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What's in a Name? The Kafulafuta and Kapyunga Buildings



By Wilson Tembo

Dean of Students

The history of the Baptists in Zambia is not complete without mentioning the early indigenous missionaries. Pastor Mbewe in his writing on the history of the Baptists "exhumed" these missionaries among the Lamba people of Zambia.

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For this reason, the building on the right was named after Kasonga who worked with Olive Doke in Kafulafuta among the Lambas. The Kasonga building accommodated the First Vice Chancellor of ACU, Dr. Kenneth Dale Turnbull. The other building housing the support staff was named Lupunga. Lupunga was a missionary who closely worked with Kasongo. In the history of the Baptists in Zambia, the other name that cannot be ignored is that of Litana, another missionary among the Lambas.

When we rented the building opposite the two: Kasongo and Lupunga, it was decided that the next building be named after the area where these indigenous missionaries hailed from. That area is called Kafulafuta. The burial site of Kasongo is in Kafulafuta.



(At the Kapyunga building, from left to right: Dr. Paul Kayumba, Dr. Voddie Baucham, Mr. Carlos Paul, Mr. Kunda Kalifungwa and Dr. Conrad Mbewe)

The latest building that ACU is renting houses the School of Divinity. It was proposed that the building be called "Kapyunga"- preacher of the Word. This was to depict the whole essence of the great commission. The proposal was accepted. It is hoped that when ACU relocates to the new place, these names will be "transported" too.



My Role as Chaplain
By Carlos Paul

Chaplain and Theology Professor

Students who enrol at ACU quickly notice that there is a group of people who genuinely care for their spiritual and academic wellbeing. One of the unique features that reinforces this holistic approach is our mentoring programme. As the chaplain, among other duties, I lead a

committed and loving group of mentors (i.e. faculty and staff) who pour their lives into the students nurturing them to pursue Christian values of courage, perseverance, compassion, and integrity while cultivating Christian disciplines like prayer and devotions.

I am passionate about mentoring students, for the Lord allows me to see the fruits of my labours in seeing students gradually weed out vices and seek wisdom. One memorable conversation was when a Scholars Programme student said, "If what you said is true, then I am not a Christian." For years he was basing his salvation on his Christian service. After explaining the gospel to him, he turned to the Lord in repentance and trusted in Christ alone for salvation.



Volunteerism

By Jalira Ngwira

Essentially volunteerism entails the self-motivated act of an individual or individuals contributing their time, skill, talent and resources to charitable, educational, political, economic, and other noble

causes in a community without regard for compensation. According to Dr. Conrad Mbewe, volunteerism is "offering yourself and or your possessions for the good of others, without seeking anything in return." While many may want to volunteer, few actually do it. Arguments such as lack of time and knowledge of what volunteering entails and that it only benefits the served are common excuses for not volunteering. However, even with our busy lives, we can all set aside some time in a day, week, or year for an important purpose that benefits society as well as ourselves.

Anyone can volunteer. God has blessed us all with certain gifts and talents and opportunities to use them. Thus, whether young or old, in employment or not, educated or uneducated, able-bodied or not, you can offer your service for the benefit of others without expecting payment. As Martin Luther King Jr. put it, "... you don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know the second law of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

We should volunteer because, first and foremost, we glorify God when, in obedience to His command, we serve others through the gifts and talents he has blessed us with (1 Peter 4:10). Contributing to a cause that we are passionate about teaches us to look beyond our own circumstances and appreciate what others are experiencing. The difference we make in serving others will make an even bigger difference in our own lives (Acts 20:35). Secondly, because it is, as Dr. Conrad Mbewe says, "the vanguard of civilisation;" it promotes goodness and improves quality of life, which we all benefit from. Thirdly. because it awakens us to the realities and challenges of the people we serve.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- Pray for the Lord to show mercy to the world in this time of Covid-19.
- Pray for more people to be moved to give their time, energy and skills to serving with ACU.
- Pray for the process of recruitment for key positions.
- Pray for God's provision for the operational needs of the university.

MATTERS FOR PRAISE

- Thank the Lord for students as they continue to work diligently in difficult conditions.
- Praise the Lord for those who continue to serve diligently in various capacities at ACU.
- Thank the Lord for the faithfulness, commitment and generosity of our stakeholders both within and outside Zambia.
- Praise the Lord for the growing global family of ACU.

Volunteerism affords each of us an opportunity to learn skills, and meet and make new friends. There are many worthwhile causes that would benefit from your volunteer services, and therefore enable you to contribute to the cultural, economic, social and political development of our nation. The African Christian University (ACU) is one such noble cause where you can volunteer and contribute to its on-going establishment. Since it is a work in progress with a serious shortage of manpower and heavily dependent on donor funding, your contribution would not be in vain. As the Malayan proverb goes, "One can pay back the loan of gold, but one dies forever in debt to those who are kind."

A fuller version of this article originally appeared in the August 2017 edition of the prayer update, and has been condensed for length.