



# The East Africa Connection

*“Teach these great truths to trustworthy men who will, in turn, pass them on to others”*

2 Timothy 2:2 (Amplified).

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## NEW SCHOOL TO OPEN IN UGANDA!

Fifteen years ago a Kenyan pastor with a heart for the Ugandan people living on the slopes of Mt. Elgon (about as high as Kilimanjaro) traveled across the mountain several times a year to teach their pastors the Word of God. On the Ugandan side of the mountain, the Pokot tribe is still poaching timber elephants for food and ivory. This area is so remote that few had ever heard the truths of the Bible beyond the message of salvation. After each session the pastors waited with anticipation for Gabriel Thuku’s return (as the first century church waited for Paul). There was a hunger growing in them to learn more about the Jesus they served. During the last 12 years Gabriel has told us, “Someday KMTI will have a Bible school in the Kapchorwa District so these men can learn about the Kingdom of God.”

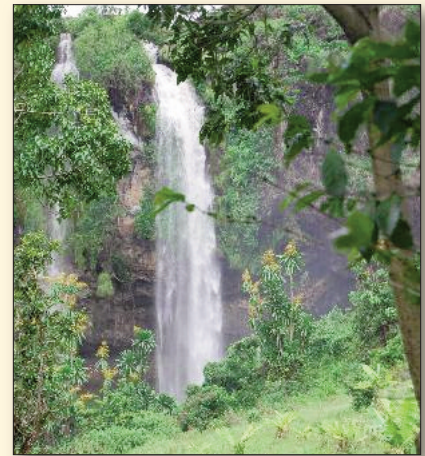
Gabriel was very excited when Larry Neese announced to our teachers that KMTI would start a new school in Uganda. While Larry was in the US caring for his wife, we—Gabriel, George Wafulu and I—made many trips into Uganda preparing for our first school in Mukono, Uganda. Gabriel asked to be assigned to run this new school, knowing it was one step closer to his pastors in Eastern Uganda. Our school—Uganda Ministry Training Institute—will graduate its first class of pastors in August 2010. After seeing the new school was a success, Gabriel, like the children of Issachar in 1 Chronicles 12:22, was a man that had understanding of the times and what we should do in Uganda. It was time to go to the slopes of Mt Kenya and begin the school he had been waiting 15 years to see established.

**In April, Gabriel, Larry, and I will see the fulfillment of Gabriel’s dream as we open the second UMTI School in Kapchorwa, Uganda, in the foothills of Mt Elgon. The city has offered UMTI the new town hall for the classroom** (see pic at right). It will be free if we leave our equipment for the city to use for other meetings. He expects a full class of 30 pastors ready to study the Bible. We need sponsors for these pastors. What they lack in money they make up for it in hunger for the Word of God. Consider a gift of \$600 to “pay it forward” for a pastor to attend Bible School in Uganda.

## JOBS FOR KENYA

We are making progress on developing our plan for job creation in Western Kenya. In March I will be traveling to the Navigator micro loan offices in Kenya with their Kingdom Enterprises Director Wanjau Nduba. He will be training me to establish micro loan offices in Kitale and Nakuru (Western Kenya). Our goal is to have the Kitale office operational by August 2010. These offices will be similar to a credit union in the US.

Jobs for Kenya has completed a tentative working agreement to purchase several different manual machines from Kick Start Inc. ([www.kickstart.org](http://www.kickstart.org)). **This company, based in Nairobi, has developed 21st century manually operated equipment that creates jobs and businesses for the unemployed who have no skilled training.** Since 1991 the KickStart pump alone has created 89,000 enterprises while lifting 440,000 people out of poverty.



*Falls on Ugandan side of Mt. Elgon*



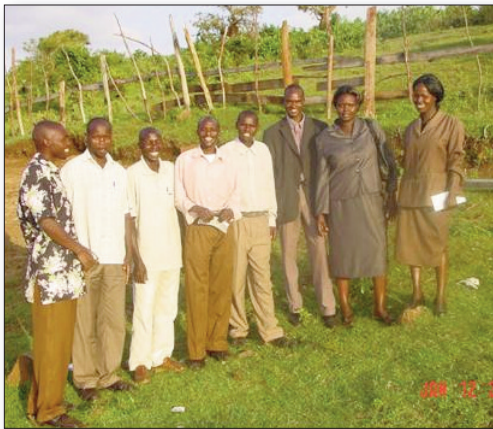
*Kapchorwa Town Hall in Uganda*



*Gabriel looking at new classroom*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for our safe return to Kenya
2. Pray for the new school in Uganda
3. Sponsors for the new Ugandan students
4. Excellent health for Bob, Dee and Larry
5. Complete the start-up for Jobs for Kenya



Top: New Ugandan Students

Bottom: Village of Kapchorwa



The picture at the right shows the KickStart soil block press being used. This machine will employ five to eight men while producing up to 800 quality cement/soil blocks a day. KMTI built its campus with this type of block. For less than \$1,000 we can provide a job and poverty breaking income for eight men and their families. **This one machine will provide money for food, education, medical care, personal items, and housing for an average of 50 people and their families.** A one-time gift of only \$20 per person will support them for many years. Compare this to supporting a child through World Vision for \$360 per year for the next 10 years. It will take \$3,600 to support just one child to maturity. With the same \$3,600 gift three soil block presses will give 24 men the ability to support their children and live in dignity as small business owners. The soil press is just one example of several machines we will be providing with the micro loans. Manual cooking oil presses, irrigation pumps, well drilling equipment, and hay balers will be available through our micro loan program. **You can see pictures of these job-creating machines at [www.JobsforKenya.com](http://www.JobsforKenya.com)**



## SCHOOL UPDATE

The KMTI/UMTI support team met in Mobile for two days of prayer and discussion on expanding our schools in Kenya. **We will be developing a full four-year degree to be offered to new students and alumni. At its campus, KMTI will offer 12 additional advanced classes in all aspects of the Kingdom of God.** While biblical knowledge is important, **KMTI will also begin developing vocational training programs for pastors and key church leaders.** This training will provide a tent-making type vocation, giving pastors the ability to support their families. Over 90% of the Kenyan pastors must work at secular endeavors to provide income for their families while pastoring their church. In September 2010, KMTI will be dedicating its new conference center and lecture hall at the campus in Kitale. You are all invited to come to this celebration and dedication. God has great plans for Kenya. Keep us in prayer as we continue to press toward his calling by serving him in Kenya.

## FINAL WORD

Dee and I pray that you had a Christ-filled Christmas with family and friends. We appreciate your prayers for our daughter-in-law as she recovers from surgery. Papa Bob and Grammy Dee have had a real bonding experience with the grandchildren.

The Church of Jesus Christ has much to do in extending his Kingdom and dominion into all the Earth. As we have witnessed in Haiti, life in a third world country is fragile at best. It only takes one storm, earthquake, or civil conflict for survival to become a life and death struggle. Ask the Lord where he wants you to serve in his Kingdom. Maybe you are to help the Haitian people in their hour of need. We feel a strong calling to East Africa.

Christians always reach out toward a hurting world. Christ told us to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations. Live on the edge of your comfort zone. Tell the Lord you want to make a difference each day in someone's life. God has blessed us in the United States more than we can imagine. Pay it forward. Sow your life, abilities, and substance into the Kingdom of God. Only when you let go of your "stuff" can you reach up and take hold of the Lord's plan for your life.

Have a blessed New Year!

— Bob and Dee Vande Brake

*P.S. Check out our new website:  
[www.JobsforKenya.com](http://www.JobsforKenya.com)*



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*For tax deductible contributions, mail a check to I.O.M. at the following address and please add a note that the contribution is for Bob Vande Brake*

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