

*Showing God's character to the world by bringing healing to bodies and souls*

# Uganda/Sudan Medical Mission

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## USMM Coming Events

October 24-

November 10

Home visit-Kansas  
City

November 17-

December 22

Gulu Medical School

Late November

Friendship Mission to  
Cwero

December 25

Xmas in Lira



*Cwero IDP camp*

Katie Rhoads, MD  
medical missionary  
to Uganda & Sudan

### Global Teams:

[www.global-teams.org](http://www.global-teams.org)

### Christ Church:

[www.christchurch-op.org](http://www.christchurch-op.org)

### Website:

[www.ugandasudanmedicalmission.org](http://www.ugandasudanmedicalmission.org)

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## Weaving Threads Together

I really enjoy hand crafts: sewing, needle-point, surgery (okay, surgery may not be what *you* usually consider “handcraft”) and the like. Over time I have seen that I am not gifted as a design *creator* for handworks, but rather a willing *implementer* of designs I see.

Watching God at work to multiply/grow His kingdom is like watching a complex tapestry being woven before us. Amazingly, we are given the privilege of participating in weaving the threads of His majestic tapestry; to implement His design.

The design of God’s tapestry is complex. We see this in the Bible as a progressive revelation of God to man. God is not just the God of one man (Abraham) or one people (Israel), rather God is the one true God of the universe with a grand plan to bring man into relationship with Him. The climax of God’s covenant with man is salvation through Jesus Christ.

For the last five months, I have been in the midst of an intricate portion of the tapestry that God is weaving to bring forth His name in a small village called Cwero near Gulu in northern Uganda. Here are just a few of the “threads” that make up this tapestry:

**Thread:** God pulls USMM to Gulu region for medical mission work, especially the IDP camps such as Awach and Paicho.

**Thread:** God organizes a ministry partnership with Pastor Chris Bwami who “picked an interest in Cwero” and planted a church there.

**Thread:** Pastor Chris met Ocan in Cwero. Ocan has a heart for serving God and sharing the gospel among his people. His testimony is heart wrenching. He is the remaining son in his family. Others succumbed to the war and its effects. Ocan is a healthcare worker.

**Thread:** Through the position as Visiting Lecturer in Surgery at Gulu Medical School, I have wide latitude from the Ministry of Health to work in the surrounding communities like Cwero, Paicho, and Awach.

**Thread:** God has brought to Gulu medical students with a heart for mission. A small group

of students want to do medical mission work in Cwero *each* Saturday.

**Thread:** God is developing hearts for mission among members of my home church (Christ Church) and a church in Kampala. These two churches have been paired together for mission by their bishop and they are seeking an area in which to serve.

**Thread:** Youth from the Kampala church come to my home village for a retreat. When I share with them what God is doing near Gulu, they want to join in the handwork for the tapestry.

**Thread:** Church protocol could complicate the mission effort for churches working across diocesan boundaries, but God is in charge.

**Thread:** Initial contact with the Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Uganda in August 2007 did not bear fruit, however a relationship was started. Recently, we were warmly received by the Bishop as we described the work of USMM in the region. As we shared the vision for mission partnership between the Kampala and USA churches with the church in Cwero, we were referred to Youth Worker to start the process.

**Thread:** The Youth Worker for the Diocese of Northern Uganda is eager to have laborers for the harvest and welcomes our participation.

**Thread:** The Kampala church and Christ Church leadership plan a time of meeting in late November. They want to visit Cwero.

**Thread:** God has planted incredible men (Chris, Ocan, Michael, Oreama, Lubega, et al) of God in the Gulu region who are walking alongside USMM during this process, providing introductions, translation, and gospel friendships.

The threads are in place, the workers have been selected and the harvest is plentiful. Let the weaving begin!

*If you would like to hear the full story of this tapestry, stay turned to your email for USMM information meetings while I am in Kansas City. I am eager to see you and catch up on your lives. You are a part of this majestic tapestry!*