THE NEWSLETTER OF SHAUEN & KRISTA TRUMP

FIELD NOTES

writing to you from Kampala, Uganda

May 2009

FACTS IN FOCUS

A Sampling of the Menu of Uganda's Only Mexican Restaurant…

- Chicken Enchiladas
- Cheese Empanadas
- Tostados Mexicanas
- Smoked Salmon Ceviche
- Sesame Prawn Balls
- Garlic Prawn Baguette
- Tequila Marinated 5-Spice Pork Chops
- Asian Chicken Salad
- Chino Latino Wings
- Crackling Calamari
- Mexican Greens in Thai Peanut Sauce
- Garlic Wasabi Mashed Potatoes
- Thai Chili Plantains
- Wasabi, Peas, and Corn
- Plantain Fried Rice with Guacamole
- Cold Gazpacho Spiced with Wasabi
- Pumpkin Chili and Coriander Soup
- Ramen Noodle Soup
- Teriyaki Burger
- Pressed Roast Pork Sandwich
- Szechwan Steak Frites
- Pad Thai Prawn Burrito
- Spicy Beef Tacos (Shauen enjoyed these, carrots and all)

20 Baptisms and 30 Confirmations in Ikumbya

Have you ever baptized someone? You can, of course. Any Christian can administer a valid baptism as long as it is done as commanded in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. It can even be done across language boundaries although it's nice to have a translator there.

Shauen Baptizing with Pastor Charles Assisting

Although Shauen has been a born again Christian (John 3) since he was baptized on August 12th, 1979, when he was one and a half years old, he has never had occasion to baptize anyone. Since his commissioning for Word and Sacrament ministry here in Uganda, one of his special privileges is the administration of Holy Communion and Baptism, especially in those congregations located far upcountry, congregations which often go months without a visit from a clergyperson. So when Shauen and fellow missionary Rev. Jacob Gillard were invited to Ikumbya, well off the paved road, for the dedication of a church shelter, administration of baptism, confirmation, and celebration of the Lord's Supper, they jumped at the chance.

Offering Collected at Ikumbya—Avocados & Maize

Shauen left for Ikumbya early on Sunday morning for the 3 and a half hour drive. He was greeted with excitement, singing, and ululating as they arrived at the new church shelter. It was decided that Pastor Charles Bameka, the Lutheran Church Mission in Uganda's only ordained clergyperson, would preach and administer Holy Communion. Shauen would administer the baptisms (23 on the list from infants to young adults) and confirmations (34 on the list of all ages).

So, for his very first opportunity to baptize ever, Shauen administered over 20 baptisms, holding babies, leaning toddlers over the bowl of water, and raising cupped hands to shower water and the Word over young adults. After overcoming the initial nervousness, he even began to be more liberal with the water and became quite wet in the process—perfect! The candidates were brought forward in waves since the front of the church would only hold about 8 people across. Each baptism and confirmation was greeted with ululating and clapping, joyful expressions of excitement at how God was growing His church, right before our very eyes. Praise the Lord for His amazing work in Ikumbya!

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Prayer Requests

- For short-term missionary volunteers coming to Uganda this summer—especially for Alec, Liz, and Christine
- For the family and friends who mourn the passing of Elsie Markgraf on May 22nd in Tacoma, WA

In Praise

- For the newest members of God's family baptized this month in Ikumbya Lutheran Church
- For the blessings God provides in rapid communication—email, Skype, and fast mail delivery—allowing us to stay connected even from 8,800 miles away

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Ready and Willing Hands

Krista has been volunteering at Lukoli Hope Clinic, which is not too far from our house. Although her specialty is labor and delivery nursing, her skill set doesn't exactly fit into the medical system here, which is based on the British approach to medicine. Here, babies are delivered by midwives and only rarely tended by a doctor in cases with known complications. Krista's experience is as a labor and delivery nurse, and although she's assisted in hundreds of deliveries, she's never actually "caught" the baby. Her training and certifications don't qualify her as a midwife but she has far more experience than the average nurse. So for now she's mostly observing and helping where she can as she tries to find a place for her skills and passions.

Krista preparing a vaccine shot

Lukoli Hope Clinic has a connection to a small school in a community accessible only by boat—a 45 minute ride across part of Lake Victoria. Because of their isolation, this community is effectively ignored by the government programs for healthcare and education. So Lukoli Hope Clinic comes to the community from time to time with their major focus being the children who attend the school which is staffed by local volunteers with little or no training or resources. The clinic's focus is on childhood immunizations and deworming medication.

Krista was able to assist in administration of an oral polio vaccine, a measles vaccine, and the diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccine. Part of the problem in medical care in an area like this is keeping records. Which children are eligible for boosters? Which children need to complete a series? Which children haven't received any shots yet and can we guarantee that we'll be back in time to give them the next shot in a series—if not, should we start the series at this point or not? Some of the children Lukoli Hope Clinic was expecting to see weren't there. It turns out that the boat that brings them to the community school from a neighboring island had broken down a couple months ago so the children weren't able to come across for the clinic's visit. The nurses took their boat across to visit those children too.

Mourning from Abroad

On May 22nd, Shauen lost a dear family friend back in Washington State. Elsie Markgraf and her husband Rev. Divvy, who died in 1999, had been the first to suggest to Shauen, as a 6-year old boy, that he may be a pastor some day. This wonderful couple had befriended Shauen's family in a time of need and since he was far from either set of grandparents at the time, they became affectionately known as Grandma and Grandpa Markgraf. Grandma Markgraf passed away peacefully on May 22nd at 90 years of age, some 25 years after setting Shauen on the path to ordination. Sometimes, 8,800 miles seems like a very long way from home.

In 2007, in his last year of Seminary, Grandma Markgraf gave Shauen Pastor Divvy's stole in anticipation of his ordination