

Uganda was in dire straits after Idi Amin ran off investors, and killed and tortured hundreds of thousands. Then there was the civil unrest for years, causing more poverty. Then along came The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) of murdering thugs who for over two decades have abducted young girls for sex slaves; kidnapped young boys to train them to kill, rape, and maim; uproot over 800,000 refugees; and continues to receive money and guns from terrorist groups.

The Ugandan government, with some outside aid from the U.N. and others, continue to struggle to support the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the wrath of the LRA now trying to survive in northern Uganda. Such aid keeps needed resources from the many poor villages throughout Uganda. We are attempting to help a few of those villages about 70 km north of Kampala, the capital of Uganda. The United States has been involved since 2008. President Obama has recently sent 100 military advisors to help the under-armed and ill-equipped Ugandan military. Now, one of our elders, a volunteer chaplain with the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum,, and our director of foreign missions, is planning to make a humanitarian trek in July. On this first of many planned trips, Elder Ed Udell is contacting agencies, churches, organizations, and individuals to help him take medical and educational supplies and equipment, clothing, requested items (including Bibles), and become "boots on the ground" to assess sanitation and fresh water needs. He will also meet with village elders to learn what the villages need to become self-supporting, and how to protect themselves from raiding marauders. A former Naval Reserve personnel man and security guard, Udell will help assess areas of safety, along with reviewing needs of health, education, and micro-enterprise.

If you would be willing to donate needed items, or funds for shipping of items or travel for volunteers, and purchase of goods, please contact Elder Udell at [edudell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:edudell@sbcglobal.net). Between now and July 2 when Elder Udell turns 72, \$7600 is needed for this first humanitarian trip. The "38/38 Club" is also being formed for ongoing monthly support for humanitarian needs, as well as for Udell to travel as a courier of goods back and forth to Uganda, and to serve as what one village elder dubbed "our mouthpiece to the world." Udell stays in contact with village elders almost daily through e-mail and Facebook, and does training with pastors on Skype weekly.