

Christian leaders and LMU staff who attended the strategic partnership meeting in Ntugamo district on March 11



# **REVIVING MINISTRY** Uganda IN THE SOUTH WEST

Quarterly updates Jan - Mar 2022 IFE Ministry Uganda was

introduced in Mbarara in 11990 by a team of three couples: Mr. and Mrs. James & Enid Hende (now Rev. James & Rev. Enid), Mr. Fred (now Rev.) & Mrs. Kedrace Rubagasira and Rev. Ivan (now deceased) and Zeresi Muhindo. James and Enid were leading the team.

Select devoted, active and committed young Christians from several fellowship groups underwent a training codenamed New Life Training Curriculum (NLTC). Ten trainees completed all the five modules successfully and got commissioned as Associate Trainers. Among these were Ben (now deceased) and Jeninah Naagaba and Robinah Bonabaaana Mwehamiza who later joined the organisation as a missionary staff.

In 1991, Ben and Jeninah joined the missionary staff after completing the Great Commission Training (GCT) in Kampala. They were deployed in Mbarara. Shortly, Ben was assigned to lead the team when James went for further studies.

In addition, Ben was tasked with expanding the ministry beyond Mbarara to the Greater Ankole, Greater Kigezi and Kasese, a geographical area

#### LMU appoints Regional Co-ordinator for south west



rs. Jeninah Karaara Naagaba was appointed as the South Western Regional Co-ordinator effective July 2021. Mrs. Naagaba and her husband Mr. Ben Naagaba (now deceased) had served as Directors of the Mbarara MPTA (Million Population Target Area) from 1992 to 1997. This experience has given her an upper hand in reopening blocked wells and reestablishing relationships and partnerships that the Ministry once had in the region.

referred to as Million Population Target Area (MPTA).

In 1998, Ben and Jeninah were

transferred to Kampala to lead the Kampala MPTA.

Meanwhile, the organisation was going through challenges, especially with dwindling funding by the parent organisation, Campus Crusade for Christ. Eventually, this led to downsizing the staff, making it difficult to sustain LMU activities across the country.

Thus, in 2011, all the remaining upcountry staff had to be withdrawn and the regional offices closed. Staff members started serving around Kampala and reporting at the Ministry headquarters in Kololo.

These events left a vaccum in the regions. As one of the board members always said, "We are LIFE Ministry Uganda not LIFE Ministry Kampala." We therefore decided to re-open ministry in six regions: South West, South Central, Mid West, East, North, and West Nile, with effect from July 2021.

Various ministry activities have taken place in the south western region as we gear towards the official launch of the ministry on 18th, June 2022. These include a refresher NLTC training in Kasese that took place in February 2022 and a strategic partnership meeting that took place in March 2022.

#### ADDRESSING MISSIONAL GAPS IN SOUTH WESTERN UGANDA

In the bid to mobilise the body of Christ and establish partnerships, a strategic partnership meeting was organised for Christian leaders from the south western region. The objectives of the meeting included:

1. To give updates about LIFE Ministry Uganda (LMU) and the different resources available for evangelism, discipleship and church planting.

2. To share about the need for partnerships towards reaching the missional gap in South Western Uganda.

3. To give updates about the upcoming official launch of LIFE Ministry Uganda in South Western Uganda.

4. To give updates about a follow-up and discipleship series film called *Walking With Jesus* translated in Runyakore and the plans to premier it.

This meeting was held at Ankole Resort & Spa in Ntugamo district on Friday, 11th March, 2022. Thirty Seven Christian leaders from Ibanda, Kisoro, Ntugamo, Kabale, Rukungiri, Bushenyi, Sheema, Mbarara and Isingiro attended.



National Director David Wataba addressing leaders during a partnership meeting

One of the highlights of this meeting was the fact that most of the leaders had worked with LIFE Ministry Uganda in the past and were excited at the news that ministry was being revived in the region. About six leaders were led to Christ and discipled by LIFE Ministry Uganda. How amazing it was for them

to re-connect with the organisation that laid a foundation for their spiritual journey with the Lord!

Mrs. Zipporah Musiimire and Rev. Kuruka Amutuhaire are among the many who shared their stories of how they came to know the Lord and how they felt about reconnecting with LMU.

### I will use my influence to expand the Kingdom of God

y name is Tushemerirwe Zipporah. I am married to Rev. Edson Musiimire. I was in Senior One at Masheruka Girls' Secondary School when LIFE Ministry Uganda (LMU) staff came to our school and preached the Gospel. They also showed the Jesus Film. I decided to follow Jesus as my personal Savior and Lord. I then joined Scripture Union and started fellowshipping with other believers. LMU staff continued coming to school for discipleship, which helped me get rooted in the

I now work at Sheema Municipal Council as the Municipal Education Officer and I continue to walk with the Lord, even at my workplace. I am blessed to be working with one of the Local Governments in Uganda where employees come together for morning devotion daily. The devotion was introduced by Canon David Kabigumira when he was still the District Chairperson. He was trained by LIFE Ministry Uganda and was actively involved with the Ministry in Mbarara Million

Population Target Area (MPTA) in the 1990s.

When Canon Kabigumira invited me to attend the strategic partnership meeting, I felt honoured to connect with LIFE Ministry Uganda again.

The message during the meeting was very clear; we need to partner with LMU and use our Leadership, Influence, Finances, and Expertise (L.I.F.E) to further the Kingdom of God in South Western Uganda.

As a Municipal Education Officer, I can influence some headteachers that are Born Again and they mobilise their fellow headteachers and teachers in the region for training. This move

will build our capacity and empower us to impact the lives of students in primary and secondary schools. I also plan to resume school visitations in my area of operation. I was in secondary school when I received Christ. Therefore, I am persuaded that programmes like retreats and camps where the Word of God is preached can leave a life-long impact in the lives of students.



## NO EGO, NO LOGO, LET THE GOSPEL GO!

uring the strategic partnership meeting, it came out strongly that the body of Christ must unite and work together towards achieving the mandate that was given to all believers: to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20). Bishop Kiiza Aloysius, the overseer of Lift Up Jesus Global Ministries, stressed that Christian and religious leaders ought to be intentional and build networks and relationships amongst themselves. He said that as believers, we have one goal: to preach the Gospel and help fulfil the Great Commission.

However, that goal cannot be achieved if we are divided and fighting one another. He said the body of Christ therefore needs to work together with mutual acceptance for one another, respect, love and aspiration to use each other's strengths to have impact in the country. This move will break denominational barriers that have for so long hindered Christians from spreading the Gospel far and wide.

"LIFE Ministry Uganda is well placed to help the body of Christ achieve this cause because of its nondenominational and interdenominational nature," Bishop Kiiza said.

He urged the organisation to



Canon David Kabigumira, Mr. David Wataba and Mrs. Jeninah Naagaba

organise another partnership meeting where leaders will again meet and discuss how they can practically build relationships and partnerships so that South Western Uganda is reached for Christ with a team effort.

Relatedly, Canon David Kabigumira said the harvest is plentiful and the labourers are few, but even the few are fighting one another in the field, putting the harvest in more danger. He also emphasised that Christians must stop fighting and instead work together if the Great Commission is to be fulfilled in this generation.

Kabigumira commended LIFE Ministry Uganda for its ability to bring together people of various statuses and religions for one noble cause. He was delighted to have LIFE Ministry Uganda back in the region and more so, with the Walking with Jesus Film. He said he was looking forward to partnering with the organisation so that people are trained and equipped with skills and tools to conduct God's business.

He noted that many Christians have concentrated on where they are less needed, leaving areas where they are desperately needed. He encouraged his fellow leaders to break camp and advance to expand the ministry across the entire sub-region.



## My goal is to empower my followers

was in primary school at Ibanda Town School when LIFE Ministry Uganda (LMU) held a camp at our school. There were two little girls who loved dancing. They inspired me to join their ministry. I asked them how I could be part of LMU and they told me that all I needed to do was give my life to Jesus Christ. I did and my life was never the same.

Mr. Elon Katweheyo, a staff member of LMU always encouraged me to join full-time ministry. When I completed my studies in Engineering, I went to study Theology for four years at the African Christian College, Eswatini.

When I returned in 2020, I was appointed the Diocesan Youth Coordinator for North West Ankole Diocese. I was delighted to re-connect with LMU and attend a partnership meeting organised by them. My plan now is to partner with LMU in training youth leaders for more effective ministry.

Rev. Kuruka Amutuhaire, North West Ankole Diocese



## WHAT NEXT?

he response from the leaders was positive by the end of the partnership meeting.

Many promised to open doors for partnerships in their churches and workplaces. In addition, we challenged them to select two people who are FATS (Faithful, Available, Teachable and Sendable) and send them for the New Life Training Curriculum (NLTC) so that they are equipped with skills of evangelism, discipleship and church planting. Our desire is to build enough capacity for ministry in the region.

We also challenged them to send

us information about people who are able to offer their L.I.F.E (Leadership, Influence, Finances and Expertise). These people will be invited for the relaunch of LIFE Ministry Uganda in South Western Uganda. The *Walking With Jesus* film series in Runyakore will be premiered at the event, .

We hope to build long term relationships and partnerships with various categories of leaders so that spiritual movements of multiplying disciples are built everywhere in the region.

This partnership meeting was timely as there is a great need for:

- Christ especially among the unreached communities in the region.
- unity among believers and churches/denominations.
- intimate mature relationship and walk with Christ.
- skills of evangelism and discipleship to ensure transformed lives and society.

We trust God for wisdom and strength to follow through with every plan that was laid, every relationship that was built and every partnership that was formed for the fulfilment of the Great Commission in the region and beyond.



#### MINISTRY RESULTS: JULY 1, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2022

Total Exposures	2,415,232
New believers	115,164
Ministry of the Holy Spirit	1,073
Trained for Evangelism & Discipleship	1,185
Engaged Disciples	3,766
Multiplying Disciples	34
New churches	14

God bless you abundantly! In Christ, David Wataba, National Director, LIFE Ministry Uganda ■ New Life Training Curriculum (NLTC Training) in Ishaka —

5th to 8th May, 2022

- **Vision casting meeting in Sheema** 22nd to 24th April, 2022
- Jesus Film Project training 9th to 14th May, 2022
- Official launch of the ministry and premiering of Walking With Jesus Film series in Runyakore 18th June, 2022

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