

# **Mission among** Children and youth in Tanzania

Led by missionary couple Tabitha and Torkild Jensen  
sent by Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission

October 2013 



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## Beloved, faithful friends!

**The other day, a woman named Joyce came to our door. She related to us that 10 years ago she lost her husband and had been a widow since then. The death of her husband had been a big loss. She had become a single parent and had started selling vegetables to make a living.**

With tears in her eyes she continued that her daughter had died from aids a year ago. She was survi-

ved by three small children age 7, 5, and 1½ years. The daughter had not been a Christian and her lifestyle had brought great concern to her mother. All the children had different fathers, which indicate the lifestyle she had had. The children have been checked for aids at the hospital and fortunately they are all healthy.

This grandmother is only 52 years old, but she is in a very stressful financial situation and is struggling to provide for her three small grandchildren. As she said, "I have a job, but I cannot go to work because I have to stay home to look after the children. And not working means no food."

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If any one would like to help this poor lady, please get in touch with us. It would be such a blessing. Then the children could start school. We would all be very happy.

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## The children's crusades

**Torkild and the team have been away on children's crusades. They went to a village called Mlowa, between Dodoma and Iringa and managed to drive this long distance without one single puncture.**

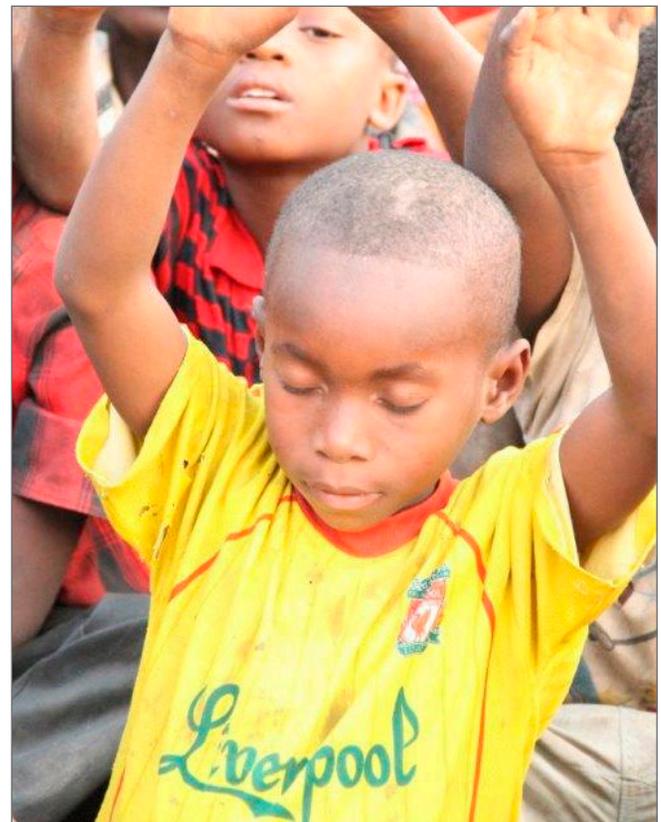
The crusade was one of the best we ever had. The inviting church had only 14 members, however we trust that the crusade will make a big difference to them. We heard the local population express, "How incredible that such a little, poor church was able to arrange all of this; we never experienced such a thing before!"

Due to an unhealthy economy she had no other choice than to move into the slum, where the rent is much cheaper. But the environment is a strain on her, and the children, not the least.

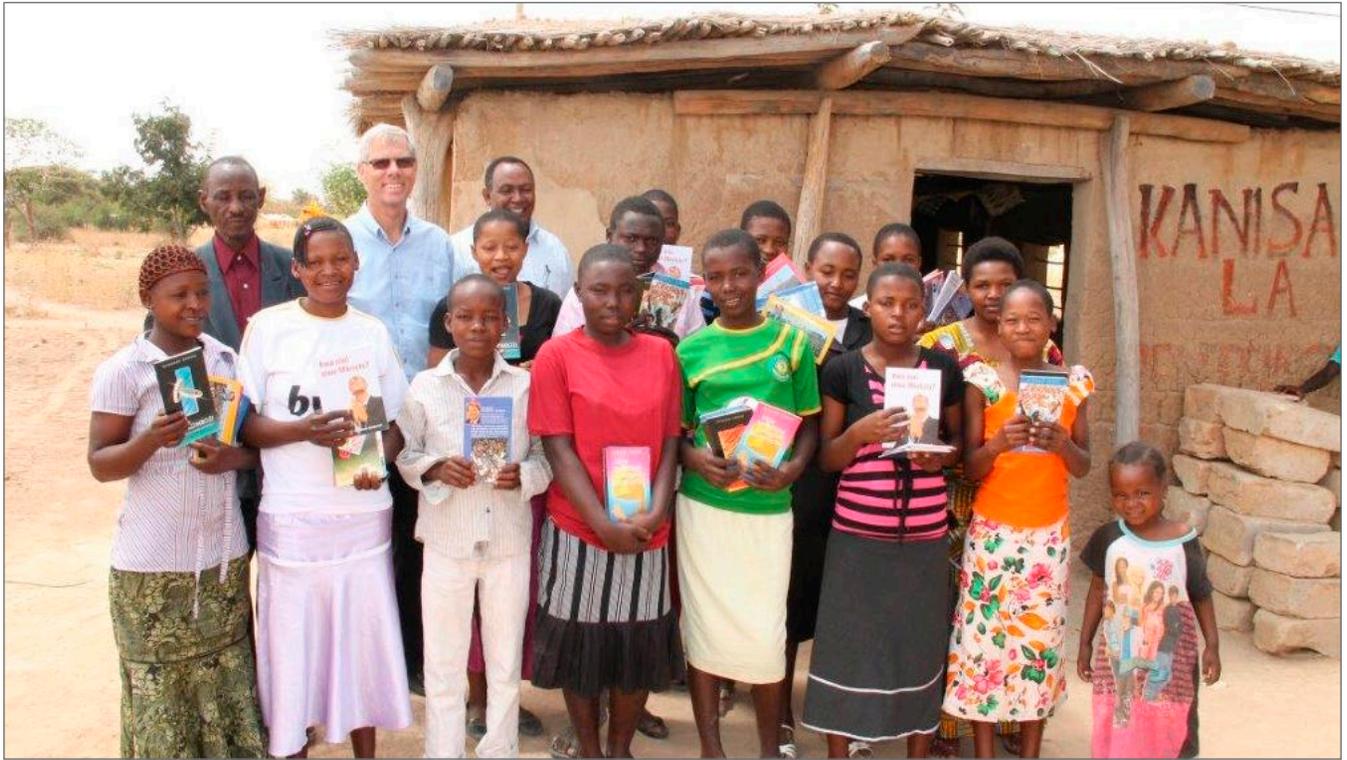
We took with her to the slum to see for ourselves – and were shocked to see her living conditions. All she had was one tiny room with a double bed, where all four of them slept. All of her belongings is the bed and a cupboard for cups, plates, and some utensils. Clothes were in bags and boxes or hanging on a string. There were no chairs, so we sat on the bed, and she was sitting on a bucket.

Her only wish is to help her grandchildren, especially the two eldest, that they might attend school and get an education.

We have been thinking about this family a lot and would love to be able to send them to John and Rosabella's at the "Love Home", where they could attend our new school. We are convinced that the children would thrive being there. And that would enable grandma to sell vegetables again and to make a living. The children could come home on vacation and stay in touch with their grandmother.



On the very first day, a young man came forward to be saved. He was in such anguish and could not wait till the next day, so he bowed his knees in the grass and the pastor led him in the sinner's prayer.



During the film presentation that night an additional five young people wanted to accept Jesus as Saviour. The day after, four secondary students came to accept Jesus. Something wonderful happened each day.

During the Sunday service a young lady from the guesthouse where Torkild and the team were staying, stood up and said, "I want to give my life to Jesus, I want to belong to him!"

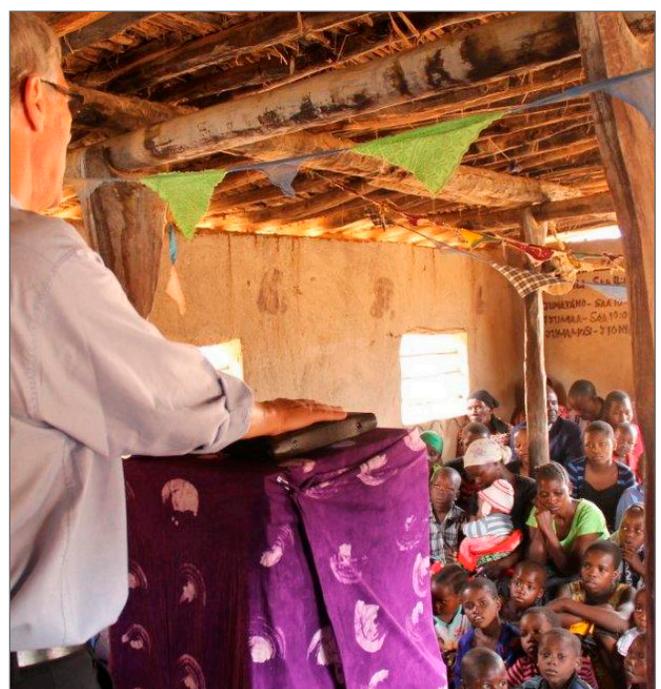
Experiences like these are such a great encouragement in our efforts to preach the gospel to children and youth. Once again they are proof that the word of God shall not return void.

At the picture, the young people that accepted Jesus during that week have lined up in front of the little church. We were pleased to see them again at the church service on Sunday morning. After the service we gave them some literature that will guide them in their new life with the Lord.

The church is small and very primitive. But as you can tell, it was crowded on that Sunday morning. What a joy! To Jesus be all the honour. They are now building a new and larger church and we have decided to help them put on the roof.

I (Tabitha) must admit that I really admire Torkild for doing all the trips that he does, and in spite of the fact that he and the team usually reside at very poor places. No wonder he is tired and needs rest before starting out again.

Their last crusade was at a big village, but the church had only 20 members. There was a big commotion when they arrived. The village was known for their involvement in witchcraft and on the first night the local witch doctors were gathered to sabotage



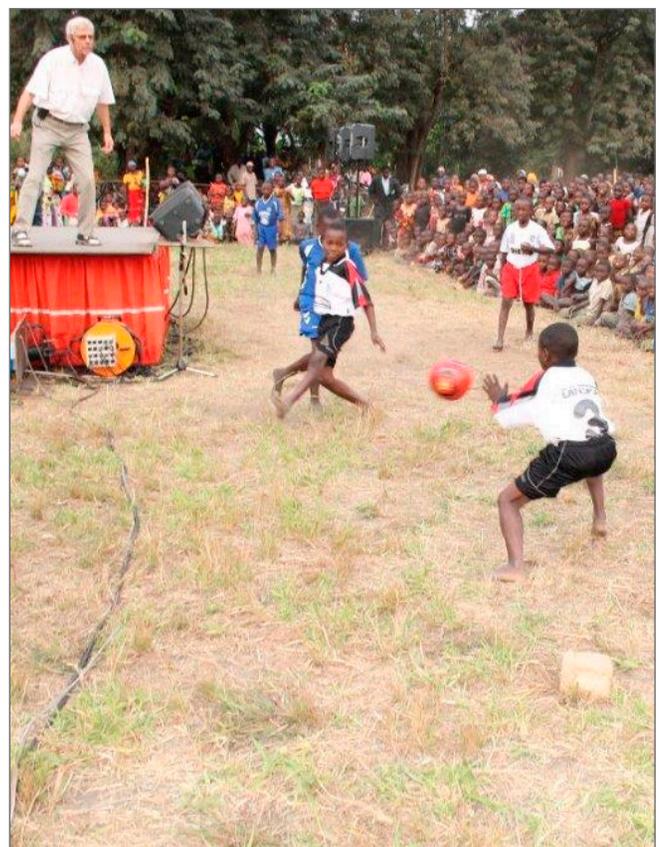


the crusade. They were very noisy all night long as they were beating on their drums and loudly calling on the evil spirits. The witch doctors believed that evil spirits could get us out of town, but we experienced the protection of God. The Bible says, "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." This is what we experienced.

Saturday night Torkild called me and said that there had been a breakthrough. "I was moved as I saw two children holding each other and then coming up front to be saved," he said. "After that, some adults wanted to give their life to the Lord. And then 10 more children came." There must have been rejoicing in heaven that night because of all the names that were written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Many times we experience a lot of opposition to our crusades, especially from Muslims. Their attempt to try to hinder the children in coming usually fails, however we clearly sense the imams being against our crusades.

In spite of that, we recently had an encouraging incident in a Muslim dominated village. At the end of the crusade, a chief of police, who was a Muslim, came up to the pastor to thank him. He was very friendly and told the pastor, "These meetings and the film is the best thing that ever happened to our village."



We must go with the Good News as long as we can because one never knows when the doors will be shut.

Thank you for your prayers for us and the ministry. We are so encouraged to know that you are standing with us.

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## Small news

**The school:** We have added a roof on three more classrooms and at this moment we are installing windows, and polishing the walls inside and outside. God is with us in all things and is good to us as we put our trust in him.



I am enjoying teaching Christianity every Friday. The children love these classes. Usually they receive a drawing that illustrates the story. I have seen how they put the drawings on the walls at home.



**Mswakini:** We thank you a thousand times for the support of the Mswakini clinic at our dear Masai's. the windows have been provided with glass and the next step will be to polish the walls, to put in doors and to finish the ceilings. We sincerely hope that the building will be finished before Christmas. A young

man from Mswakini has been sent to a nursing school and has one year left. On graduation he will return as a licensed nurse and work at the clinic.



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## New missionaries

**We have had the great joy to welcome Stig and Sara Hagen and their three children, Maja, Jonas, and André to Tanzania.**

Sara is Danish and Stig is Norwegian. For quite some time they sensed the calling of God to work in missions. We have promised to help them get started and to care for them.

They are already working at an orphanage, at present with 12 orphans. A year ago they started establishing the home and we are very pleased that they have arrived in person to take over.





The home is at the village where our school is located so their children can attend our school, which we are very happy about. We are grateful that God called a family to help at the missionfield. Matthew 9:37 says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." We look forward to working with this family and believe that we can reach even further out to those living in poverty.

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## Pudde

**With Pudde and her children everything is fine. They experienced God's intervention concerning Pudde's last surgery. She says she feels well and has no pains.**

She is gaining weight, which must be a good sign after all that she has been through. She has recovered quickly after the surgery and is back in full swing. She has really experienced how God has healed her and is so excited to be declared completely well. We followed her through the whole process and can testify that she is well.

Unfortunately we have still not found any water. They have encountered a rocky ground and must use dy-

namite to get through. This delays work a lot and we need to patiently wait for God, believing in a miracle that we will soon find water.

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## The Bjerre family

**Rebekka, who now lives in Denmark and who is attending her second year at IBG, Ikast, has been back here for a 7 weeks summer vacation. It was wonderful to have her home.**

But poor girl, it was tough to get back to Denmark. Fortunately, she has some incredible foster parents who take good care of her. She is very happy about the church in Herning and enjoys fellowship with the young people there.

Per has been away to Serengeti for almost two weeks in order to erect three homemade windmills. Their job was to assist a newly built hotel. Since there is no electric current in miles around the people were pleased to get the windmills – and it is always windy out there. We hope that this is but the beginning for Per and that he will be able to sell many more.

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Mirjam helps us three days a week with different jobs, which we are grateful for. Her help is invaluable and we see how she is growing with the tasks. Sarah started her last school year in Tanzania. Time flies. We remember clearly when we sent out our own children to Denmark and now it is time for the grandchildren to go.

Torkild and I are doing really well and we thank the Lord that we are some of His instruments in bringing light to those that are in darkness and without hope.

**Thank you so much for all that you are for us.  
Remember, that without you we are nothing, but  
together we can reach the children.**

**Love,  
Torkild and Tabitha**

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Har du brug for mere information om dette, kan du kontakte ham på email:  
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