

Feb 2018

Go & Make Disciples by Dave Burgess

I remember making a cross that was decorated with matchsticks when I went to Vacation Bible School as a kid. It must have been 1979 or so, and the church property was carved out of a corner of an orange grove in rural Florida... I'm sure that the church and groves are long paved over by now. The funny thing is that I grew up in a non-churched family – my parents sent me to VBS for something to do during the long, hot summer - and that I didn't know Jesus until nearly 30 years later. I wonder what other seeds were planted during that week of VBS that contributed to Christ entering and changing my heart and my life... ?

This summer, I have been blessed to lead a Perimeter Go Journey Team headed to Karansi, Tanzania where we will host a Vacation Bible School at the PUNCHWMI facility. This VBS will be open to all children of the village. For these kids, VBS is a BIG deal – and attendance is expected to grow each day as the word spreads throughout the village. Like VBS here at home, there will be Bible stories, crafts, skits, and play time – but I have a feeling that there could also be very lively elements of singing and dancing added as the Spirit moves. Last year, singing and dancing broke out as we painted a wall during a work trip, so I can't imagine what will happen when the primary objective is to learn about Jesus while having fun.

In addition to the 5 days of VBS with the children, the trip will include attending worship at Pastor Wariaeli's church in the village, and if you come with me you will likely get to meet "the Flower Lady," one of the widows that routinely blesses the worship through flower petals that she showers on the assembled. Also, if you sponsor a child through Project Child, every attempt will be made to let you meet him/her and possibly visit the family in their simple home.

The trip will run from June 7-16. We still need additional team members to help make matchstick crosses and to be used by God to plant some seeds in what will surely be a very fun-filled week in Karansi. Contact me at daveburgess3@gmail.com to learn more about the trip and how you or your family might take part.

ANOTHER TEAM :

Will be heading for Tanzania Jul19-30 working with PUNCHWMI School and our new Village Library as the "Village Who Reads" begins to take hold. Ideal for families and kids, this team will be co-lead by Tim Neet so contact him at timneet@att.net to explore your taking part.

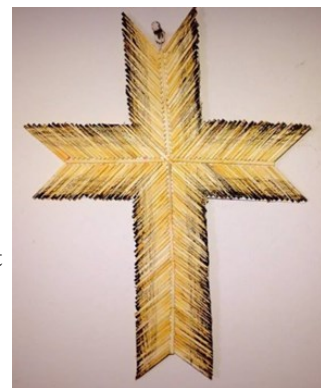
Why read? In our world reading is becoming a lost art. In Tanzania's largely illiterate society reading is yet to be found, but even so, stories are part of their rich culture. This is why the library at Karansi Christian School was a new concept and one that the community wanted for themselves. The community has given the land, built the building and prepared the inside for a new Community Library. It is just waiting for the books to arrive. Picking out books, shipping them, and helping get the library started is just the start of coming alongside this community and their new adventure in reading.

There is much that they can learn from us and we can learn from them about "Telling Stories."

Music is part of the beat of life in Tanzania and they use their music as a creative way of storytelling. Unfortunately, this is often in contrast to the rote style of learning and memorization that is generally taught in schools. This summer we want to help bridge this divide. All stories whether sung, spoken, or written down are composed of the same five elements: setting, characters, conflict, plot, and theme. By starting with looking at the songs they sing and how they fit into these five elements we will then open up books of fiction and show how these same elements are there as well.

It is hoped the July Team will begin this process of joint learning and creative writing of stories. One way to get kids thinking outside the normal box is to use Legos. These building blocks of imagination and problems solving go way beyond simply toys. Legos can help children become systematic creative learners through combining logic and reasoning with playfulness and imagination. They learn by giving form

to thoughts, and by combining, exploring, and transforming ideas and objects. Children become active learners by constructing things in the real world, or in the world of their story. Brick by brick the children can show the elements of a story through simple designs. Imagination is already in the hearts and lives of these children and we will have the opportunity to see it transform through bricks into words. You can join us as team members, or if you have access to legos that you could donate please contact Tim Neet



A Sponsor's Testimony by Judy Delany

In 2003, Wayne and I met our sponsored child, Jennifa Sarubabi. She was about 6 or 7 and was very shy and scared to death of us. Over the years and with many, many letters, our relationship developed into one of great mutual love. I was able to be in Tanzania in 2009 just a month after her mother had died. She was only 13 and had to take over the responsibilities of the household, cooking and caring for younger children as well as doing her schoolwork while living in a 2 room hut. (By the way cooking was over an open or charcoal fire and time was limited to daylight as they had no electricity or running water.) Through Child Sponsorship Jennifa was allowed to continue her schooling until she graduated from Secondary School. Now through Project Child special schooling grants she is attending Teacher's College.



Jennifa lives with her widowed sister-in-law who is caring for Jennifa's 2 year old daughter, Jennifa's younger sister, Hosianna, (the sponsored child of Lou and Loren Adkison) as well as her own 3 children. I'm not really sure how they survive now, but Jennifa is determined to complete her education and get a job to help support this larger family unit. She is a very determined and joyful young woman who loves God and wants to serve Him and her family.

I have been blessed to serve a small role of "mama" especially after the death of her own mother. God has bonded our hearts together in a permanent way. I have parental pride as I see her now doing her "practical's" at the PUNCHWMI school where we first met this frightened child 15 years ago. I am so thankful to Project Child and Perimeter for making this relationship possible. It is certain that without this ministry, which has meant a great deal to both of us, Jennifa would not be on her way to becoming a teacher and I would not have known the joy of seeing transformation in her life and in mine.

Tips for Communicating With Your Child

Following are a few tips on communicating with your student across miles and culture with sensitivity.

Take advantage of this unusual opportunity by carefully thinking through and planning outcomes you would like to see from your communications.

Don't under estimate the influence that you can have and the hope that you can instill through your communications.

Consider how you can help their story telling by telling some of your story. Be an example.

Have your children or grandchildren write a story or share some of their creative school work.

We encourage you to send photo's, but when doing so be careful as their culture and life are quite different from ours. We ask sponsors to use a neutral background (not elaborate or expensive) and to dress modestly. Recognize that most women in TZ never show their shoulders... or anything above their knees.

You can ask questions such as "how many are in your family?" or "what is your favorite subject in school?" or "how far do you live from the school?" or "do you like to play sports?"

You can always encourage your sponsored child with a verse of scripture that has encouraged you, or that would encourage them.

More tips, suggestions and mailing instructions can be found on our website at <https://www.projectchildtz.com/journals> see TZJournal #66

NEXT MAIL Call — see below

MAIL CALL—Letters and Packages

In mid-April we have another team headed back to Karansi to provide medical care to our students and village. That means we have the opportunity to send letters and small packages. Get them to us **No Later than April 1** and we will get them into a suitcase to be carried over by the Team.

Packages, photo's and gifts can be sent as long as they fit within **one - gallon sized Ziplock Bag.**

Packages, letters and photos can be delivered to Wendy Williams C/O Perimeter Christian School, 9500 Medlock Bridge Rd, Johns Creek Ga 30097 or delivered to Pam Willis See TZJournal #66

[KAC793 Sharon Lazier](#) Needs a sponsor



For more information about Project Child—contact Tim Neet at timneet@att.net

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