



# Mission among children and youth in Tanzania



*We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New and Blessed New Year.*

*Thank you so much for all that we have been sharing in this past year. Also a big thank you for all of your letters and emails. It is such an encouragement to know that we are not alone, but that we have a lot of faithful friends.*





## Christmas 2009

In Tanzania it is at present hot summer with temperatures of 30-35 degrees Centigrade. For that reason it is hard for those of us from the cold north to realize that Christmas is just round the corner. Christmas is equal to snow and cold temperatures to us. So therefore we have to work hard if we want to get in the right Christmas mood. We play all the lovely Christmas carols. Especially Mirjam

begin really early – in the middle of November – because as she says, “.. time flies so quickly. All of a sudden Christmas is all over again.” This year we will celebrate Christmas with Mirjam, Per and their girls because they will get company from Denmark. So Torkild and I will not be celebrating Christmas by ourselves this year.

To many, Christmas is a feast of Santa Claus. But fortunately Christmas is a lot more than that. Christmas is a very meaningful celebration where we remind ourselves that Jesus was born. In a very special way HE is brought to our remembrance.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New and Blessed New Year.

Thank you so much for all that we have been sharing in this past year. Also a big thank you for all of your letters and emails. It is such an encouragement to know that we are not alone, but that we have a lot of faithful friends.

We feel that you have a lot of confidence in what we do and therefore faithfully are supporting our ministry. It has really moved our heart this year where many here are suffering because of hunger how you are standing with us to help those. May Jesus Christ richly bless you for all your love.

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## The emergency aid

The emergency aid is taking a lot of time and effort of our everyday life at the moment. It is always so tough to see people starving, but the toughest is to see the children going to bed hungry. Therefore it has been a great joy to us that because of your support it has been possible to buy huge portions of maize even before the prices went up skyhigh.

So far, we have been distributing 40 tonnes of maize. We started at several places in August this year and will continue to help at the worst places until next harvest. Please pray with us for rain so that the result will be a plentiful harvest.



We have had many delightful visits during this autumn. Our mission administrator Willy and his wife were here with a group of 11. This group helped distribute maize among the Maasais and was deeply moved by doing so. Several were not able to sleep at night by the thought of what they had seen. One decided to get outside in the dark to ask Jesus for rain.

The animals are dying like flies in Tanzania. There is no grass left and at many places the waterholes have dried out. During the trip to the Maasai land they saw a cow drop dead just before their eyes and many dead animals and skeletons were lying around. A scary experience and hard to forget.





The stench from all of these dead animals is really bad. The air is full of it and with the high temperatures a risk of developing serious illnesses is very real. They have begun burning the corpses to avoid the spreading of diseases.

Unfortunately sickness has arisen among the cattle already, which makes them unsuited as food for human beings. This means that people have a hard time getting money for food by selling their cattle. The despondency of the people is clearly seen as well as their desperate attempts to get money for food.

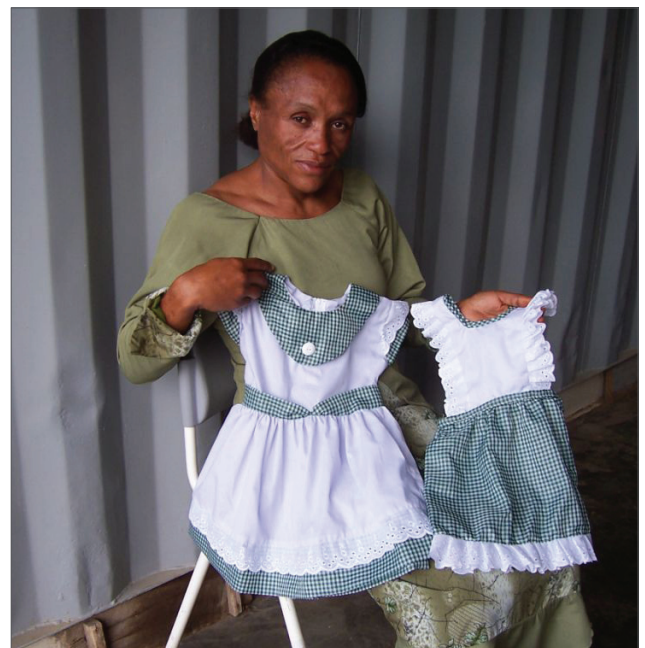
In the middle of this serious situation there was rejoicing as Mirjam emerged in the Maasai land with 5 tonnes of maize for distribution.

We have been handing out food at several places. A very exposed group are the AIDS stricken who already are weak physically. They need to eat on



a regular basis as their condition is critical. Most AIDS patients are not able to have an ordinary job and as a result their earnings are minimal. At the same time food prices is going up rapidly and their chances of buying food is getting even worse.

In Naiman's church at the slum district a group of AIDS stricken get together on a regular basis. This group has a sewing course. We helped buy two rolls of fabric in order to get things going. For the time being they are sewing small dresses that hopefully they will be able to sell for Christmas in order that they may buy more fabric and get a small profit to improve their living conditions. This group has received maize from us as well.



We soon discovered that the eyesight of several of them was so bad that they could not read, much less spot the hole in the needles. Due to their illness many need reading glasses at an early age. Several of our guests who went to see this group realized their need and as they returned to Denmark bought a lot of reading glasses with different lenses and sent them out with our next group of visitors.





Getting a pair of glasses that matched was such an experience. A lady jumped and danced after having tried a few of them and shouted, "I see clearly, I can read!" – she was so excited.

An older Muslim man also got a pair and was reading aloud to all of us from the Bible. He would not stop again because of his excitement to be able to read the small letters.

Everyday experiences like that give us a lot of joy. It is a giant blessing to be able to give and to help others. Such a contentment.



In co-operation with a private hospital we are helping a different AIDS group consisting of 35 women and children. Many of the children are very young and several have babies. It is very sad to visit these young mothers because unfortuna-



tely their small children are infected with HIV. In the group there are also some older children who lost their parents to AIDS. We were distributing 2.5 tonnes of maize to this group to make sure that they had enough food to take them through the Christmas season.



## The new school campus

A big thank you to those of you who helped financially in order that we could buy the school campus for the slum children. The plot has been paid for and that is a miracle from God. At the moment we are working hard to finish the deed and as soon as that is available we will begin the first stage which is building the nursery school.

We would like to construct a building with three classrooms for the nursery school. In Tanzania there are three years of nursery school before 1st class.



## Our school

Concerning our present school which we built from nursery school and up to 7<sup>th</sup> class it has now been handed over to African leadership with



Wilfred as the daily leader. Since the school also has a number of paying students it is doing well financially. This gives us a chance to start a new school for children in the slum of Arusha.

We will of course continue to support the “Heart Children” which we already support at the school.



## The children campaigns

We hold children campaigns on a regular basis. At one of the last campaign something wonderful happened. During one of the meetings a young female witch doctor came up to the platform wanting us to pray for her. She wanted to become a Christian and begin believing in Jesus Christ.



After her decision to be a Christian she came back the following day to deliver her sorcery items, which she wanted to burn (she had not been encouraged to do this). There was no doubt in her mind. She had given her life to Jesus and now she wanted to be a free woman, ready to begin a new life with Him.

Imagine, this former sorceress came on the following Sunday for the service to give her testimony. We gave her a Bible and said that from now on





she was to absorb herself in the Word of God instead of in witchcraft. During that week, another 11 persons decided to surrender their lives to Christ.

The church that we went to had only 20 members so this campaign was a great blessing to them. The pastor was so grateful for all that had happened during the week that he was moved to tears during that Sunday morning.



He told us that during the children's campaign an imam had been casting evil spirits on the congregation and on the platform in order to disturb the meetings. Our visitors also experienced this situation. Fortunately, the imam did not succeed because we are covered by the precious blood of Christ. Thank you, our dear friends for your daily



prayers. It is of great importance especially when working among the Muslims where there is a frequent spiritual resistance.

After a campaign, the local churches oftentimes manage to start nursery classes for the village children. During the campaigns we encourage parents to send their children to school. The best thing parents can do is to give their children a good education.



## Computers for school use

At this moment a very good friend of us by the name of Michael is visiting us. He is the one providing us with all the fine, second-hand computers. Then he comes out here and teaches the Africans how to use them. He just launched a computer course in our garage and is a great help.

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He devoted 6 weeks of his vacation to lend us a helping hand. We have been very grateful for that.

Thank you a million for all that we have shared during this past year. We look forward to a new and exciting year with new challenges and opportunities of how to help spread light and improve the conditions of the children.

Thank you also for your willingness to keep standing with us. We see time and time again that when we all help lift the burden, the burden is not near as heavy. It is the will of God that we help each other. No one is able to work alone.

Much love from,  
Torkild and Tabitha



### Regler for skattekvitteringer

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 2009 kan man få fradrag i henhold til skattelovens § 8a på op til kr. 14.000,00, hvis man har givet kr. 14.500,00.