



Mission among
Children and Youth
in Tanzania

October 2023



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

Dear beloved friends

Graduation of 7th grade

In our Tumaini school we just had a successful graduation of the students in 7th grade. The children looked wonderful in their new outfits that they had received. 37 students graduated and 11 of them were "Heart Children".

The students 1th thru 6th grade got up and sang some songs, among them a farewell song for 7th grade. This was a touching moment. Also the students made little skits. The boldness of the children was awesome to

see. They did not seem nervous at all and managed to do everything without stalling.

The fattened calf was slaughtered. There was ample food for everyone.

It was a wonderful celebration for 7th grade and they now pass on to Secondary School.



Children's crusade

Since our last newsletter we have had several crusades. We get many invitations and travel as much as our capacity and strength allows.

In the villages children and adults have a great need to hear the Word of God being preached. Most live in very poor conditions. This is clearly seen by the many dilapidated earth cabins and houses. During the recent crusade the team stayed in a dirty and disgusting guest house. There was no roof in the room where Torkild was to sleep and it was full of bats that made dirt everywhere. Torkild placed the bed high edged at the wall because the mattress stank. Luckily he had brought a small tent that he pitched and he also brought a mattress from home. He had a piece of tarpaulin that was stretched out as a ceiling. This way he was protected from the bats.

On the Saturday Torkild took a walk in the village to meet the people. Many good things happened during this walk and he was received well – especially as they heard him speaking their language. He watched as some did a home slaughtering of a pig. In turn he explained how as a young man he had taken a lot of pigs to slaughterhouses in Denmark. They liked his story about that.

On his way back to the guest house he met a young girl. She quickly crawled up a papaya tree to get him a papaya. With some lemon juice on it was really tasty.

A simple walk around the village seemed to have a greater impact on the people than a long sermon did.

Something wonderful happened in the crusade. On the very first day after the children's meeting five adults came up to the pastor and wanted him to pray and lead them to the Lord. This was a great joy to the whole team. The village had been known for its heavy idolatry during many generations and many rituals and traditions were still being observed. The pastor told us how difficult it was for the church to break the regional darkness and that people were in bondage. But due to the many children that came to the meetings, parents got curious and every day the crowd increased.





Saturday after the meeting the pastor's daughter (the girl on the right in the picture) came up to us, beaming like a sun together with two of her friends. The two girl-friends wanted to Christians. It was wonderful to see their determination and it was the climax of the week. Our hearts were filled with praise to Jesus. On Sunday morning the two girls came to the service dressed in their finest clothes. Each one of them received a New Testament which they were very thankful for.

The church members were full of joy and gratitude that ten people had received Christ during the crusade. They all came to the service Sunday morning. Praise the Lord! His word will never return void. We thank the Lord Jesus for all - children and adults – who gave their lives to Him when hearing the gospel.



News from Mirjam



Our dear friends!

Although we have had summer vacation in Denmark, my team and my parents have been busy handing out humanitarian aid. We have been handing out baby food in West Kilimanjaro. Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa and the area is very beautiful and known for its fertility.

Unfortunately the Olmoti region is outside the fertile border. Due to the height it is cold and because many of the children are malnourished many of them are sick.

The weather has changed in the whole world and this also applies to the area where the Maasais live. There is a drought and life for the Maasais has turned into a struggle for survival. We in the west are so lucky that we are doing so well. But it may seem unjust. I still thank God for running water and for a warm bath whenever I feel like having one. It is not a matter of course.

The mothers of the 460 children were very thankful to get nutritious food for their children. There has been

“white visitors”, who promised to help them but never kept their word. They are used to disappointments. It was so good to hear their appreciation for the help they received. In the course of September I will join the distribution, which I very much look forward to.

Thank you for your generosity and heart for the Maasais in Tanzania. If you wish to give these children a nutritious meal it is DKK 50 a month for one child, and it can improve the health of a child very much.

Love,
Mirjam

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School ministry

Our four young evangelists are busy doing school ministry. Whenever they are not with Torkild in a crusade they are involved in school ministry. They visit 4-5 schools a week. These schools have an average of 500 students.

They recently received 5,000 New Testaments for distribution, sponsored by the Gideonites. The students were happy to receive a copy.

Through their ministry, the four young evangelists have had the privilege to lead many students to Christ. They always encourage the new believers to find a church and get involved. The greatest thing of all is that people receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. .

Mama Janeth

Recently we gave a distress call about mama Janeth who lives with her three children in one of the slum districts of Arusha. The mother had been exposed to a man trying to choke her. The man was drunk and on drugs; this may explain his behavior. In miraculous ways the Lord helped her and she escaped, but had to visit the hospital.

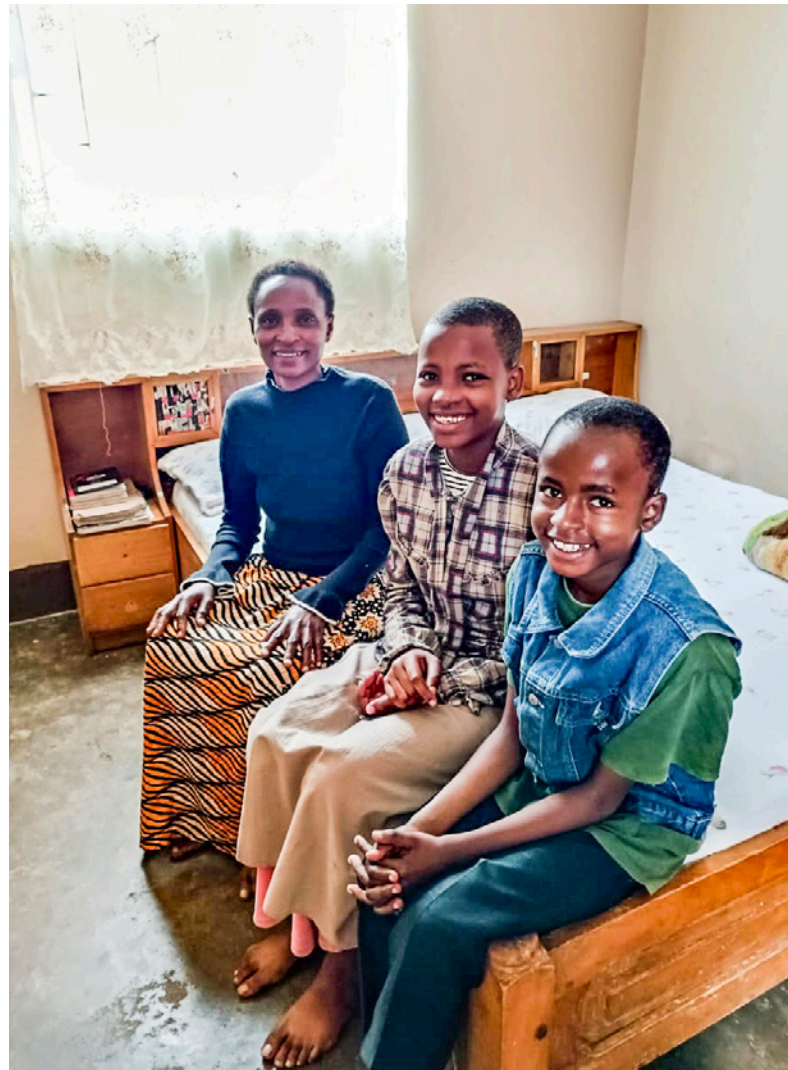
Many years ago her husband chose to leave her. She now lives with her three children, whom we have followed for several years and have supported their schooling. As we heard about the assault, our first reaction was for her to quickly move to a different location. There is a lot of crime in the slum and many young people are on drugs. It was definitely not a place for her and her children. But because of a tight budget she had to live there. The room where she lived was a simple dirt hut with a dirt floor and no electricity. The toilet in the back yard is in a very bad shape.

The distress call was about a collection for her rent and for a home in a better environment.

We had found a very good place for her, not far from us. It was a new house with water and electricity and with a wall around the entire quarter.

”
We are happy and feel safe now. I am no longer afraid to leave the children.

Mama Janeth



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After she moved into this new place she called us again to say Thank You. She feels so privileged and safe now. And she thanks our heavenly Father and asks HIM to bless all of you who helped make it possible for her to move. Your support has made it possible for us to pay her rent several years ahead. God is so good and so faithful.

This mother's job is to sit in a school and to sow button holes in the shirts that are a part of the school uniforms. On days when she works hard she is paid about DKK 15. However, there are days when there is no work.

I, Tabitha just visited with mama Janeth after she moved. I noticed a big change overnight. She was beaming with joy. Even the children smiled and seemed joyful. She said, "We are happy and feel safe now. I am no longer afraid to leave the children."

From the depth of our hearts we want to thank you who gave to mama Janeth. Our prayer is that Jesus may bless and reward you.

**With love from yours in Tanzania,
Torkild and Tabitha**



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