

Barry McWilliams,
1609 Lombard Ave, Everett, Wa., 98201
March, 2005

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

I have been asked to go to Uganda this coming May as part of a team led by John Pickett of *University Presbyterian Church* (Las Cruces, NM) doing a series of pastors' conferences in several locations. We will be going with Africa Christian Training Institute which has facilitated pastors, elders and lay-people doing ministry in Uganda since 1981.

When John asked me to join the team, he repeated several times that "we will need you on this one." This would be my third mission trip to Uganda. On my previous trip with John in 2003 – we taught and encouraged over 300 pastors and lay leaders in the Presbyterian and Anglican churches of Uganda. The 2005 team has a rigorous schedule. Some of the New Mexico team will be going in late April to assist in a church plant in the area of Hoima in Western Uganda. I will be leaving May 1st to join them for a conference celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Kinkiizi Diocese – in extreme Southwestern Uganda near the Congo. I preached and taught there in 2003. Then it is likely we will make a trip into Rwanda -- plans for that week are still in preparation. My final week will involve assisting Henry Krabbendam and John Pickett with Schools of Evangelism, Preaching and Mercy near Kampala and Mukono before returning home May 19th. I did conferences together with John on my 2003 trip where I taught on Stewardship. This trip I anticipating teaching on Mercy Ministry as well.

What I need right now are two things. Firstly and most importantly – I need a committed prayer support base – of individuals who will commit themselves to praying for me every day as I get ready, and while I am there. I really hope you will be a part of that, and I will provide you with plenty of concerns to pray for, and testimony to prayers God has answered, just as I did in 2003.

Second, I need to raise \$3,500 in support, to cover my travel expenses, my portion of the team's needs while in Uganda, and to provide for our ministries there. About one third of my support provides for the scholarships, travel funds, food and lodging for the Ugandan Christians (who are very poor – with an average income of \$400 a year per household) to attend the events we conduct. I learned that on my first trip. Raising that amount of support seems quite daunting – but actually I am looking to God through His people to provide the means, perhaps in part through you. I hope you will consider joining with us in this ministry bringing a blessing to the Ugandan churches.

If you are willing to pray: please e-mail me, or write me right away! If you can give to this endeavor: please send a check directly to **University Presbyterian Church, 2010 Wisconsin Ave, Las Cruces, NM, 88001**. Please designate it as support for my participation on the Uganda 2005 Mission Team.

I have put together a web site for my trip at: <http://www.eldrbarry.net/ug/ugan2005.htm>, and there is more about Uganda and my previous trips at <http://www.eldrbarry.net/ug/ugpages.htm>. There are links there for you to respond to me right away – and to keep you informed concerning Uganda and our team needs. I will be sending out regular prayer e-mails – my address is eldrbarry@eldrbarry.net. I will certainly report to you in detail when I get back that you might share in the blessings of what God has done.

In His service,

Barry McWilliams

MISSION TO UGANDA 2005

Barry McWilliams

May 1st - 19th

will be part of an
ACTI Mission Team
of **University Presbyterian Church,**
Las Cruces, NM



To Kinkiizi,
Kampala,
Mukono,
in Uganda and Rwanda
doing



Pastor's Conferences Evangelism Church Planting

With the help of your prayers and support!

**Barry McWilliams – Mission to Uganda
2005**

Please send all gifts and support to:
Uganda Mission Trip 2005
University Presbyterian Church
2010 Wisconsin Ave,
Las Cruces, NM, 88001.



RESPONSE FORM:

Name

Address

Phone (____) _____ - _____

Please indicate how you feel God wants you to be involved in my ministry.

- One time gift for Barry's Mission Trip - Amount _____
- Additional gift(s) to support the ACTI team - Amount _____
- Daily prayer for Barry and his ministry
- Provide benevolent gifts for the team to take along

Send me Prayer Letters by e-mail letter

My E-mail _____

More information at : <http://www.eldrbarry.net/ug/ugan2005.htm>

All Gifts are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to
University Presbyterian Church unless otherwise instructed.

Barry McWilliams – e-mail: eldrbarry@eldrbarry.net

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Here are a number of paragraphs about 100 words each for Church Bulletins – feel free to chose from them and put them to use. – Barry

Africa is full of ironies. Though averaging \$200/year (347,000 Ugandan Shillings), they don't think themselves poor. In Kampala, a city of 1.5 million people – many fetch water in plastic jugs. Cooking, washing and ironing may be done on the front step, yet Ugandans are nicely dressed with good shoes (they walk a lot) and most have cell phones! Ugandan pastors may have large flocks, but most have little Bible training and lack even a Bible Dictionary. Still Ugandans are articulate – conversations constant - they allow people to talk without interjections – making door to door evangelism easy as people go about daily tasks.

Children are everywhere in Uganda. HIV/AIDS wiped out a generation, leaving 10 million of orphans in Sub-Saharan Africa. Many find homes with relatives. There are many street children. With malaria and other diseases, many die young. They have a kind of “radar” – large numbers gather whenever food or something of interest is happening. In their culture, they eat last. They work hard – starting young with household chores. They are disciplined, the older in charge of younger, able to sit without fidgeting. Many schools are connected to churches, the school day in the afternoon. Children are a key to Uganda's future.

Uganda is a garden of Eden, situated above Lake Victoria, with two rainy seasons and two growing seasons a year. It has seven beautiful national parks to attract tourists. People grow bananas, pineapples, potatoes and sugar cane to eat or trade in the local markets. Cotton, Tea and coffee are grown. Its agriculture unfortunately is largely subsistence – though Uganda could help feed its neighbors during droughts. Several American churches are helping individual Ugandans – offering small loans to start business or help to make their crops exportable. Uganda may be the key to reaching neighboring Congo, Tanzania and Rwanda with the gospel.

John Pickett made his first trip to Uganda in the mid 80's while pastoring at Lake Stevens Presbyterian Church. He and several others founded ACTI to facilitate getting people there for enabling ministries that assist the church in areas of need, but at the same time leaves the Christians of Uganda in control of their own ministry and outreach. John is even part owner of a “taxi” company with two taxis (14 passenger vans) in Kampala – assuring dependable transportation for teams in Uganda. He has made 15 trips to Uganda – one of 6 months. I hope to learn a lot accompanying John on this trip.

ACTI was founded by PCA men and continues to be overseen by a Board of primarily PCA people. It continues to have a significant impact in Uganda among Ugandan Episcopalians and Pentecostals as well as the Presbyterian Church there by facilitating short term, but intensive ministry trips. 162 went to Uganda in 10 teams in 2001: 11 teams and 110 in 2002. Six new churches were planted in 2001, 5 more in 2002. Efforts were made to revitalize seven local churches through local evangelism, and outreach extended to five jails. Conferences for pastors, women, men and youths were held. Two medical teams also operated.

It is not uncommon for a Ugandan pastor to be educated and fluent in English, yet lack theological training. I will be ferrying along a Study Bible, and Bible Dictionary for a pastor who lacks even those basic tools. ACTI has helped struggling pastors and churches with conferences designed to train in ministry skills we take for granted. I can expect to spend six to eight hours per day teaching pastors, elders and deacons, be doing personal work at night and then preach in areas churches on the Lord's Day. It is not without its dangers either - besides health concerns, rebel activities - one team was robbed twice last summer.