

May 2017



# Tanzania Journal Issue 65

## Drought!!! By Tim Neet

In East Africa, a sustained drought can have long reaching affects on families who depend on subsistence farming for their livelihood. For the Maasai Tribe who are primarily herdsman, the lack of grasslands can result in families being uprooted or even the loss of their most valued possession – their cattle.

The Transformation of the village of Karansi where we partner with PUNCHMI Ministry is not immune to the detrimental impact of drought. The Kilimanjaro Region normally receives two periods of rain each year. The “Short Rains” come in the Fall and the “Long Rains” come in the Spring. These extended periods of rainfall are what fuel the ground to produce the crops of vegetables, maize, sunflowers and abundant grasslands. For the past two years rainfall has been minimal and family stockpiles of grain have been severely depleted. Prices of available grain in the marketplace as you would expect has also climbed.

Problem?? Yes – of course. Opportunity?? – Likewise!! PUNCHMI and the Karansi PEFA Church has been working hard serving its members and surrounding community during this food crisis. Our Tanzania Ministry Team and sponsors of Project Child have also played an important role. During the school year, drought or not, we have continued to serve all of our students two meals a day. We know that without adequate nutrition, mental acuity and comprehension are greatly sacrificed and learning significantly declines. From its beginning, Project Child has held nutrition and medical care as a high priority in serving its children. Our students and their siblings come from the poorest segments of the community, so we know that their families are the first who are impacted by drought, along with many of the widows that we also serve.



To address the problem PUNCHMI staff first identified families within Project Child that were experiencing extreme food shortage (feeding our students breakfast and lunch doesn't fill the stomachs of siblings and parents) They also identified unsupported widows for whom they routinely provide support and care. In total PUNCHMI identified a critical need for funding food support for 60 student families, 90 widows, 24 men from the “Father's Ministry” and 50 families in crisis from the Karansi PEFA Church. As their partner in bringing transformation and God's love to Karansi, Punchmi came to our Tanzania Ministry Team with a request. Could we help them feed these families, at least until the Spring rains would give them hope of

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## Thanksgiving/Graduation Trip by Tim Neet

Is your Sponsored Child graduating from PUNCHMI School this year? Would you like to celebrate with him or her and provide the encouragement to excel in all they do?

Come with us to the PUNCHMI School Graduation. Visit in your child's home. Minister to the family. Worship with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters. Serve the widows. Help the Tanzanian Teachers. Encourage the Men. This trip can be designed around your skill set as long as you are ready to

learn and worship and serve. You can even take your family members for this special celebration. **Jerry Schriver and Pat Schriver** will be leading this trip so it is bound to be fun and educational. **New Dates Nov 16-26 +or-** Contact Tim Neet to explore or like to learn more.

### Mail Call

Next delivery of mail to Tanzania will occur in June including both letters and packages. All items need to be received at

Perimeter Church by June 15 so that they can be prepared for the Teachers Team Trip. See TZJournal #53 for guidelines which you can find at [www.projectchildtz.com](http://www.projectchildtz.com)



# Drought!!!

of a new crop? As the rains were just beginning, there would still be several months before the product of their hard work would yield food on their tables.

To help these families through this time of trial our Tanzania Ministry team pulled from Karansi Project donations that were received last year and provided \$6,564 for the bulk purchase of maize. This enabled each of the 224 family units to receive a supplement of 60 KG bag of maize. As a witness of the Love of Christ, PUNCHMI and PEFA Church members distributed the Good News of Food – along with an expression of the Good News of the Gospel.

Jerry Thames and our March Short Term Journey Team made up of engineering students that Jerry is mentoring from the University of Mississippi also participated in the food distribution. While this “Science and Math” team were there to help strengthen key educational elements of the PUNCHMI School, they were also able to experience firsthand some of the real life problems of living in Third World environments and to see how God uses His Church to bring help and relief to those in need.

We are privileged to come alongside Pastor Wariaeli and the PEFA Church as they continue to serve their community and surrounding villages. Although the Spring rains have been good, and new crops are up and growing, it will still be awhile before harvest. To help them further their reach of showing the love of Christ, Perimeter received a special offering at the evening service during the Global Missions Weekend. This offering provided us an additional \$4,860 that is being used to provide maize to several hundred additional neighboring families who have been living on less than a meal a day. The entire Karansi community has warmly received the help and support provided through our partnership as many see the hands and feet of Christ in visible form – The Church.

(If you would like to contribute to the Tanzania Drought Relief or help us restore our Karansi Project Funds please send your special donation to Perimeter Church – with Karansi Project – Drought Relief in the note field – or the dropdown online menu. If you donate today to Project Child via automatic Check Handling, just send me an email with your requested additional payment and I can have Perimeter include it in your next deduction)



## Job ADS—Help Wanted

**Project Child and our Tanzania Ministry is run totally by volunteers. You could help us serve these children by filling one of our personnel needs.**

**Video Call Coordinator** — Monthly we set up calls from our students to interested sponsors. We need someone to simply promote the calls and coordinate them with the sponsor and Tanzania Team. You can do this. Contact Tim Neet 6783583918 or [timneet@att.net](mailto:timneet@att.net)

**Computer Trainer**—Could you help us mentor Tanzanian Teachers on basic computer skills or Office products. Contact Jerry Thames at [jerry@thamesfam.com](mailto:jerry@thamesfam.com)

**Article Writers** — We need articles prepared for the TZJournal and our various multimedia outlets, how about letting us use

your God given skills to shape interesting content into gripping articles?

**Community Planner/Developer**— Do you have skills that could help our partners and village leaders plan for the community growth Contact Jerry Thames at [jerry@thamesfam.com](mailto:jerry@thamesfam.com)

**Project Child Ministry Team**— I need volunteers to help us to continue to improve our ministry and relationships between students and sponsors. We need help sending mailings and letting sponsors know what's happening in the village and school.

**We have been gifted by a Gracious God. Combine your skills with ours and help us serve His Kingdom as it comes.**



**Janeth KAC737 needs a sponsor. Might it be you?**

For more information about Project Child—contact Tim Neet at [timneet@att.net](mailto:timneet@att.net)

Visit our Web site at [www.projectchildtz.com](http://www.projectchildtz.com) and like us on Facebook