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Selfie or Selfless by Tim Neet

Vicki and I often spend our Friday evenings at the free music concerts near where we live. "Avalon Nights" has some great bands who play a wide variety of genres, mostly from the 60's - 90's with a sprinkle of Country. You can bring your folding chairs for the lawn, plus what you want to eat and drink, or buy some "take out" from one of the local restaurants. It is a fun place to dance or people watch as all ages take part.



Recently, there were three young teenage girls sitting on a blanket next to us eating pizza. They seemed to be having a great time being together but not necessarily paying much attention to the band, the music or the crowd. They each had their own iPhone and were enthralled at taking selfies. The bands normally play non-stop from 6-8PM and although these girls were only there for about half the time, my very conservative estimate is that they must have taken at least 500 photographs of themselves in a variety of entertaining poses. I am not being critical. I might have wanted to do the same when I was their age, but it would have taken at least 20 rolls of Kodak film, a weeks' time to develop and cost me a minimum of \$100, which I did not have. It just wasn't practical. In this day and age, it is now very practical to take hundreds of photos of yourself. **It is a very visual representation of how we can be significantly self-absorbed.**



Sometimes God lays out opportunities before us. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Eph2:10 Sometimes these opportunities are small and easy to comply with, but

other times they are large and demanding and may in fact be so bold that they are "Doomed for failure lest God be in it." Some initiatives we can do on our own, while others require the banding together of God's people working in unison with the Holy Spirit and working selflessly for Gods success. **Selfies or Selfless?? – That is the question God is frequently lays before us.** I know I take too many "selfies," either with my camera or more so with my mind. I can be too "self-focused" rather than "others-focused." You see, it is easy to be self-focused. It takes work and intent to be focused on others placing their needs above our own desires. Join with Uboraz, meet our brothers and sisters, widows and children whom we serve in Karansi, TZ. Go with us. Serve along side us and if you need to, put down the selfie stick. Contact timneet@uboratz.org

Got Maize!!! by Tim Neet

Our newly formed UborazTZ Ministry is all about being focused on a wonderful group of "others" whom we met in Karansi, Tanzania 16 years ago. Birthed out of Perimeter Church and especially Perimeter Christian School we

community dependent upon the strong backs of farmers who toil in the fields with hoes and hands. **It is a community that also depends upon rain coming at the right time. This year it didn't.** Just recently, remnants of an Indi-

asked if UborazTZ could help some of their families through this difficult stretch – our only question to ourselves was how could we not help? We knew there would be widows who would run low on food. We knew



have been co-laboring alongside the local Tanzanian church and its leadership to serve a significant number of widows and orphans and poorest of the poor families in their community. It has been an amazing partnership from which we have both grown new and expanded world views.

an Ocean typhoon brought some much needed rain – for the next crop, but not before a drought left the previous plantings with barren fields and significant hardships. Droughts not only reduce the food that a farmer might grow, but prices in markets also double or triple beyond affordability.

that some of our own students would be going without meals, except for what we would provide them daily at school. We knew that a number of families in Pastor Wariaeli's church would need a helping and supportive hand. But, through our medical clinics this year, we also knew that the condition of children in the public

Karansi is largely an agrarian

When our partners in Tanzania



Got Maize?? (continued)

schools would be significantly worse than ours. So, without asking our donors we went ahead and wrote a check. Not an extra-large check (\$6,870) but one that would help real families (262 in fact) in the midst of real poverty have some real food on the table that they otherwise would not have.

Uboratz is still in the formation stage. We don't have a whole lot of finances saved up as the needs and opportunities in Tanzania keep growing. Processing and managing our own financials apart from Perimeter Church requires us to invest in data systems, and office supplies and professional services that



we have not incurred in the past. At the same time, we are committed to flow all Pro-

ject Child donations, all \$43 per month – direct to Tanzania. To do so will require us to find more donors who will dig deeper and more volunteers who come along side gifting their time and services to help Uboratz fulfill its mission of selfless serving. We need an ample supply of humble and generous heroes today. Contact us to find ways that you can engage.

To help with the Drought Relief Project or to help us with our startup costs and overheads send your contributions to: Uboratz Inc, 4575 Webb Bridge Rd #5487, Alpharetta, GA 30023

WHAT!! No More Plastic Bags? by Tim Neet

We have all heard of the HUGE Texas size island of plastic trash floating in the Pacific Ocean. Well, Tanzania has its own problem with this non biodegradable stuff that is used to transport many things in and out of the country. Plastic Trash has reached its peak along with pressures to do something about it. **So—in short—the Tanzanian government has said “No More.”** Following is a copy of their recent decree. _____

“Notice to travelers planning to visit Tanzania: Effective June 1, 2019 all plastic carrier bags, regardless of their thickness will be prohibited from being imported, exported, manufactured, sold, stored, supplied and used in Tanzania.

Visitors to Tanzania are advised to avoid carrying plastic carrier bags or packing plastic carrier bags or items in plastic carrier bags in the suitcase or hand luggage before embarking on visit to Tanzania. Special desk will be designated at all entry points for the surrender of all plastics carrier bags that visitors may bring into Tanzania.

Plastic carrier items known as “ziplock” bags that are specifically used to carry toiletries will be permitted as they are expected to remain in the permanent possession of visitors and are not expected to be disposed in the country.”

Bottom line is that we will No Longer be allowed to carry in our student gifts in Ziplock Bags. We will be placing all that we have already received in string tied manila envelopes and will be issuing new sponsor guidelines in the near future once we have tested the effectiveness of this process with current teams. **The fine for having a plastic bag is 30,000 TZS or about \$15 per bag.**

For those who missed May 15 Mail Call, we have extended the due date to June 6.

Want to Help?? by Tim Neet

“Teach us to number our days that we may receive a heart of wisdom” Psalm 90:12 As Moses prayed to God, it is helpful for us to be mindful to number our days. Our lives are short, yet God has defined a purpose for each of us in life. Our fulfillment comes in seeking to know his will and purpose for us and to live our lives in such a way that our time on earth is not wasted, but rather continues to produce an abundance of fruit for His Kingdom — which we avidly pray comes to earth as it is in heaven. We are the guardians and we are the reconcilers. Would you like to spend some of your time helping Project Child and the broader scope of Uboratz. **We need all sorts of skills**—some of which God may have placed specifically in you. We especially need help in learning how to effectively use **multi—media** to communicate with our sponsors and others of interest. **We need people with medical skills, business skills, accounting skills, IT skills, marketing skills, and leadership skills** — You name it, we need it. Contact me at timneet@uboratz.org

Mail Call by Tim Neet

It has been awhile since we have had a full scale Mail Call for Tanzania. Some of our teams have been a bit fluid — but the summer is coming and with that a number of trips into Karansi. **So, Our next Mail Call for letters and packages is June 6** We have placed Tanzania baskets out in the Perimeter Atrium to receive your letters or gifts. Please communicate to Pam Willis when you leave a package, and if you would like to leave your package earlier—notify Pam as well and arrangements will be made. Visit our Project Child website at www.projectchildTZ.com/journals and click on Journal #66 for ideas and instructions on what to write and where to send it. We may have the opportunity to transport stuff earlier — so the sooner you get it to us—the sooner it is in Cue.

For more information about Project Child—contact Tim Neet at timneet@uboratz.org
Visit us at www.uboratz.org or www.projectchildtz.com

