

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." 2 Cor 4:7



uNCoNVENTioNal

That's not how you do it! Helpful advice?
or, Stifling needed innovation?

"The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." Prov. 16:9

There is a field of study for everything...even missiology – the study of Christian missions. Indeed, it is good to examine and research history and peoples as we contemplate mission in the light of God's Word, and to try to "plan our way" in witnessing Christ to a world in need. But we do so remembering: it is **God alone who "establishes our steps"**.

God is always working out his mission in **unexpected ways!** GLO is not established to strategize who should do what sort of mission where, but to be responsive to needs and opportunities requiring varying and unconventional approaches. It could sound a bit unwieldy or organizationally reckless, but it holds together in this:

Christ is the head as he continues his work to seek and to save the lost through those he calls and equips with his gifts and Spirit, as we hold firmly to the faith revealed and confessed.

Mission opportunity highlight: Refugees-Amos & Evelyn-the ELCK

Perhaps you have been aware of the tragic decimation that has plagued the country of South Sudan and sent nearly 3 million people fleeing as refugees, in addition to millions displaced with in the country. While there are still matters to finalize, we are prayerfully pursuing the possibility of partnering to facilitate Lutheran missionary ministry to Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

The need: Refugees in desperate conditions fleeing years of war in South Sudan

- **Over a million** refugees scattered in camps in northern **Uganda**. Uprooted, separated from relatives, bereaved, often traumatized, with few possessions, uncertain rations, doubtful futures.



Sudanese refugees; inside a church at Nyumanzi camp; women who received our delegation by washing out feet!



Non-traditional developments:

One of the basic commitments of GLO is affirming possibilities for missionaries to be sent from churches new to missionary sending. The modern history of missions has been largely white, Western and wealthy. That does not require apology –it is to be celebrated when Christians anywhere respond to Christ's great Commission! But as the church is not only—or even predominantly—white, Western, and wealthy, a more global response invites unconventional approaches that fit unconventional circumstances.

- Many have become Christians, but are like sheep without a shepherd, vulnerable to deception, yearning to grow. Many others are not believers.



Hearts for mission: Amos Otula and Evelyn sensing a call to missions.

- From humble backgrounds in Kenya, filled with God's love for others.
- Amos: trained as Lutheran pastor, with experiences in teaching and programs of social service.
- Evelyn an experienced school teacher.
- and their 3 beautiful daughters!

Responsive Church: Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya

- A church of some 70 years from Scandinavian Lutheran mission work and more recent missionary support from LCMS.
- With critical needs at home for ministers and missionaries, yet seeing also the church's mission responsibility beyond Kenya—where the needs are even more critical.



Rev. Gordon Alex (ELCK), Amos, teacher at Ayilo I camp, Bishop Bameka (LCU)

Approach: Joining hands from many countries

- The Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU) facilitating
- Sudanese Lutherans already among the refugees
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya will place and help support missionaries (like the Otulas (and perhaps others) to work with the refugees.
- GLO will accompany with services to network other support globally and assist the missionaries in aspects of cross-cultural adjustment and mission practice.

Unconventional, we could say.

As a "plan" unfolds, we prayerfully depend on God who "establishes our steps", who alone can overcome the challenges and our doubts.



The challenge: Supporting a missionary family sent by a young church in a developing country.

Our doubts: Can it be done?

Lord, may your will be done!

Cheryl completes year 2 at Hillcrest

The Hillcrest School students were busy until the last week of the academic year with classroom activities, besides events with the wider Jos town community.



INSIDE the classroom, my students observed and recorded the effects of friction on motion by pulling sacks of marbles up different degrees of an incline plane. I'm learning resourcefulness as I find materials for classroom Science projects. This time wooden boards supplied by our Maintenance Department, bags of marbles from my closet, and rubber bands served well.



Besides completing our lessons in the Fourth Grade classroom, my pupils joined First Graders for a **Field Trip** to the Nasco biscuit and cereal factory. Both processes of cookie-making and corn cereal producing were explained to the children by a manager of production and then we all toured the facilities to see the factory in action. The kids learned more about how natural resources are used in familiar, local businesses that also affect the whole country. The kids were thrilled to each receive a grocery bag full of sweet goodies!



Hand-pedal wheelchairs

The National Honor Society did an amazing job hosting a school-wide Walk-a-Thon that raised enough money to buy 41 hand-powered wheelchairs for some of the Jos community handicapped. 946,000 naira was raised for the Beautiful Gates ministry which produces wheelchairs made from bicycle parts. It was thrilling to be part of the presentation ceremony on the chapel grounds! The chairs fully encircled the

lawn and will give handicapped Nigerians new leases

on life as they struggle to provide incomes for themselves.



This last year closed with poignant examples of our year's theme, Salt and Light, both within the Hillcrest family and to the world outside the school's gates.

Looking ahead

After some summer rest, I look forward to meeting the new batch of Fourth Graders and guiding them in learning under our new theme, "Growing into Christ in Love".

Visiting family and supporters this summer

We will spend 6 weeks in the US from 4 June to 16 July. Our first visits are to the East and West coasts to see son Jason (Boston) and son Toby and Molly (Fremont, CA).

We would love to share more about our mission work in person with many of you who support our ministries.

We will be available for visits particularly in the Midwest (14 June–15 July), but let us know even if you are elsewhere and would like a personal visit.



Join us in prayer

- For God to "establish our steps" as we seek to be responsive to mission needs with the confidence only He can grant.
- Thanksgiving for God's blessings in travels to Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Toronto.
- Thanksgiving for God's blessings in Cheri's 4th grade.
- For many new missionaries getting started in their service or language learning (Chloe Villagomez - Guatemala, Austin & Amber Reed - Tanzania, Adrian & Cruz Maria Ventura - Chile, Benjamin Tino - Guatemala, and Aaron Farrow learning Spanish in Guatemala for Chile.).
- For those still trying to reach support for their mission service (Lumembo & Kalangu Tshiswaka - Ethiopia).
- For those in need of further support, particularly the Gbeanquois serving in Tanzania (from West Africa).
- For our time in the US visiting family and supporters.
- For the God's provision of supporters for our work.

...in Jesus' name.

If you are able and as God leads, please consider helping us continue this work.

Checks can be mailed to:

Global Lutheran Outreach,
6709 Ficus Drive, Miramar, FL 33023.

(Make check out to: "Global Lutheran Outreach" with "Talsma" on memo line.)

To donate online, go to: www.globallutheranoutreach.com and click "Give"

Thank you so much!

In Christ,

Dale and Cheri Talsma