



Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

April 2022



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

Dear, faithful friends



Preschool class in Tanga

Torkild and Mirjam and the volunteers one day went to Tanga. They visited a preschool class that we support.

Mirjam had arranged with the class teachers that they prepared a party with some nice food with soda pops and gifts for all students.

This preschool class is very special since most of the students are from Muslim homes. It is awesome that these children are allowed to attend a Christian preschool, located on the church site.



It has been a joy and privilege to have Mirjam and two young volunteers – Amalia and Kathrina. It was some very active weeks when Mirjam was back here. Torkild joined her in her food distribution projects.

Drought catastrophe

Unfortunately it has been a very dry season here. One of our former Masai guards told us that six of his cows had died and that the crops had dried away. It has been a catastrophe before our eyes. With him losing six cows we cannot even imagine how many died in the area.

He went on to say that he saw dead animals everywhere. There was an awful strength of dead animals everywhere.

Recently it rained a bit. Water is back in the lakes and the grass has begun to turn green. This means that the cattle can graze again and regain their strength.



Students at the Tumaini School got new uniforms. Beautiful!

The faithful janitor

After the party they went to see Hamza, the school janitor and guard.

We have known him and his wife for several years and it has become a tradition that we see them when in Tanga. He met us with the sad news that his dear wife had died in November. She had had some heart problems for quite some time.

A year earlier we also saw Hamza. Pictures are from our visit of last year and this year. His house was uninhabitable and the toilet useless. We felt so sorry for this faithful, aging man. Quickly we sent out a call for financial support so that we could help build him another house. In fact he had all bricks and roof plates already.

We are deeply grateful to those of you who sent your support for this and we have now begun building. We asked our pastor in Tanga to manage the money for the construction and we are happy that Hamza will soon be able to live well under more human conditions.



Dear friends

How time flies! Once again I have been back to supervise the work in Tanzania. I enjoyed the warm weather although the land is dusty and dry. The cold and dark winter in Denmark is not easy to get used to.

It was a super busy visit. The goal was to get as much done as possible. This time the trip went to a new area, the Hadzabe tribe.

At two locations, aid was distributed. They were very thankful when they received blankets, pots, corn and baby food. Such excitement among the people. But standing in a line and understanding how the distribution functioned was difficult.



This tribe is very uncivilized. Few of them had gone to school so many are illiterate. They are natural people and live in remote areas, hidden in the woods. It was difficult for them to understand that the nutritious flour was for the small children only. They are used to hunting and finding berries in the wood and to SHARE everything they find. We tried to explain to them how important it is that the smallest children get a good start in life so that diseases due to malnutrition are prevented.

One of the things that made the planning so difficult was the fact that several in the Hadzabe tribe smoke hash, the young as well as the older. This is a part of their culture and it seemed as natural to smoke a hash pipe as for us to drink a swig of coca cola.

With our western culture, this is so difficult to understand. But we must remember that we are visitors in their culture and on their domain. We are about building relations, not to point fingers and commanding them to change. But we believe that helping them in a very practical way will open them to the love of God.

Our local pastor and evangelist Zablon was with us. He appreciated our efforts very much. The visit gave him an opening into their culture and also a chance to tell them that what we do is because of God's love for all men. As he said: One cannot convince people about a loving God if they stay hungry and sick.

Thank you for standing with us in the ministry that God has given us. Many needs and tasks are waiting. In our own might we can do nothing, but with Jesus we will succeed. We appreciate every gift for the needy. Thank you!

**Love
Per and Mirjam**

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Children's crusade

We had a somewhat different children's crusade in a village near the coast south of Tanga. This village is very Muslim, which we came to experience. The week before we arrived, the Muslims had a week long campaign with known witch doctors from around Tanzania.

When the Muslims were aware that we would arrive with a children's crusade they decided to prolong their campaign for another week. We clearly sensed that they did this in an attempt to keep children and adults away from our crusade.

To our dismay, several of these witch doctors stayed in the same guesthouse as we did. We were shocked to see so many coming to the guesthouse. It was especially women with children seeking protection through having amulets hung around the neck. Most of those who came were apparently very poor. It was depressing to see how these poor people gave goats, chicken and money to buy protection. We know that witchcraft cannot protect against evil forces, but one thing is for sure: the witch doctors have big business going.

It became crystal clear to the team how important it is to preach the word of God. The Bible John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."



Jesus is awesome! Every day we experienced how God blessed the children's meetings and the films at night. The singing, the music and the word was sown in the hearts of those who listened. One day after the crusade three young Muslim women came up to the pastor and said, "We would love to accept this Jesus that you talk about. But can we go somewhere else to pray so that our leaders will not see us?" During the week seven adults gave their lives to Jesus. It may not sound like a lot, but we know that the word of God does not return void and at this place there was a breakthrough. We also lead several children in a prayer of salvation.

The church building was not impressive. It illustrated the poverty level of these people. But it was evident during the Sunday service that there was a genuine joy and worship and that moved our hearts.

The church was filled with children and adults at the service. A single mom sat on a rug with her triplets



Mødeplan for Tabitha og Torkild forår og sommer 2022



Dato	Tid	Sted	Kontaktperson
Søndag 24.04.2022	10:00	Kristent Center Midt-Vest, Struervej 80, 7500 Holstebro	Finn Aarestrup 4280 7925
Torsdag 28.04.2022	10:00	Seniorenne Bykirken Vejle Grejsdalsvej 16, 7100 Vejle	Niels Kristian Grove 4118 0293
Søndag 01.05.2022	10:00	Betania KirkeCenter Stationsvej 27, Blåhøj, 7330 Brande	Morten Patrzalek 6169 5963
Mandag 02.05.2022	14:00	Seniorgruppen Horsens Sverigesvej 29, 8700 Horsens	Susan Petersen 25475751
Onsdag 04.05.2022	11:30	Frokostmøde KKKC Drejervej 11-21, 2400 KBH. NV	Asbjørn Kristiansen 2277 7418
Torsdag 05.05.2022	10:30	Seniørerne Worsaaesvej 5 1972 Frederiksberg	Joel Raburn 4279 8969
Søndag 08.05.2022	16:00	Gospel Fellowship Frederiksberg Allé 9, 1621 KBH. V	Carina Cederbye 2215 2998
Søndag 15.05.2022	10:30	Pinsekirken Svendborg Svinget 2, Svendborg	John Madsen 2758 2665
Onsdag 18.05.2022	14:00	Onsdagscaféen i Herning Frikirke Møllegade 1B, 7400 Herning	Grethe Ernstrøm 2514 6805 / 9712 6805
Søndag 22.05.2022	10:30	Pinsekirken Thisted Tilstedvej 20, 7700 Thisted	Mikael Schlosser 2230 2036
Tirsdag 24.05.2022	14:00	Citykirken Aarhus Senior Klub, Viborgvej 173, 8210 Aarhus	Bergur Skovgaard 3138 5311
Onsdag 25.05.2022	10:00	Frokostgruppen Betania KirkeCenter Stationsvej 27, Blåhøj, 7330 Brande	Inge-Lise Jensen 2132 9938
Torsdag 02.06.2022	11:00	Classic Frokostmøde Aalborg	Carsten Jensen 2173 2206
Søndag 05.06.2022	10:30	Grenå Frikirke Østergade 37, 8500 Grenå	Hanne Okeke 2846 1872
Tirsdag 07.06.2022	19:30	Skjern eller Tarm Sted aftales når datoen nærmer sig	Misse og Leif Sig Jensen 4198 0947
Søndag 12.06.2022	10:30	Pinsekirken Esbjerg Bjarkesgade 2, 6700 Esbjerg	Sam Michaelsen 2986 7770
Søndag 19.06.2022	10:30	Kolding Kirkecenter Ole Rømers Vej 8, 6000 Kolding	Tove Merrill 2646 6488
Søndag 26.06.2022	11.06	Frikirken i Multihuset Hirsevej 9, 6100 Haderslev	Irene Cordes 4050 7756
Søndag 26.06.2022	19:00	KristusKirken i Rødding	Bruno 3082 3117

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and an older son.
The husband left the house when she had given birth to the triplets. Many women in Tanzania have such a hard time because many men do not take

responsibility for their families. This triplet mother is so grateful for the church and the support they give to her. We went to her house, together with the pastor. She lives under very poor conditions.

IAS sponsored some solar cell lamps to families without power. We were happy to give this single mother a lamp. She said, "This will make it so much easier when I get up at nights to change the diapers!"



Summer visit in Denmark

We are planning to go to Denmark for Easter and to visit churches around the country. This time we hope we will succeed better than in 2020 when Denmark was shut down by corona.

Hope to see many of our dear friends.

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

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