



## Deaconess Training in Uganda

### Expanding God's Love in Uganda LCMS Office of International Mission, Africa Region — \$92,000

2021–2023 Biennium  
Mission Goal:  
**\$2,150,000**  
Mission Grant #27  
**\$92,000**

*As each has  
received a gift,  
use it to serve  
one another,  
as good stewards of  
God's varied grace  
(1 Peter 4:10).*

The Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU) is steadily growing in eastern Africa. It has requested LCMS assistance to train deaconesses locally so they may assist the small number of Lutheran pastors throughout Uganda to teach the faith, provide spiritual care, and show mercy to communities throughout Uganda. The LCU wants to be able to provide training to qualified women at their seminary, Lutheran Theological College of Uganda (LTCU).

There are 30 pastors and two deaconesses serving 150 congregations in Uganda. The LCU leadership serves to share the Gospel message to all corners of Uganda. On average, there are twenty-five baptisms per week throughout the Lutheran churches.

The two deaconesses currently serving were trained at the Neemia Lutheran College in Matongo, Kenya, and lived apart from their families, including young children, for up to three years. Their service with the LCU started in May 2019. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, they have helped strengthen Bible study groups, started or expanded children's Sunday school, expanded a Lutheran day school, and educated individuals and families about God's design for the family in various ways, thus encouraging a change in habits and behavior. They have also strengthened music ministries in their various communities.

This grant will help establish a training center for women who wish to serve as deaconesses. The funds will purchase land next to the seminary, purchase fencing, and allow for the building of a small dormitory. It will help support ten students with healthcare, food, utilities, books, and transportation. Women who wish to serve their Lord, can remain in their home country as they learn to care for their people and assist the pastors in the LCU.

Uganda is a patriarchal society, which means the needs of women and children are often placed secondary to the men and many opportunities are not available to them. Trained deaconesses serving in communities throughout Uganda will help combat the stigma towards women and children. Their presence will provide opportunities to educate communities as to the value of all people within the Christian household and their various vocations, as well as show mercy and care to those in need.

Learn more about this mission grant at [lwml.org/mission-grants](https://lwml.org/mission-grants)