



Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

September 2019 



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



Othello's new kidney

We are often confronted with challenges that remind us of the merciful Samaritan. This Bible story was once again a great example to us when one day we were contacted by a pastor friend in Tanga. He told us that a little boy in his family was very ill. The boy had a sudden failure in both of his kidneys. There was a need for financial help to rescue his life.

The parents are very poor and had no means to pay for surgery. We decided to help little 9-year-old Othello.

He was rushed to a hospital where the doctors immediately put him on dialysis. If the boy were to survive he would need a new kidney fast. The boy's mother decided to donate one kidney to her son.

Mother and son went through many examinations to find out if the kidney would be suited. Thank God that all examinations showed it would be possible.

Here in Tanzania doctors cannot do such a large surgery. Therefore, a skilled surgeon from India came to do the transplantation.

On Saturday 27 July, mother and son had surgery. Both surgeries were successful and Othello's little body accepted the new kidney from his mother.

When we received this great piece of news, we shed tears of joy. How we praised God for His goodness. Thank you, all of you who remembered this family in your prayers. The Lord had his hand on the hands of the doctors and He gave them wisdom.

News of the surgery of this boy has spread around Tanzania. A week later, several TV companies came to do an interview with the boy and his mother. The boy said, "I am doing really well and I am so grateful to God that He helped me. Those of you who need a new kidney: Don't be afraid. Now I can eat



and I am gaining strength. My whole body and legs were swollen before the surgery, but now my body is back to normal. If you donate a kidney to someone who needs it you are rescuing that person's life."

Words cannot express our gratitude to all of you who supported financially for this surgery. May Jesus bless and reward you a hundredfold. Once again we experienced how you back us up whenever we ask for help.

The pastor with one leg

A special thank you for enabling us to buy a three wheeled motorbike to the handicapped pastor. A few days after we sent out the cry for help we received the full amount. We immediately bought such a bike, had it registered and got it ready to use.



We believe the pastor must have felt like one of the happiest people on earth. When he came to get the motorbike and he mounted it, he lifted both crutches to the sky and prayed a very touching prayer thanking God for His goodness. He asked the Lord to bless those that had given him this gift. It was a holy moment to all of us.

Bagamoyo

The town of Bagamoyo is at the coast and is known to many due to past times slave trade.

A couple of years ago, the Pentecostal church of Bagamoyo invited us for a children's crusade. This was quite a challenge as the town was very Muslim dominated. But in spite of this, we clearly saw how the Lord was with us.

Recently, the pastor called us and said that during the time since this crusade they have led several people to the Lord and have baptized one after the other.

It is great joy and encouragement to hear that preaching the Word of God to children is not in vain. It reaches into their hearts – and into the adults too.



Greetings from Mirjam

Silver wedding

In July, Per and I celebrated our silver wedding here in Arusha with friends and family from Denmark. How wonderful it was to celebrate this day in a traditionally Danish way with a morning assembly in the yard, lunch and a large dinner in the evening where our local friends joined.



A few days later, we held an “after silver wedding” for our co-workers in our yard. That too was a wonderful day with lots of fun and games.

The most special about it all was probably when we took our guests to Masai land to show them where we work. The Masais had asked us to do a small party, but we did not realize that they wanted Per and I to be dressed up like Masais. According to their tradition, Per and the Masai men arrived to my cabin to get me, and then the women followed me to the waiting men. In genuine Masai style, we were accompanied to the party. And we looked pretty much like a king and a queen! We will never forget this majestic party. Being celebrated like this seemed more like a wedding than a silver wedding. So now we are real Masais.

The parties have become unforgettable memories to us. We are so happy it was possible to celebrate our silver wedding here in Tanzania and sharing with all our guests an insight in



our life and our work. Thank you all who went the long distance to Tanzania to celebrate this day with us. Also, thank you all who sent greetings, gifts and warm words and thoughts. It meant a lot to us.

Emergency relief

Now that we are back to a normal way of life, we have received a lot of reports from the region about hunger and applications for help concerning maize and baby food. If anyone would like to financially support distribute food to the most stricken areas you may do so in the following way:



Account name:
 Betania Kirkecenters
 Ydremission IBAN no.
 DK7097120741793075
 Bank name: Den Jyske
 Sparekasse, Borgergade 3,
 7200 Grindstedt Swift/BIC
 code: JYSPDK2G - and mark
 it "Bjerre Mission – MAIZE or
 BABY FOOD".

**Love,
 Per and Mirjam**



The children's crusade in Ulaya

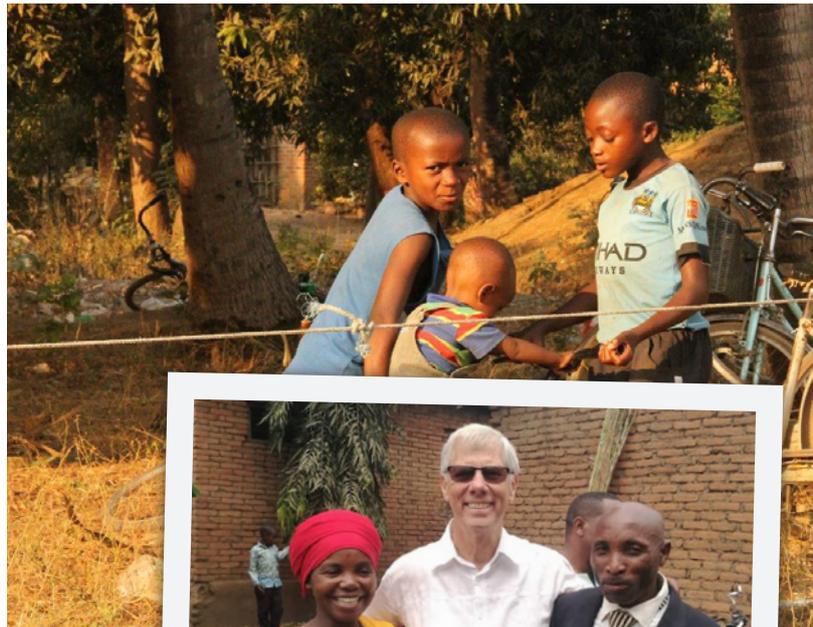
This crusade was very special to Torkild because our grandchildren Sarah and Rebekka and Rebekka's boyfriend wanted to join. The children had never before been in a crusade and it was their first time to experience Grand Dad on a platform preaching a message to children.

On the first night there was a sudden confusion during the film as someone called out, "A snake!"

This got the children to run away in terror. We had had such a thing happen before. There IS not a snake, but this is how the enemy attacks and disturbs. It took some time to calm the children so we could get on with the film.

It was a blessed children's crusade with a large attendance of children and adults.





A heartwarming story

One day during the crusade a pastor came up to Torkild and told his story, "In 1992 when I was a boy I was in one of your crusades and I received Jesus as my Savior. When I became an adult I felt the call of God to become a pastor. So now I am a pastor in a town close by and I came here to say hello." This was SO good to hear. It is evidence that there is good fruit from going to villages preaching the gospel to the children. It was such an encouragement and also a confirmation that the word of God does not return void. The pastor came from a village in the Singida region and is now a pastor in the area where we were visiting.

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7th grade graduation

We just had a wonderful Graduation for 7th grade at our school. The fattened calf was killed and there was food for all, young and old.

20 7th grade students graduated, looking very nice in the clothes especially made for this day.

The other classes sang and made skits to celebrate their schoolmates before passing on to Secondary School.

In this pictures you see the children doing skits and in the background the container where our volunteers live. To the left is a staircase that leads to the new dining room, which is now ready to use. Thank you all who supported the project "Dining Room". Now all students can eat at the same time without having to wait for a vacant seat.

**Love from
your missionaries in Tanzania,
Torkild and Tabitha**

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