

## **“Church within a Church” Bulletin 2 (8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025)**

Since the previous information (see Appendix A) there has been much activity around the St James' Church site. Just 2-3 weeks after Andrew's return the local village-folk all turned up on a designated day, armed with pickaxes and started to demolish the inner old building. (see video). To quote William Kakwezi (CEO) “We are all super excited. Never seen the entire community come up to work at this facility as when they were demolishing the old structure”. The commitment to use this new build as an everyday Church and Christian group facility, along with working alongside FOP and Compassion, is thrilling to see.

Only 5 days ago we had a call from the Harvest Appeal Organiser at Cambray Baptist Church in Cheltenham informing us that the fund has now exceeded £20,000 - in other words, the new roof is covered!! We are so thankful to all those at Cambray who have worked and given so generously for this. As Patrick Ruharuza said “Glory to God, Let's get working. This will change everything about that village as we know it”.

Indeed, we give all the glory to our ever-faithful God!

## **Appendix A: “Church within a Church” - St James’ Church Aug 2025**

For some years the community has been slowly building a new outer shell around the old building, as money permitted, but the cost of building a roof has been too much. This is where God has provided in a wonderful way through a commitment from Cambray Baptist Church in Cheltenham which has undertaken to raise money through their Harvest Appeal this year (2025) to provide for this need. Once the outer building has been completed the old inner chapel will be dismantled to allow completion of the new interior (see photo below). We are so thankful to them for this act of such generosity.

On a very recent visit to Uganda to coordinate this project between Cambray and the Miranga community, Andrew Shepherd met with FOP leaders, Compassion staff, the Rwenjaza Hillside School (RHS) staff, community leaders, local District leaders, and the Bishop of the Fort Portal Diocese (Rt Rev Kisembo B. Reuben), all of whom have wholeheartedly agreed to join together in supporting this development. The united desire of each one is to join in promoting the early completion of this new Christian Centre to preach unashamedly the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in this needy area.

In addition to this FOP has been developing a new Chaplaincy arrangement which will function under the leadership of an entirely new post, that of an Evangelical Minister of the Gospel at St James’, appointed from the Diocese over the whole Chaplaincy team in Miranga. This will comprise the Religious Education and Discipleship Department at RHS (James) under the supervision of the Chaplain and Head of Discipleship at FOP (Sylvan). In turn these will be working under the St James’ Minister who will oversee Community Discipleship and be Head of the St James’ Chaplaincy for the whole area. We are so thankful to the Lord for this provision and look to Him for continued blessing and many souls saved to God’s glory.

