



The Beacon

The Newsletter of LttN Ministries Inc.

A Quarterly Newsletter

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Dr Gavin and Glenda Williams

have just completed a 2 month ministry assignment in South Africa, Uganda and Zambia.. See here what God is doing to enrich people's lives.



Amazing Progress in Zambia

When we last visited Zambia in February 2012, we had no idea what God would accomplish in our absence. After seven years of heavy investment in the **Northern Baptist Association of Zambia (NBAZ)**, we felt that the time had come to stand back and see what would become of the investment we had made.

In the final stages of our involvement with the NBAZ, we responded to their urgent request to commence the SALT School strategy for equipping leaders. We trained those who were to lead the strategy and provided the resources they required to commence a series of schools.

When Gavin returned to Zambia in March 2015, he was astonished at what he found.

Rev Jackson Kayambwe, the one appointed to lead the schools, known here as *The School of Leadership Development (SLD)*, had done a remarkable job. He has assembled a team of capable teachers and initiated a series of schools that have begun to touch deeply into the lives of the churches.

To date, they have completed 2 full schools and graduated a total of 49 students. Two more schools are in their final stages. A further 35 students will graduate this year. Another three schools in new areas are likely to commence during 2015.

Leaders of the NBAZ speak enthusiastically of what has been accomplished. Rev Paledge Litana, the spiritual father of the churches speaks of lives changed and new leaders released for powerful ministry.

Rev Hanson Kasabila, Acting Director of Ministries for the NBAZ speaks of a new generation of leaders who are rising out of the ranks of our graduates. Three graduates have already been appointed



as pastors of churches. Both men believe that this equipping strategy has been a God given blessing to the life of the Churches of the NBAZ.

Meanwhile in the neighbouring **Mpongwe Baptist Association (MBA)** leaders have watched developments with great interest. For the past year they have been asking Gavin to come and introduce the SALT School strategy to their senior leaders.

At the end of March, Gavin conducted a 4 day seminar for 20 of the most senior leaders of the MBA to introduce them to this SALT School strategy and the materials we have developed. At the end of the seminar, the leaders voted unanimously to ask us to work with them to see leadership development strategy rolled out in their association.

The MBA face a number of challenges as they seek to implement the strategy.

They must appoint a capable leader to work with Gavin. They need to release a team of gifted teachers to be trained to deliver the teaching to those who join the schools. They need the equipment required to effectively communicate the teaching material.

The Mpongwe Baptist Association have asked us to work with them over the next 2 to 3 years to see this powerful equipping strategy operating in their churches.

It is difficult to express in words our profound gratitude to the Lord for what He is doing in Zambia though the strategy and materials He has empowered us to develop. The Lord Jesus loves His Church passionately. He desires thoroughly equipped and godly leaders to shepherd His people. We rejoice that He has granted us the privilege of being a part of His desire to see His people walk in devoted discipleship and served by godly leaders.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

For many years the words of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:11 have resounded in my heart and mind: 'So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.' Reading on in that passage we see that His purpose is that there might be a mature church which is able to stand effectively in the world and against the wiles of 'the enemy.'

In recent times, Glenda and I have become more acutely aware of this mandate to 'equip His people for their works of service'. Through our work in Uganda and other places, we have been able to develop the School of Advanced Leadership Training (SALT School) which is now being so powerfully used by God to release a new generation of leaders for His Church. This is a powerful privilege.

What began as our ministry is now being passed on to '... capable men who are able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2:2). Providing the strategy and resources for this mammoth work consumes much of our time and energy.

As a part of handing the work over to national leaders, many of our teaching materials need to be revised and updated. What began as our own teaching notes now need to be 'fleshed out' so that they are adequate to place in the hands of men and women who may not have our training background.

The major project for 2015 is to complete this upgrade. More than half of the courses have been revised and we hope that the task will be complete by the end of this year. There are also some new courses to be written.

Please pray for us in this major undertaking.

In His Service

Continued Blessing in Uganda

A decision made over a year ago to transition the leadership of our SALT Schools in Uganda to national leaders has paid rich dividends. Although we were unable to be with the team for the July and November semesters of 2014, the work has gone ahead well.

Pastor Namara Nathan and a team of dedicated national staff assisted by some missionary colleagues have continued the work of equipping pastors and leaders for the churches. The impact of that equipping is being felt more and more every day.

In 2014 we had two schools operating. The senior group of over 40 students were in their second year of training. They completed their studies and graduated in November.

Meanwhile the 'junior' school of 60 students who commenced their studies in March 2014, have now progressed to their second year. They are the new 'seniors'. This group of dedicated men and women are showing remarkable development. Some are already serving as pastors and others have been raised to senior leadership roles in their local churches.

Once again in March 2015 a new intake of 74 students commenced their studies in the SALT School. We no longer have to advertise or promote the SALT Schools. Graduates send their friends and disciples. Churches send their promising leaders. Others have heard of the program and come to enrol. They

wait with anticipation for the new intake in March of each year.

Teaching these keen hearts and minds was a wonderful thrill. They so want to learn and respond to the truth they are receiving. Watching God at work in their lives is a priceless joy. All our students

are now back in their local church situations putting the lessons learned into practice.

First semester students learn how to nurture a new Christian. They receive the materials needed for this important task. At the next school they will report on the progress

of their endeavours.

Our senior group have a very important intensive in their fourth semester. Two of the subjects are carefully interlinked to increase the learning effectiveness and develop practical ministry skills.

In this semester they study *The Person and Work of Jesus Christ*, one of the critical theology subjects. They return home with the workbook, *Lord of All*, ten Bible studies to reinforce what they have learned.

The second subject is *Leading a Small Group*. They are taught the practical dynamics of cell group ministry. Part of the field assignment is to gather a small group and lead them through the

ten Bible studies in *Lord of All*. This has the effect of further reinforcing the things they have learned and giving them practical ministry experience.

SALT School in Uganda is now in its tenth year of operation. This new group were our 10th intake of students. To date we have almost 300 graduates and over 130 currently in training. What a privilege to sow into lives and to release equipped leaders into the churches.



Pastor Enoth Kasajja (Dean of Students) Pastor Namara Nathan (Headmaster) and Mrs Mangeni Peace (Administrator)



The new SALT School class of 2015

Ministry to Graduates

Our relationship with our graduates does not finish when they graduate from SALT School. Whenever time allows, we head out into the deep villages to meet up with graduates who are serving the churches.

The Katerera Region is a particularly difficult place in which to minister. Witchcraft and demonic activity is rife. The impact on community life is at times horrific. It is in this environment that seven of our SALT School graduates serve.

In mid February, Gavin and Romanian colleague, Pastor Danny Hadarean paid a visit to the pastors in Katerera to bring encouragement and inspiration.



On arrival it was clear that the people of the church community expected to meet the 'visitors' and have at least some share in this day's events. An impromptu

service followed with time to minister the Word of God.

But it was the event pictured that was the prime purpose of our coming.

Fellowship with these men and women and input into their lives was the prime purpose of our visit. After a magnificent lunch, Gavin spoke into their lives and encouraged them in their ministry.

They had a special request. There are many in the churches who are keen to enrol in SALT School. But the distance from Mbarara and the costs involved in transport discourages them. Would we come and conduct a school in their area? Although the logistics are prohibitive, it is something we are considering for the future.

Please pray for these faithful men and women who serve in a challenging environment. Pray with us as we consider how we might respond to their request for a SALT School in their area.

Foundations School of Ministry

For some years, pastors and people in Australia have been asking when we will release the SALT School materials for use in Australia. We have always held back believing that Christians in our homeland have multiple opportunities for effective equipping.

However, during the latter part of 2014 it became clear that there is a need for a school with the particular emphasis that has been so effective in our overseas applications. So the *Foundations School of Ministry* was born.

Although using similar curriculum to our courses overseas, the course materials have been restructured to make them more applicable to the needs and lifestyle of people in our western society. Teaching materials are being redeveloped in ways that speak to the mindset of Christians in our more developed world.



A pilot school has commenced at our home church, Grace Community Baptist Church on the New South Wales Central Coast. *Called Grace School of Ministry*, the course commenced in early March with 19 students enrolled.

This school requires students to attend one night each week and to undertake two hours of teaching. Practical ministry assignments and other learning activities require the students to give more time during the week.

The school is now midway through the first semester and students are thoroughly enjoying the time of learning and interaction.

Lttn is open to releasing the Foundations School of Ministry to new areas commencing February 2016. Please contact Gavin for details.

The Need of the Hour

Financially, **Lttn Ministries** is facing one of our most challenging seasons. Some supporters have found it necessary to withdraw. Some churches are faced with other priorities and can no longer include us in their missionary panel. But the need to Equip leaders is greater than ever.

We are asking you, our community of interested friends if you can help us.

Do you have friends who have a passion for missions with whom we can share this work? Perhaps you can arrange a home group.

Could you speak to your pastor and open the door for us to visit your church?

Could you take on a specific project that might assist us in meeting one of the many needs?

If you are not already a contributor, perhaps you could consider joining our support team as a ministry partner making a monthly contribution.

Please give us a call or send an email and we will gladly tell how you could help.

What's Coming Up

Having returned from our first missionary journey of 2015, the season ahead is full.

The major work for this year is to complete the upgrade of all SALT School materials. This includes writing several new courses that have previously been taught by colleagues in Uganda who use their own materials. New materials are needed for use in other lands.

In addition there is considerable work to be done in reworking our materials to make them applicable in the Australian context. While truth does not change, the level of content and application does.

Planning is also in hand for Gavin to visit Zambia in late July and early August to assist our ministry partners in that country.

There is also a possible visit to India to encourage our colleagues. Christians in that land are facing increasing challenges from militants who seek to wipe out minorities.

Visiting our supporters and ministering in churches is another aspect of our ministry while here in Australia. It is important to keep the church up-to-date with what God is doing in the world and to continue to foster interest in the cause of World Missions

We plan to visit Queensland in late May and early June to catch up with family and supporters. There will be other visits to churches in regional New South Wales.

The program is diverse and challenging. Please pray for us daily as we work priorities.

For Prayer and Praise

Praise God with us:

For the wonderful outcomes of our time in South Africa, Zambia and Uganda in early 2015.

We are especially thankful to the Lord for what has been accomplished in Zambia in our absence of three years.

Please pray:

For the many students and graduates who are serving the Lord in sometimes difficult situations across Africa

For the ministry associates who head up the implementation of our schools.

- * For Pastor Namara Nathan and his team in Uganda
- * For Rev Jackson Kayambwe and his team in Zambia
- * For Rev Norman Voss and his team in South Africa

For wisdom as we assess new opportunities that seem to open before us.

For clear thinking and skill as we work on the upgrade of materials making them suitable to place in the hands of other teachers who may not have our background.

For the finances we need to support the ministry in general and to pay the cost of airfares and associated field expenses.

For new supporters and supporting churches to join our team of ministry partners.

For the Lord's protection over our health and strength so that we are able to maintain the challenging schedule.

Family News

For the Williams family, daily life and fun continues for one and all. We thought you might be interested in what is happening for some of the youngest and eldest of the clan.

On the younger end of things, grandsons **Eli and Jacob** began their school journey in February this year. Eli attends Hambledon Public School while Jacob attends Barnia Public School. Though they are from the same family line, these two little boys are very different. Eli is a fun loving, full of beans little chap. He is seldom still for more than a few minutes at a time. Jacob, on the other hand is a scholar who absolutely loves numbers. He is happy with a white board and pen working one calculation after another. Both enjoy school and learn quickly.

At the other end of the line is the family patriarch, **Frank Williams** (Gavin's dad). Frank turns 93 on the 4th of May. These days he is in permanent nursing home care. His wife, Beverly, visits regularly and other members of the family call whenever they can. Dad is very limited in movement and his eyesight is failing. But he loves nothing more than to speak about the Lord Jesus to anyone who will listen. His days of preaching may be over but his testimony challenges many to consider the claims of the Lord Jesus.



Frank with grandson, Andrew

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Electronic Donations to the Ministry

Bank: Baptist Financial Services Ltd

BSB: 704 922

Account Name: LttN Ministries Inc - Income Acc

Account Number: 100009139

Reference: [Your Name and designated purpose]

Our Mission:

To Model, Teach and Mentor life and ministry founded in intimacy with God and a dynamic personal Journey