

# Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

December 2019





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

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)

Jesus is the greatest gift mankind ever received. Let us remember that in our everyday life and in the midst of Christmas bustle.

With these words we want to wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year 2020.

Thank you so much for working with us during the year that almost passed.

Thank you for your prayers and for supporting this ministry. Without you we were nothing. Together with you we can reach the weakest and the many severely stricken families.



kill the snake, but it fell to the ground and landed close to the children. They woke up and fortunately no one was bit. They later managed to kill the snake, but it had been a really unpleasant experience to the whole family.

some cardboard which was their bed. The father tried to

Some Christian friends helped build them a new mud hut. When we came to their house we saw two very narrow beds where they slept extremely close. The mother was with the girls and the father with the boys. No furniture in the living room. We were given a bucket to sit on.





### Othello



We just heard from Othello and his family. Othello was eventually released from hospital. He and his mother are doing well after their kidney transplantation, but Othello is still not back in school as he must avoid any infections. We thank God for the miracle that happened to this boy. The family really experienced that "to God all things are possible".

# A very poor family



The other day our local pastor approached us with us with a cry of help. He asked us to visit a very poor family. The parents had recently become Christians. Their living conditions with six children were awful. Their hut was in such a bad shape that snakes and other creep could easily get in. One night a poisonous snake lay on a beam under the roof. The children were asleep on

Immediately we decided to get two bunk beds for the family. We bought four mattresses, blankets, linen, towels and some clothes. I don't think we have ever been met by such gratitude. Thank you all who made this possible.

We also bought corn, beans, and sugar. You should have seen the children when they saw the food. The older ones ran to get some wood for the stove. It really hurt to see how hungry there were.



One of the family rooms – before ...



... and after.

The children who went to school got new school uniforms, shoes, and school bags. They were so excited about their new uniforms because the old ones were very much worn. The pants were worn thin with big holes on the back



showing their underwear. They were teased by the other students.

When the shoes were given out it appeared that one pair for the boys was way too big so we wanted to take them back and exchange them. The boy started to sob thinking that he would not get any shoes. But before evening we had made sure that he got his new shoes.

## The pastor with one leg



We wrote about the pastor with one leg and the wonderful fact that a senior group in Copenhagen had a money collection to get roof tiles for his church. To the church members' great surprise and joy a roof is now on the church. They no longer need to meet under an open sky. Now they are protected from rain and the hot sun. The pastor's family and a large part of the church are poor and they were not able to get the money for the roof.



### **News from Mirjam**

Dear fellow workers in the Kingdom,

I want to share a moving story. As you know, I make weekly trips to the bush and give food to babies and adults. Last week I was in an area called Engaruka.

When we were done and ready to go home, my driver Hilary called me and said, "Mirjam, you need to meet Mordecai". I followed Hilary and met a handsome little boy age four-five. He asked me to kneel down and lay his hand on my head and blessed me. He asked God to bless me because I bring food and he prayed quietly for God to protect me.

It was such a moving moment and I am happy Hilary got a picture of Mordecai praying for me. As he prayed I thought that I had NEVER heard a child praying in this manner.

It was a moment I will never forget. His prayer was so sincere and came from the bottom of his heart.

The Bible says that we must come to Jesus like little children do. When he prayed I knew what that meant. And while he was praying God gave me a thought that I want to share with you. He gave me the idea that now that the rain has begun the Masaais have the problem that they cannot afford to buy seed. I thought that maybe you would want to help us give the hardest stricken families a gift for seed. One sack with eight kilos cost 150 DKK. This is enough to sow about 5000 m2 with corn. Under normal weather conditions it can give an average family of eight persons a harvest to feed them for a year.

If they get a good harvest they will have food enough for a year!!

If any of you wish to give a life-giving donation to the Masaais, please transfer your donation to Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission IBAN no. DK7097120741793075. Bank name: Den Jyske Sparekasse, Borgergade 3, 7200 Grindsted Swift/BIC Code: JYSPDK2G - and mark it "Bjerre Mission – Seed"





Love, Per and Mirjam









### **Corn distribution**



We thank our heavenly father for friends like you, who stand with us and who give a hand to people in need.

We bought 45 tonnes of corn and distributed to several Maasai districts. They had not received a harvest as there was no rain. In one of the districts the lake, where the Masaais get their drinking water was totally dry. One could drive a car across the dry lake. In order to find some water they dug holes at the dry lake and people sat with a cup and spoon water into a bucket. Every drop is precious.

Last week, Mirjam, Torkild and the team was out to distribute corn. The Masaai land is a wide area. Some walk for three hours to get to their destination which equals six hours at foot in the hot sun. An older Masaai woman had walked for three hours. As she finally reached the place she collapsed and lay in the dust. The pastor said, "They are totally exhausted because of hunger and thirst."





# **Church inaugurations**

There have been five church inaugurations at the Masaai people this year. How wonderful it is to be able

to help the Masaais finish their churches. They are indigenous people and used to reject all kind of Christianity. This attitude is changing gradually now and several of them want to be Christians. So it is a special event to be in a church inauguration with the church full of Masaais.











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### New school bus

We are about to buy a new secondhand school bus. The one we have is no longer fit. We want to buy one that can hold 50 students. This would be a blessing because of an increasing number of students. We have already been given donations for the bus but are still lacking some before we have enough for the purchase. If you would like to give an amount for this purpose we would be so grateful.

From the depth of our hearts we send you warm and loving greetings. Thank you for your faithful support during all of 2019.

Love from Tabitha and Torkild

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If you wish to continue receiving our newsletter, you do not need to respond.

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