



# Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

December 2016 



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





The Bible says, "Teach me to do your will for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground." (Psalm 143:10)

This is our daily prayer because we see so many needy people every day. Oftentimes it is difficult to know exactly where to help – and where not to.

At the moment we are in quite a difficult situation and are asking the Lord to help us. Our very good friend, pastor Naiman whom we have known for many years, has a school for slum children. The school is right now in a very challenging financial situation. The board does not know where to put their 6th class students in January when the new school year begins.

If they do not manage to build another classroom it will be necessary to send the students home. This will be a

disaster for the children who are from a very disadvantaged neighborhood. The children from the slum are really poor. Most of them live in mud-built huts with dirt floors and have only one or two small rooms for a whole family. Their living conditions are really bad.

Our heart goes out to these very vulnerable children and we therefore send out a cry for help hoping that it will be possible for us to do something so that the children may continue their schooling.

It is soon Christmas and some of you just might want to bless our ministry with a gift for the construction. We have our own construction team ready to start building as soon as we have enough funds for the construction. We still need about 25,000 DKK in order to finish the classroom.

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If you would like to help build the classroom please earmark the money “**MBU TZ School Slum**” and pay to the IBAN account no. and SWIFT mentioned on page 2. We will be so relieved if we can do this construction.

An old Danish hymn goes: “When we all do our share, each burden becomes light and we shall succeed!” This is similar to the proverb, “Many little things add up to a lot!”

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## The pastor who lost his wife



We received some dreadful news recently. You may remember the stricken pastor’s family whom we mentioned in an earlier newsletter. We wrote how their house had burnt down and two children were lost in the fire. They had three children, but only the son Ebenezer survived because he managed to run away and hide in the church. It was a very difficult time for the parents after they lost their two children to the fire.

In the meantime they had a little girl whose name is Tabitha. In our last newsletter we wrote about the home that we built for them and that they had moved in. It should provide for a better future for them. They were very happy for their new home and considered it a brand new start in their life.

The wife was pregnant, but unfortunately she aborted in 5th month and shortly after she got very sick and was rushed to the hospital. The doctors said she had a serious infection in her abdomen and they were not able to save her life.



The father came to us sharing all his sorrows and frustrations about suddenly being alone. In tears he told us how he had said goodbye to his darling wife. He told us how he had been at her bedside and she had taken his hand and whispered: “Please promise me to take good care of little Tabitha.”

He asked us to take little Tabitha into the Love Home. She needed to be in a safe home and to be with her older brother, Ebenezer who has now been in our school for about two years. We very much wanted to help the little girl and the father, so we agreed.

The father is going through a very difficult time. He said, “My wife was running the home. She was my backbone. I am nothing without her.”

We want to do all we can so that the little girl may have a good life and experience the love of God. The children in the home have all received her really well.





## Crusade



There was a lot of resistance on the first day of the children's crusade – especially from the Anglican church. They did what they could to prevent the children from being in the meetings. Their small church was next to the meeting site and they had arranged a seminar in the church at the same time and they used very loud music. It bothered us a lot when we taught the children.

The church who had invited us began to pray that God would change the situation.

The Lord heard their prayers. The Anglican church stopped playing loud music and instead they joined the meetings and the film presentation. One afternoon their choir even got up and sang – what a powerful change. They excused very much that they had disturbed us.

The pastor of the Pentecostal church who had invited us said it was the first time he had seen all denominations working together and with such a strong unity. Yes, our God is a mighty God and He works miracles even when it comes to uniting His people.

About 15 persons were led in the sinner's prayer during



this week, which is a large number to us. Glory to God. A great many number of children experienced a personal encounter with the Lord.

This crusade was altogether very different. We all became very aware that to God nothing is impossible. The positive atmosphere at the meetings caused many children and adults to attend this weekend.

Torkild and the team stayed with the pastor and that was quite an experience. The pastor is raising pigs and they went about unattended all day, but they always returned home before dark to get into the pen.





## The little girl at the crusade



Little Christina age about 10 years was every day taken to the children's meetings on a bicycle. Christina is disabled and we felt so sorry for her. She was born with very crooked legs and is able to take just a few steps at a time. She gets help from her older brother who carries her to and from school every single day.

Saturday was the special day to Torkild. The two biggest pigs were to be sold and transported on a motorbike to a larger city to be slaughtered. It sure was different than when Torkild used to take pigs to the slaughter house. Have a look at how they place the pigs on the carrier. Off they go about 12 miles to the nearest slaughter house.

Shortly after this crusade we happened to have the visit of a lady from Australia who needed a place to stay for a few days. We opened our home to her and experienced once again that when we show hospitality to a stranger we may meet an angel from God.

It appeared that this lady worked with an organization in Australia who helps handicapped children. She had come to Arusha to deliver a girl with the same problem as little Christina. This girl had been to a hospital in Australia to get surgery there. The surgery was successful and after some time of rehabilitation she was now totally healed.

We found a picture of Christina and asked if it would be possible to help her. She took a quick glance at the picture and said, "Yes, it is." Right now we are working full speed to get the girl ready for Australia where she will have surgery and after that be able to walk normally. It is a charity organization that helps people with handicaps in developing countries. God is not only good – He is fantastic.





## Visit from Børn Sulter (Hungering Children)



We have had a wonderful visit of Tina Anhøj from "Børn Sulter", Mariager.

Tina held a seminar at our school teaching children's rights, which is very much a taboo subject here. She had invited orphanage workers and all the teachers at our school. Participants were 90 persons in all who were accommodated in our school, and our kitchen personnel served every one.

We praise God for this incredible seminar. Most participants expressed their gratitude of being better equipped to give a loving care to the children and to show them respect. It is not a rare thing that children get a spanking of a teacher or another adult.

The teaching stressed the importance of nurturing children from the time they are born and how to understand them, how to speak to them in a loving way – and not to hit them or to despise them. Many great subjects were being taught. All expressed how they had bene-

fitted from the lectures and that they were going to put it into practice. They asked Tina to come back and teach them some more.

Børn Sulter runs an orphanage with 22 children close to our school. They support three nursery classes financially in Tanzania. Likewise they support extremely poor children with schooling and help single parents with small projects increasing their opportunities to make money for their daily living. They reach out to the weakest in Tanzania and we are happy to work with them.



Bladet videresendes ikke, men tilbagesendes med oplysning om adresseændring

## Church consecrations

Since the last newsletter, Torkild and Friedhelm have been away on two trips with a total of 11 church consecrations. Amazing to see how God helps, opens up doors and provide finances for the completion of the many halfway finished churches. We are not the ones collecting these funds, but our German colleague, Friedhelm is.



There is joy and excitement among the Christians every time we consecrate a church.

With these lines we want tell you from the depth of our hearts a thousand times THANK YOU for your faithful support of this ministry. It gives us the opportunity to reach out and relieve the needs among some of the poorest in this country.

Our youngest daughter, Dorrit will be coming out here to celebrate Christmas with us this year, what a blessing. Per and Mirjam will go to Denmark to be with their girls there.

You as our faithful supporters form the basis for our ministry. Thank you so very much to each of you for your love and care. We love you so much.

And we wish you a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless our work in the New Year 2017 so that we may be a blessing to many people.

**With love from your co-labourers in Tanzania,  
Torkild and Tabitha**

**After 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 we no longer accept cheques.**

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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@betania.dk, pr. tlf. 51913058 eller pr. brev til Betania Kirkecenter, att. Willy Højgård, Blåhøj Stationsvej 27, Blåhøj, 7330 Brande

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