



Mission among Children and Youth in Tanzania

September 2015



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



Dearly beloved friends,

One of our faithful supporters wrote this to us after we had sent out a cry for help concerning the family who lost everything in a fire:

"It is such a tragic accident. I simply had to give. These words of Jesus came to my mind: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. And whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." Jesus may come to us in many shapes and forms.

I heard a story about a woman who was busy cleaning the house, in case the Lord would stop by. He did stop

by – he came in three different figures for shelter, comfort, and help, but each time she answered: "I don't have time; come back later."

Late that night she was tired and disappointed, because the Lord had not come to visit her. Then Jesus appeared to her and told her that he had come three times on that day. She got very upset and asked Jesus for forgiveness. "Sure I will forgive you," Jesus answered, "but I will not bless you."

This was a story for reflection. We can all sometimes be so busy that we forget what is important."

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The sticken pastor's family

We and our friends, Leo and Laila head out to visit a church planting about 140 km from Arusha. There are absolutely no huts nor fields at the last part of the journey. Everything seems desolate and barren. Then suddenly, a large lake pops out in the middle of this arid and desolate and region. The surrounding fields are green and fertile. The lake has been named "Nyumba ya Mungu", which translated from Swahili means "House of God". The lake has been full of fish. Many families live close to the lake. They used to make a living through fishing. The unfortunately, a rich businessman came to the area. He bought a large trawler and in a no time he caught all the fish in the lake, thereby ruining the livelihoods of the small fishermen. It is senseless, unjust and a tragedy for the locals.

The church we visit is a small mud-built construction with a grass roof, not much bigger than an old-fashioned hen house. But in the church there is a great atmosphere of God's presence. We participate in a very special church service. The pastor and his wife give their testimony, which goes straight to the heart. The pastor had received a call from God to the area. There was a pioneering work going on and very little Christian activity in the village - which is in the middle of nowhere.

Then the pastor goes on to talk about the accident that took place two years ago while working in the field.

They had rented some fields along the river and were able to irrigate them. They were growing rice, maize, and beans. The man had set out early in the morning in order to reap the maize. The wife was going to come and assist him later, but was going to first do some cooking and then to put their daughter, Ruth to sleep. The two older boys age three and six years were going to stay home to take care of the little Ruth when she woke up. The mother went out to help her husband reap the maize. Suddenly they saw a dark cloud of smoke coming from the village where they live and something inside them told them that it was their hut. Their three-year-old, Ebenezer was so frightened because of the fire that he ran and hid in the church. The older boy ran into the hut to save little Ruth, but never got out again. The parents were in total shock at the loss of their two children. What a terrible loss. While they tell of this awful incidence there is not a dry eye left in the church.

We have known this family for quite some time and he-





ard about their difficult situation. We helped their son Ebenezer – the one who hid in the church – to get to school. He is now in the Love Home and goes to our new school. He has been there for about nine month and is joyful little boy. It seems that he has repressed the traumatic experience. Then back in March this year the pastor's wife gave birth to a new baby girl and they named her Tabitha. She is a bright and breezy little girl and we thank God for her.

However, not long after the tragic fire accident, the pastor was involved in a motorbike accident. Motorbikes are oftentimes the only means of transportation in the villages. The pastor was a passenger sitting at the rear end when the bike crashed his shoulder broke. The hospital did not fix it properly and he is having a hard time using his arm and is constant pain. He is unable to work in the field so their financial situation has turned worse. Their housing facilities are really poor. The income from the church is very small because of just a few church members.

During our visit we ask questions concerning their everyday life and find out that there is hardly anything in the house. All their belongings were burnt. They borrowed a bed without a mattress from a neighbour so they do not have to lie on the floor. But they could not afford to buy a mattress so their bodies ache from lying there and they can sleep just a couple of hours at a time. The pastor's arm hurt so bad and the hard bed increases the pain. We immediately give them some money to buy a mattress and to pay the last hospital bill. We also give them money for some food to last a while.

We would love to build a small house for this family as they do a great job reaching the unreached with the word of God. The construction will require only a small sum of money as they use sun-dried stones, which they can make themselves and we will plaster the wall with cement. We have made some calculations. DKK 20,000 will get us far.

If any of you would like to give a one-time gift, we can guarantee that this extremely stricken family will rejoice. The money should be marked "Burnt house" and be transferred to our mission treasurer. Thank you all for the support we experience each time we send out a cry for help.

Mama Oberline – The woman with the snakebite

We want to thank you from the depth of our hearts for the money we received to help finish the construction of Mama Oberline's two rooms.

Mama Oberline called the other day to express her gratitude for the great help she received. She is so happy and told us that they had moved in and never before had such good sleep at nights. As she said, the only thing she can do in return is to pray for the Lord to bless



and reward all of those who helped her.

We went to see her the other day before the house was painted on the outside. We were lucky that all the children were home that day and we got a picture of the whole family. The oldest son, Adam is a mechanic apprentice and several times he took our hands and with tears in his eyes he thanked us so deeply for the great help that we had given to his mother.

We want to pass his gratitude on to you who have been willing to support this project. May the Lord bless you in abundance and reward you back. The house is now all done and there is glass in the windows, it has been painted on the inside and on the outside. They have received bunk beds and new mattresses and a “jiko”, which is a stove that reduces the intake of wood compared to an open fireplace.

Love Home completed

Once again we have experienced the love of God for the children in the home and we want to thank those of you **a thousand times** who sent a gift for the expansion of the “Love Home.” The building is done and there is a kitchen, a dining room, two bathrooms with a shower, four dormitories for the children and a bedroom for a leader.

A nice and large patio was added and the children love it. They use it for different games and reading aloud.

The building cost about DKK 190,000. We praise the Lord that all the money has come in and we thank you, our dear friends for this. You have been with us in this project. Once again it is “many a little makes a mickle” and therefore we want to remind you that *your* gift makes a great difference.





Children's Crusade

The last crusade took place in a village with a lot of witchcraft.

The pastor told us that Muslim wizards recently decided to go out and dig down witchcraft objects at all properties belonging to Christians. The few Christians that lived in the village refused them to do so at their property. Their resistance caused agitation among the wizards

and they asked the village management for permission to carry out their project at all households. However, the Christians started to pray and were impressed to cover themselves under the blood of Jesus, like at the Old Testament days when Egypt was struck by the 10 plagues. The end of it was that the angel of death went through the street to kill all the baby boys, but where ever they had slaughtered a sheep and put the blood on their doorposts the angel of death passed by and the family stayed alive. The wizards passed by the homes of the Christians when they covered themselves

under the precious blood of Jesus. It was great to hear that the word of God is the same even today. We must cover ourselves under the blood of Jesus every day.



The children's crusade went really well and the children heard the word of God and received it. What people hear at a young age they will never forget. Therefore it is our highest priority to go to the remote Muslim villages with the gospel.



The kitchen stove project, “Jiko”

At the moment Michael Schawitz is a volunteer working with us. He is giving a year to Tanzania. He is the man behind “the micro loans”. This time he has launched a new project which is establishing smoke free kitchens, especially among the Masais who have an open fire-place in the middle of their hut. A small kitchen stove is being built with a specially made fire chamber and a small chimney which prevents smoke from entering the

kitchen. Another advantage of this stove is that it uses approx. 50% less firewood. This stove is a blessing to their economy and to the environment. Such a stove may be produced for as little as DKK 70 each.

It is an incredible project and we very much appreciate Michael for launching it.

Mama Oberline received such a stove in her kitchen and she loves it.

Bladet videresendes ikke, men tilbagesendes med oplysning om adresseændring

Little Careen

Little Careen at the age of five is in our school and one day she sat at the lap of one of our volunteers. The girl cried and was totally brokenhearted, clinging on to the volunteer. We decided to take her to the hospital and it appeared she had volvulus. Not strange she was crying. She had surgery and is fortunately doing well again.



The future of Tanzania

Tanzania will elect a new President on 25 October. We hope and pray that the election may elapse peacefully. We ask you to stand with us in prayer about the future of this country.

We hope all is well with you, our beloved friends. Thank you so much for your willingness to give as we tell you about the different projects. Several of them have been completed and are now being used to bless a lot of people.

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 2015 kan man få fradrag i henhold til skattelovens § 8a på op til kr. 15.000,00, hvis man har givet kr. 15.000,00.