



Roger Collins <clerk@msvalley.org>

HR Report--Update from ABC Uganda June--Bob Penny

1 message

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To: Roger Collins <clerk@msvalley.org>

ABC UGANDA PARTNERS

African Bible Colleges

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I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel [for Uganda] from the first day until now. (Philippians 1:3-5 ESV)

Dear Faithful Uganda Partners,

Greetings in our Lord! May I have your ear for a few minutes and request your help again? As you know, I have been serving for African Bible College in Uganda (ABCU) since I retired from RTS at the end of January. I have enjoyed my time here and have taught about 75 students in various classes of Bible, preaching, small group communication, and English Comp 102 (first picture below). I have also had the opportunity to preach in some local churches (recently South Sudanese congregation below) The students have been both challenging and fun in many ways and now I am in my last month here. I will return to the US in June and go directly to the PCA General Assembly and greet at the display booth for ABC with the staff.

The graduating Class of 2013 (third picture) is about to "go into [African] fields that are white unto harvest." Some of you have made a serious investment in that class that you helped to prepare by supporting me here. Seniors were in 3 of my 4 courses. ABCU is a fine institution and is worthy of support of all Christians and PCA people, especially those interested in reaching the world for Christ, particularly Africa. I had that conviction and supported with it with donations before I came here. That conviction has only *deepened* since I came here.

We have serious students here and they gave themselves to Christ and the ministry. *They have a passion for the doctrines of grace.* They must be *committed* because they will not earn much money when they leave here, probably not even enough exist on a pastor's salary here. Most take an elective agriculture course while they are here taught

by a Christian man who is former agriculture department official in the Kenyan government. ABCU alumni will *need* to have home vegetable gardens and some domestic animals like chickens (for egg production too!), pigs, cows (for milk too!), etc. The economy here is dismal; the students here have little or nothing. Here they enjoy many advantages and optional benefits like competing in soccer (fourth picture) They have trouble raising their fees from year to year; most are on some kind of work scholarship.

I have been invited to return and teach at ABCU permanently. I know I won't be back this fall but next spring is a possibility. I will continue keep you updated. However, I do want to travel this summer and fall for ABCU as a field representative, as I did for RTSJ, to raise money for students.

It costs a student or sponsor [individual(s) or church] \$2000. each per year in tuition, board, and fees. I will have some funds in remaining in my account with the ABC office in Clinton, MS, to cover my travel expenses on behalf of ABCU. (I am not taking a salary from ABC; I have personal retirement funds available.) I will be seeking individuals, couples, churches, Sunday School classes, youth groups, etc. who would be willing to sponsor students at the above rate, partially or completely, with one-time gifts or monthly. I would like to take time with interested people to explain all the above to them.

I would like to visit your church with the idea of in meeting with your Session or missions committee about ABCU and gaining their support. Could you please arrange to put me in contact with your pastor, missions committee chair or Session, with a view to a visit--maybe by just *forwarding* this message to an individual? I would love some personal meetings over breakfast, lunch, dinner, or coffee somewhere in your area you would recommend. I would be happy to make my appeal in that way. Perhaps you could help me gather some men or couples over a meal at a restaurant. I would be open to make a Sunday morning or evening or mid-week evening presentation as well, may be with a Sunday School class, WIC, or prayer group or with leadership.

I need your help. I am available starting this summer into fall. Can you help me?

Fraternally,

