

Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

April 2025



Led by missionary couple Tabitha og Torkild Jensen stationed by Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission

Beloved friends





Visitors from Denmark

Just before Christmas we received a call from Denmark. It was Per asking if we would serve a cup of coffee at our porch on New Year's Day. We thought it was a joke but no! He and his daughter Sarah had tickets for Arusha and would soon be on their way. Mirjam was scheduled to arrive a week later along with three visitors from Svendborg, Susanne, John, and Ole.

What an incredible start of the new year for Torkild and me. Per had not been around since they moved back to Denmark four years before. He immediately set out repairing two motor bikes because he and Sarah



had planned a father-daughter-trip in the bush during the week before Mirjam arrived. They had a tremendous time. It was so great for Per to be back and on a safari and remembering all the years they had in Tanzania.

The same day we welcomed a family from Bornholm, Denmark: Mette and Noah and their children – a beautiful family filled with energy. They came along to our school and they taught, played music and gave balloons to the children. The students were excited!

Afterwards we went to the orphanage led by John and Rosabella. They served coffee, sodapops and cake. Soon our friends were playing with the kids making face





paint and blowing up long balloons – making animals and different figures. It was an unforgettable day to all.

Mirjam arrived with the visitors from Svendborg and together with the other family they went with Torkild on a crusade. It was an eye opener for them to see the children in the meetings and to experience what is like to be a missionary, to live in an African guesthouse, to experience poverty and to meet the locals in the village.





Avoid hunger through sustainable food production

Some time ago John and Susanne Madsen started a project here called "Farming Project Tanzania". Four women from the Masai tribe close to Arusha have been trained growing vegetables and banana trees. They were eager to visit these women and to see their fields being ripe with many vegetables. The intention is that these women do seminars to other women in the Masai region and for them to learn to grow their own vegetables. There is a great need for this training. The Masais need vitamins and a more varied nutrition. We are excited about the project and so are John and Susanne. Several seminars have been held and more are being planned. The Masais are very interested in this.

First priority

Our first priority is still the children's crusades. They are really worth doing. We got it confirmed in one of the last crusades where many children and adults participated. The children were so excited because they had never seen anything like it. The next day the site was full of people. Suddenly there was a rush of a wind and the young people ran to get a hold of the poles with the loudspeakers. When the wind had calmed down the team hurried to pack the gear because big, black clouds had appeared. They had just gotten the last things into the car and the trailer when the rain poured down. All were sad because the meeting was cancelled.

We prayed for the Lord to send us nice weather so we could do the last three days. God heard our prayer.

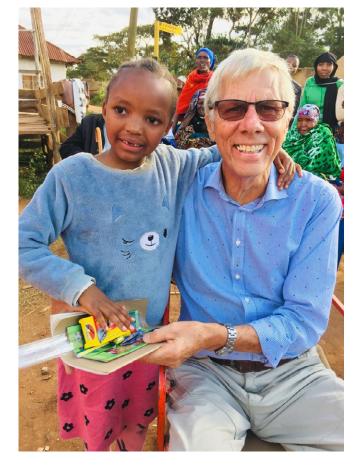
An amazing experience

The crusade site was in a school soccer field. One of the teachers that was a Christian came and said hello. He asked if he could address the children from the platform. The children clapped and cheered when they saw him coming. He said that he encouraged everyone to receive Jesus. He told them that when he was a little boy in 2nd grade we had a crusade in his village. He had never before seen a mzungu (a white man – referring to Torkild). "As a small boy I decided to receive Jesus – and look, I still love Jesus. He takes care of me every day!" I am sure Torkild was very moved to hear the testimony of this young teacher. Such incidents confirm to us how important it is to preach the word of God to the children.















Nyt fra Mirjam



Dear Friends

I want to tell you about the wonderful experience it was to have my beloved Per with me back in Tanzania. For the first time in four years we were there again together. It was wonderful! We saw old friends, faithful co-workers, and Per went with me to my dear Masais. Many were excited to see Per again. He got almost a royal reception. It was an amazing time that also brought healing where there had been deep wounds.

Also Per went with me to three new regions, where we distributed aid to 100 people sick with aids.

Per prayed that the food might be a blessing to the people and that they might receive strength form the Lord. He also helped distribute the food.

Per realized that he is NOT going back to Tanzania to work, but he is now in Denmark. The amazing thing is that he has set me free to continue what I do here. He saw how much I flourish helping the weak and vulnerable, women and children. It is amazing that people give each other such freedom. It means so much to me.

Together we also went to a mission conference. It was lovely to be together like this again.

We had Japhet Jackson in an medical examination. My Dad ran into him at a crusade and he called me, "Mirjam! I met a small boy that cannot use his arm. It is so sad. Do you think you can help him?" I said that I would give it a try. We now have him in the hospital for a first examination. The arm had been broken and had not healed correctly, it was locked and stuck. The doctors say that they have to break it again and put it back together. In FAITH I agreed to help him. I wonder if there is anyone reading this, who is able to help? If Japhet gets this surgery he will be able to use his arm again.

Thank you for remembering us in prayer. Please also pray for the many people we are in touch with that they may truly meet Jesus so that he can change their lives inside out.

May God bless you richly, Per and Mirjam



You may do it the following way:

Transfer to IBAN account no. DK7097120741793075
Account name: Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission
Swift code: VEHODK22 Bank name: Vestjysk Bank,
marked "Bjerre's Mission".

Please write JAPHET in the comments.

A heartwarming experience

We just returned from another crusade in the mountainous area at Lushoto. On the day of arrival it was raining and Torkild worried because everything was arranged and the meetings are open air so we depend on dry weather. A neighbor where we stayed in the village was a Christian and a fine lady. Torkild talked a lot to her – also about the weather. At one point she said, "Torkild, don't worry about the weather. Jesus will give us beautiful weather every afternoon. The rain will come after the crusade."

Sunday afternoon during the last meeting big, black clouds appeared, but we did the meeting. Then everything was packed away ready to leave the next morning. Believe it or not, just as we closed the trailer the rained poured down and it went on for several hours. As we returned to the house where we stayed, the lady came with a big smile saying, "Always remember: God backs up his word!"

Preparing for the next crusade

We are full swing preparing for the next crusade. Our planner went to the village to meet with the pastor. The two of them were to plan all practical things connected with the crusade. During the process the pastor told him: "You don't have to tell me about Torkild and the ministry. As a small boy I was in his children's crusade and clearly remembered all that was taught. I grew up in a Muslim family. But during the crusade I decided to become a Christian and later on I was in Bible school – and now I am a pastor here! I look forward to your visit and for you to preach the gospel to the children!"

We are just puzzle pieces in the God's large puzzle game and we want to obey Him so that the puzzle may be finished. "

Torkild, don't worry about the weather.
Jesus will give us beautiful weather every afternoon.





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Neema

Neema is 22 years old. Her mother died some years ago and her father left the family when she was a small girl. After we got to know her we quickly found out that she had a big heart for children. Also she was a good singer and part of our gospel choir in all crusades. She has now been with us for two year and loves being with us.

Neema would like to become a hairdresser and that is a good idea since it would get her an extra salary. We pay her just a small fee for helping out in our ministry. Maybe some of you would like to help Neema? She is a faithful girl, however from a very heavy background. She owns hardly anything. The hairdresser school is approx. 5,000 DKK. The education lasts nine months.

If you would like to give Neema an education please earmark the amount "Neema".

Love from your missionaries in Tanzania Torkild and Tabitha



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