministry to congregations previously visited on the catechism distribution trip (see "Facts in Focus" from the June/July newsletter and "Return to the Western Regions" in August's newsletter). Pastor Jim was quickly contributing, preaching at a wedding just days after his arrival in Uganda with translation provided by one of our TEE students from that region, Moses Ahimbisibwe.

On Sunday, as the team split to go five different directions to five groupings of congregations, Shauen dropped Pastor Jim, Jolene, and Moses at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Ishongororo. With only Moses to guide and translate, Pastor Jim—just days after arriving in Uganda—preached, baptized, confirmed, and administered Holy Communion to two congregations who had not received the Sacraments in more than a year! After Sunday services, Pastor Jim and Jolene got to enjoy their first experience aboard the motorcycle-taxi, called a boda-boda. They made some new friends and waited for Shauen to conclude the services he was participating in further up-country. Then it was a mere seven hour

drive back to Kampala, where they spent a night with us before checking in to a hotel for the rest of their time here in Uganda.



Jolene and Jim Heining

After only a few day's recovery from the trip, Pastor Jim found himself again at the front of a church structure—this time teaching the advanced theology class in Kampala, TEE (Theological Education by Extension). He taught all day Friday and most of Saturday on 1 Corinthians, using that as a platform for discussions on baptism, church discipline and restoration, divisions in the church, adiaphora (things neither commanded nor forbidden by Scripture), servant leadership, and speaking in tongues (which proved to be a very popular topic among the students because of the influence of Pentecostalism here in Uganda).

Then a short visit with LCMU President Noah Isanga and another wedding sermon and splendid wedding reception here in Kampala. For the second TEE session in September, Pastor Jim will be focusing on the Law/Gospel paradigm used extensively in Lutheran teaching and theology. He's also accepted a request to serve as our chaplain at the East Africa Missionary Retreat in Kenya at the end of September. Visit their blog at jamesheining.wordpress.com.

If this type of challenging work sounds exciting to you, please prayerfully consider using your gifts in the service of God's people in Uganda. I can't promise you'll get to do everything Pastor Jim has, but I can promise you'll be warmly welcomed and graciously appreciated.



Pastor Jim Lectures on 1 Corinthians

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Prayer Requests

- For the continued health of both Krista and Baby Trump
- For Paul and his family as he begins seminary studies in Kenya

- For the tribal conflicts in Uganda and unrest just below the surface
- For those vulnerable to malaria—especially children

In Praise

- For the health of both Krista and Baby Trump thus far
- For the opportunity for us to participate in the upcoming East Africa Missionary's Retreat in Kenya
- For Pastor Jim's visit to Uganda and the work God is doing through him and Jolene



Off to Seminary

Although the main focus of TEE (Theological Education by Extension) is to equip lay leaders from across Uganda for ministry and evangelism in their areas, one function of the program is to identify men who are well suited for the office of public ministry. Although grades (as indicative of teachability, commitment, and understanding) contribute to identifying the men who are the best fit for continuing on to seminary studies, other factors are also considered such as a servant's heart, a lifestyle above reproach, and a drive and desire to undertake the challenges of pursuing a seminary education—men who are willing to be sent to the seminary will be living apart from their families for four years, with only a two-month break to return home each year.

The school year is starting at the Lutheran seminary in Matongo, Kenya, and the LCMU (Lutheran Church Mission in

Uganda) needed to identify three men to send to Matongo for seminary studies. Even though the TEE class is only seven months into its two-year cycle, one of the top students, Paul Sserwaniko, was selected by the LCMU for seminary enrollment effective immediately! Paul is a man of excellent character, promise, and potential as a servant of the church. Both fellow TEE facilitator Rev. Jacob Gillard and Shauen endorse his selection unequivocally.

Shauen has visited Paul's home in Kayunga several times and has worshiped in the congregation that meets there, preaching, baptizing, confirming, dedicating their new church structure, and administering Holy Communion. Please pray with us for Paul, for the congregation Paul leaves behind, as well as for his wife and two children and his mother as they till, plant, and harvest the farmland that Paul worked.



Clockwise: Paul, wife, daughter, & son

Rioting in Kampala: 21 dead

On Thurs, Sept 10th we received our first ever personal security alerts from the Warden at the US Embassy in Kampala as well as from our security and risk management monitoring company, red24. Rioting had broken out in Kampala and Kayunga.

The tribal king of the Buganda Kingdom intended to tour the Kayunga area (within his lands). An unrecognized minority tribal group emerging in that area insisted the king of Buganda seek permission from their leader to visit. Because of this conflict, the Ugandan government objected to the Buganda king's planned visit for security reasons. The situation quickly escalated when demonstrations in Kayunga and Kampala turned violent.

In response, the Ugandan army occupied downtown Kampala in armored personnel carriers in support of the local riot police. Downtown was sealed and transportation halted. Radio stations deemed critical of the government's actions were shut down.

By Friday, downtown Kampala was a ghost town—only smoldering tires, broken glass,

and policemen roaming the streets. Police controlled access to Kayunga District. The Premier of the Buganda Kingdom, traveling early the day before the king's scheduled visit, was turned back at one such road block, while the king insisted he would make the planned journey on Saturday.

With downtown closed, the demonstrations moved to the suburbs with only slightly less intensity. On Friday afternoon the Buganda king finally canceled his trip. By Saturday things were quiet and by Monday downtown merchants began picking up the pieces. The final toll at press time: 21 dead, hundreds injured, and hundreds arrested.

Westerners were never targeted in the demonstrations and we never heard any commotion from our home which is several miles from downtown Kampala. We also conscientiously kept our distance from the areas of conflict. Thank the Lord for keeping us safe and pray for the underlying conflicts that have yet to be addressed.