



Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

December 2015



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



Dear beloved and faithful friends,

We often talk about how privileged we are having a circle of friends like you, who stand with us in our ministry and also show willingness to support it financially. Many have faithfully supported the work for nearly 28 years. Thank you, dear friends for your heart to make a difference for the many needy people we encounter on a daily basis.

In late October, we sent out a cry concerning a female pastor, Lightness, who was beaten so badly by her husband that she had to be rushed to the emergency department of the hospital. Her husband, who previously was a Christian, has for several years now not shown

much interest in his wife or in their two children. He moved out of the house and now lives in Dar es Salaam, which is 700 kilometers away. He turns up now and then, but only when in need of money. So he tries to get some of the little money that Lightness makes working as a tailor. She works really hard to make a living and is also pastoring a church that she started from scratch.

The man often told his wife that someday he would come and kill her. He seemed to be full of jealousy and resentment toward her because of what she does for the church. Before leaving her, the family used to live in Arusha for several years. When he left, she moved to a village and planted a small pioneer church there. In the course of a few years, the congregation grew from three to sixty members.

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Husk at mærke indbetalingen MBU.TZ



One night, the husband suddenly came to her house. She was terrified when she saw that he had a hammer in one hand and a long knife in the other. He got the children locked up in a room and then forced her to lie down on the floor and began banging her head with the hammer. After a while, she was lying unconscious in a pool of blood. The husband probably assumed she had died and disappeared.

Neighbours rushed her to the police station to report the attack and then got her into a private hospital in Arusha – a ride of 120 kilometers. We were notified when the doctor had determined that her mouth and upper jaw was crushed. The hospital would not admit her until a large deposit had been paid. She had no money.

Since we had known Lightness for many years, we immediately decided to help and got her hospitalized. The upper jaw was crushed in several places. However, the case called for specialist, which meant that we had to fly her to Dar es Salaam where they took care of her right away.

At this moment she has had surgery and steel has been put into the jaw so that it may join again. Also, she has been sown at different places along the upper



lip. She cannot eat normally yet, so she is being spoon fed. Lightness has no relatives in Dar es Salaam so we were very fortunate that a woman from Wilson's church (Wilson is a on our crusade team and lives in Dar es Salaam, pastoring a church there) offered to take care of her while in hospital. She has now been released after three weeks. This woman opened her home to Lightness and really spoils her that she may regain her energy. She has to come back for check-ups so it is important that she stays in the city since it is too exhausting to travel back and forth (a 14 hour bus ride each way). The doctors believe she will be able to celebrate Christmas with her children at home.

We are full of gratitude to you, our dear friends who made it financially possible to pay for the flight, hospitalization, specialist, medicine, etc. We have no words to express our gratitude, but from the depth of our hearts we say a million thank you. Recently we were on the phone to Lightness and she asked us to pass on her gratitude in this difficult situation. May the Lord bless you and reward you abundantly.



Childrens' crusade at the village of Magara



Tuesday morning when Torkild and the team got ready to set out for the next crusade, the rain was pouring down. After many months of drought we really needed the rain so we would not pray for dry weather. The team decided to go ahead and leave and it was raining almost all the way to their destination and during the night in the village where the crusade was to take place the following day. The next morning was the time for the platform to be set up and then to start the crusade in the afternoon. Fortunately, the rain had stopped, but there were still some dark clouds on the horizon and it looked like the rain was going to continue. But the team managed to get the platform up in dry weather.

In the afternoon it was very dark, but they began the meeting and the weather remained dry, praise the Lord. They began showing their film. The clouds were imminent and during the film presentation there was lightning and thunder all around them. But lo and behold, the large cloud divided into two and no rain fell on the crowd and they were able to show the film. When they returned back to the guesthouse afterwards, Torkild called me and explained what had happened. While we were still talking the rain began to pour down again and I was able to hear the sound on the phone. It turned out to be an incredible week and we are absolutely sure that the Lord held back the rain during the daytime and allowed it to pour during the nighttime, so that we were able to hold all the meetings and show the film.

The pastor told us that many children were sorry because their village had been divided into two by a river running through the town. There is no bridge across the river and it is very dangerous to cross it as the water comes with great force from the mountains. Normally people jump from stone to stone when passing the river. But on the Friday there was sunshine during the whole day and this continued during the rest of the week so the water sank and the children could cross the river again.

Children came out in great numbers and followed the teaching with great interest. Their eyes were big when they first saw the puppy "Kadogo". He became a very big draw – not only with the children, but the adults also enjoyed him.

Saturday morning the pastor came out very early and he was bursting with joy. He had something he wanted to share with us all. He said that many people had come to his house or to the church because they wanted to become Christians and to live a new life with Jesus as their Lord.

He said, "Never ever has our village seen such a revival and a hunger for the word of God." Many children and adults received the gospel during that week – blessed be the Lord! Our vision is to reach children and youth with the word of God. We thank Him that he continues to give us good health so that we can do the long trips and endure the primitive conditions with no electricity or running water in the villages.



The man with tuberculosis

One Friday I, Tabitha went out to the school to teach Christianity to the children. Before I could get out of the car, a man rushed up to me full of joy. He took my hands and said with a big smile, "Mama, I am so happy! The doctor said I am healed and that there are no more spots on my lungs. I can soon start working again. God has worked a mighty miracle for me. We all believed that this awful disease, tuberculosis, could not be healed, but I thank God that he sent you at the right time. You prayed for me and gave me money for doctor, hospital, medicine, and food. I was not able to work because of the disease and my wife had to stay home to care for me so we had no more money." What touched me so much about him was that he kept giving God the glory. Now he has gotten a job at the school three hours a day and preparing for a full day of work. Thank you for your support for this man also.

The school

As you can see at the picture, we are in full swing building another two classrooms for the school. One will be ready for January 2016. We are well underway, but still need to put in the window glass and to get the walls and ceilings painted. It has been very difficult to collect money for this construction and unfortunately we have a minus in the budget. Now we concentrate on finishing one classroom. We are grateful to each and every one of you who have given to the construction, which has enabled us to get this far.



Visitors

We just had lovely company of Tina from the organization "Børn Sulter" ("Hungry Children"), Mariager. She came with a good friend of hers, Annette, from Copenhagen. "Børn Sulter" has begun two kindergartens of which one is at Tanga and the other one in Arusha. Both schools are in very poor areas of slum.

"Børn Sulter" just built two classrooms for the children in Tanga and Tina was here to initiate them. When Tina is visiting she wants to see some of the poorest homes of the children. When visiting these homes Tina is standing with a pad and a pen writing and saying, "They need new beds and mattresses so they can sleep well and a mosquito net. These three things are important." Usually, they get an extra money donation for food and clothes. The homes that receive these visits experience in a very practical way the love and care of their Father God and they get so thrilled and excited.





“Børn Sulter” support two orphanages with children from aids-stricken families. Most of the children have no parents, but the foster parents at the homes give the children a safe and loving upbringing.

Annette came out to visit her two heart children. It was a great experience for her and for the children. The pic-



ture shows her with one of them, a Masai boy and his father. The boy just completed 7th class and did so well that he is able to go on to secondary school (8th class). The other child is a girl who is already in high school. She is very gifted and gets top marks. Her dream is to become a heart doctor, which is very much needed in Tanzania. Of course it is just a dream, but dreams often become true, and she really works hard to get great marks.

Christmas again



Christmas is around the corner, but it is difficult to get in the right Christmas mood when the sun is shining and temperatures are 30 degrees C every day. We realize that we can still remember and celebrate that Jesus was born and that he is shining his love in our hearts. And this is the reason why we lit the candles on the Christmas tree, that we sing the happy Christmas songs and that we read the Christmas story. So even here in hot Tanzania we can celebrate a real Christmas.

Bladet videresendes ikke, men tilbagesendes med oplysning om adresseændring

We are so fortunate that Dorrit and our two grandchildren, Rebekka and Sarah (Per and Mirjam's girls) come to visit us over Christmas. We are all invited to Per and Mirjam's house on Christmas Eve and we very much look forward to that.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a very blessed New Year.

Thank you for all the things we have shared during the year that has almost passed. Thank you for your prayers and your care that makes us feel that we are never alone. Also, thank you for your mails and for your letters with many encouraging words – they warm our hearts.



**Love from,
Torkild and Tabitha**



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SKAT kræver, at vi som beløbsmodtager skal indberette CPR-nr. på alle indbetalte beløb for den enkelte giver.

Dermed vil beløbet automatisk fremgå af det kommende års selvangivelse. For at opnå fradrag skal missionskassereren derfor have dit CPR-nr. og navn.

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

ymission@stofanet.dk, pr. tlf. 75353058 eller pr. brev til Willy Højgård, Søndermarksvej 307, 7190 Billund.

I 2015 kan man få fradrag i henhold til skattelovens § 8a på op til kr. 15.000,00, hvis man har givet kr. 15.000,00.