

Archbishop Janani Luwum Theological College June 2024

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A new academic year has started in college with new students from across the region, including two from Karamoja. There are now fifty students on the roll across three year groups, studying Diploma and Certificate. Nine local language groups are represented. We have requisitioned the computer laboratory as a classroom, having run out of teaching space. Sometimes we teach in the shade under the mango trees. Two new tutors have been taken on to support the new classes.

Works continue in college to improve the facilities, including a rainwater harvesting system which we are very excited about, (thank you to those who have supported this) and the students will appreciate when it is time for bathing and laundry. The on-line catalogue from the library is almost complete. We have benefitted from a generous donation from the Uganda Church Association to bring in some new books, and from advice and help from the Christians in Library and Information services on how to arrange and manage the collection

The college registration paperwork has now been accepted by the National Council for Higher Education for which we give thanks, and as a result of a generous gift we have been able to pay the invoice for the inspection. We are now awaiting dates and praying all may go well. We are hoping this may take place before the NCHE meeting in August.

The Rooted in Jesus course is growing across the diocese, and some groups are now moving on to book two which is very encouraging. We are also receiving requests for training from those that missed out this time around which is an encouragement. The new co-ordinator, Rev Opiyo Geoffrey is presently touring the diocese to support groups and ascertain progress. We are reconvening the translation group to start on book three so that we are well prepared for the next stage in discipleship development. It was great to hear from an archdeacon on one of the visits I did that the course was transforming the life of his parish and more people are coming to church as a result.

The diocesan farm is progressing well, or at least as well as this amateur can see! We have planted four acres of coffee seedlings and an acre and a half of cocoa all with bananas to give shade. So far the amounts of rain have been good so although we suffered some early losses from heat most plants seem to be becoming established now. We continue to pray for favourable climatic conditions. The soya, maize and sunflowers are all growing and beginning to flower, and we pray for a good harvest to come in six weeks or so. We are delighted to have been able to employ a local farm assistant: Bill Clinton, to work with Simon.

It is a joy to have our daughter Philippa with us for her holiday this month. We very much enjoyed a trip south to see a different landscape, and gorillas over the weekend. She kindly brought with her a suitcase of donated books, and another laptop. Thank you

We are looking forward to a week in the UK for James' priesting in Middlesborough on June 29th, and to visit family. In July we will enjoy a visit from a team from St. Johns' John's Island, South Carolina. They are putting on two day conferences for clergy wives and women in leadership. Please pray for Ida, the Bishop's Wife and Rev. Norah the MU coordinator as they arrange these conferences.

As always we love to hear your news as you pray for us.

With love and blessings from Simon and Sarah

