



Description of Uganda Areas



- Uganda is slightly smaller than Oregon
- 23 million people in 2000, expecting 84 million in 2050
- English is national language
- Government is a republic



Below is a description received from Pastor Shauen about two of the areas that will be visited by Pastor Mark and Ron Bostick.

KAYUNGA (1)

Kayunga District is one of those end-of-the-road places. The pavement stops in Kayunga Town and the electric service extends only a little further along the main dirt road. Drinking water is available every few kilometers via a bore-hole hand-pumped well. This land is fertile. The Nile River runs through the district and the northern border of the district is Lake Kyoga. Most people are farmers here, tending “gardens” of between 2 and 5 acres. They grow pineapple, matoke cooking bananas, beans, maize, millet, rice, Irish potatoes, avocados, mangoes, and other crops. Income for these farmers is generated by selling a portion of their produce – usually for local consumption although some may be exported to Kampala. Chicken, fish, and beans provide the protein for their diet. English is seldom used in these areas as the schools are only recently built. Adult literacy is also fairly low.

There are two active congregations in the area and 3 preaching stations. Most congregations were planted by one dedicated man, Lutaalo Wilberforce, who continues to lead worship at one of the congregations. Because of the distance between the congregations and preaching stations, other lay leaders have been raised up to lead worship at those sites. Some groups meet under a tree, some rent a space on Sunday in a shelter, and one has a dedicated shelter under construction right now.

AMUDAT (2)

Amudat is well off the paved road, far beyond electricity or running water. Drinking water is scarce – people instead receive the moisture they need from tea which is composed of milk, tea leaves, and some spices. You will be welcomed with hot tea every time you stop the vehicle in this region. The land is not well suited for much of anything. Most people are pastoralists raising cattle, goats, and camels although small portions of the people grow corn. Income is generated by selling a head of cattle or participation in some sort of trade or small shop. Most communities are between 30 and 40 people strong, with a large empty area between adjacent communities. Female genital mutilation is very common. Girls are often married off at the onset of puberty. Alcohol abuse is a major community problem. English is almost never used in these areas and there are very, very few schools. The distances between villages and the generally small size of communities make it difficult to establish a school or church. Only about 10% of men are literate. For women, the estimate is closer to 5% literacy.

There are ten active congregations in the area. Most congregations are served by one dedicated man, Reverend Moses Lokong. Reverend Moses lives in Amudat itself and is only rarely able to raise the funds necessary to travel to the other congregations for Word and Sacrament ministry. Local lay leaders are responsible for those congregations outside of Amudat itself. Some congregations meet under a tree, some have rudimentary shelters, and some have brick buildings with sheet-metal roofs. There are few translated worship materials (due in part to the low rate of literacy). The Lutheran Catechism in the local language consists of only 8 pages. In addition to Pastor Moses, a man has been identified from this area to be sent to Seminary within the year.