



**THEN:** Liberty grew up as clergy child in rural Uganda (pictured here with extended family holding the radio). He has been active in ministry and leadership from elementary school through university.



**NOW:** Liberty (pictured in suit) in his first year field placement, surrounded (from left to right) by UCU graduates Rev. George William Kityo (Archdeacon of Lugazi Archdeaconry), Rev. David Kaggwa, and Rev. Robert Kiwanuka Mulinde.

## Your Support of UCU Builds the Church in Uganda

In 2007, Stacey Adams visited Mukono and Uganda Christian University (UCU) with the Pittsburgh Diocese clergy spouse trip, where she met a law student at UCU, Liberty Muhereza. Because Liberty was the leader of the clergy children's fellowship at UCU, Stacey gave Liberty her email address. When Liberty learned he could not pay for his final year as a law student and needed to return home to work and save money before returning to university, he emailed Stacey with the contact of the assistant leader of the fellowship.

Stacey shared Liberty's circumstances with her husband, the Rt. Reverend James M. Adams, who was then the Bishop of the Diocese of Western Kansas—a diocese that had a companion relationship with Mukono Diocese. They had one daughter with certain needs that would prohibit her from attending university and they felt led to support Liberty in his final year as a law student. As a clergy family, they understood the financial challenges that many clergy children face especially when paying for college education—even more so in a developing country like Uganda.

Liberty has been a leader at every stage of his schooling and ministry. From his early years in elementary school he was given responsibilities, including being appointed Head Prefect. In secondary school he was a leader in many groups, including being actively involved with Scripture Union.

By the time he was in University, he was leader of Chapel Choir and the clergy children's fellowship at UCU. In 2005, he chaired the youth session of the Kigezi Revival Convention—a huge conference that has happened every decade since 1935, celebrating the East African Revival.

Liberty was excelling in academics and preparing for a

successful life as a Christian professional. After graduating from UCU, he was doing his final year of training at the Law Development Center when God began to direct him into a life of ordained ministry.

Liberty's call into full-time ministry began with a prophetic incident. He was at a church where he had been invited to lead in overnight prayers and as he was playing the keyboard, a woman he did not know came to him and told him; "This may sound strange but I have a message for you from God. The knowledge you have acquired and the gifts you have shall be used in service of God. You shall not practice law. God is going to use you for his glory. You shall be a minister in the church and you will speak on behalf of the voiceless." Such revelations came to him two times more from different people at different places and times.

This was not the plan that Liberty had for his life. He had



Pittsburgh Clergy Wives trip

chosen to study law because he was bright and because he felt that he could provide for his family with more income and better opportunities, as well as serving God as an honest, hard working professional.

Liberty stored this vision away, but proceeded to thrive in his position with ALARM (African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries). While God was using him in this position, this woman's prophetic dream was also working at his heart. "Do you want to be Jonah?" "Do not despise prophecy." In more positive tones, the Spirit was also confirming God's provision and care--he heard and began to meditate on the song "Trust and Obey, for there's no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey." Not only was he beginning to soften, he was surprised to find that his wife, also a UCU graduate, was encouraging him to be faithful to God's leading.

The priest from his parish called and asked him to apply for a divinity degree at Bishop Tucker Theological College at UCU. Meanwhile he loved his work at ALARM, where his responsibilities were increased (including being made a member of the ALARM-Uganda Board) and his supervisors had started signaling him for a promotion. With somewhat ambivalent feelings, he decided a final fleece was to apply and see if he was accepted. More than forty people applied from Liberty's diocese and he was one of the three chosen to begin the program.

With a clear answer to this final fleece, Liberty and his family made the bold decision to study divinity and seek ordination. And as Liberty left his job for seminary training, the Lord has remained faithful in providing for the needs of his family.

Liberty represents all the realities of a clergy child as well as the hope and potential of future clergy for Uganda.

We have the unique opportunity to be part of his story and the story of many like him.

By donating to the Clergy Support Fund, we are supporting bright, capable and committed students who have a unique call on their life, and enabling them to serve the church and society in Uganda and beyond!

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## The Clergy Support Fund

The Clergy Support Fund is designed to strengthen leadership throughout the Church of Uganda by helping with the financial burden of higher education for aspiring clergy and for the families of existing clergy. The Clergy Support Fund accomplishes this through two different scholarship programs. (All donations to the fund will be split 50/50 between these two programs unless otherwise specified by a donor.)

- ❖ Clergy Training helps cover tuition costs for clergy who are attending the Bishop Tucker School of Divinity and Theology at Uganda Christian University with the intent to be ordained and serve in parish ministry.
- ❖ Scholarships for Children of Clergy helps provide scholarships for the children of ordained clergy who may be studying any discipline at Uganda Christian University.

Your donation to the Clergy Support Fund helps to build up local church leadership in Uganda!



The Most Reverend Stanley Ntagali addresses the Church of Uganda All Clergy Conference. The conference, hosted by Uganda Christian University in 2015, brought together more than 2,000 clergy from all 35 diocese across Uganda.

The Bishop Tucker School at UCU is currently training approximately 200 students. Most of the students are Ugandan, but there are many from around East Africa and beyond. (see photo below) The Clergy Support Fund focuses on Ugandan clergy. However, we know our supporter and churches have partnerships all over Africa. Please contact us if you or your church would like to sponsor a non-Ugandan clergy student at UCU.



The Rev. Canon Dr. Alfred Olwa (far right in clergy collar), Dean of the Bishop Tucker School of Divinity and Theology at UCU, along with divinity students who hail from Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, Kenya, and Uganda.