



# Jensen Missions

Tanzania, East Africa

May 2009



## MEET THE BAYI FAMILY

Since our move to Arusha (actually the nearby town of Ngaramtoni Juu) we have been visiting various bush congregations. Our plan is to select three or four small congregations which really need help. Visiting once a month will be a great boost for them, and give the opportunity for them to receive needed teaching without them becoming wholly dependant upon a missionary. There is such a need for teaching, yet we have seen what can develop when foreign support actually becomes a hindrance in the long run.

We are renting a home on the lower portion of Mount Meru. Further up the slopes of this extinct (we hope) volcano is the meeting place of the Kioga congregation. Our first visit with these brethren was quite eventful. We loaded up that Sunday morning in Cy's old Land Cruiser and stopped by the Arusha Bible School building and picked up Joseph. He directed us up the eroded and mountainous dirt road which had been turned to thick mud by the rains of the night before. We were fairing pretty well on our ascent until we finally became lodged in a giant sink hole. Jacob, Luke, and Joseph got out to help push - to no avail. After quite some time of digging and back and forth, we managed to free the stuck vehicle. It turned out that Joseph was slightly confused - we had passed the church building just down the mountain a short way. It was considerably easier to go down.

Last Sunday we worshiped again with this congregation. We want to introduce you to David Bayi, his wife Paulina, and their son Dennis. David is working with this congregation, and serves as my translator when I am teaching and preaching. Since we have Joshua visiting us from the states, I asked him and our son Luke to share the Bible class time. They each gave a good lesson and I preached during the worship service. We noticed there were quite a few children, several of which crowded on the bench with Joy, Julia, Lindsey and Lydia during worship. It was very encouraging to see Paulina teaching a children's Bible class, on her own initiative. This is not very common.



There is one of the older members of the congregation who is a blind man. Moses always listens intently to the lessons. It is customary to file out of the building and shake hands with each person. This "welcome line" allows each person to shake each person's hand. Once the line is completely formed, Moses gives a brief synopsis of the lesson and sermon from memory. It really causes others to consider how well they were listening!

**How well could you summarize the lesson and sermon you heard last Sunday?**



## Visitors, Campaigns, and Luke's Graduation

Just when we think it couldn't get any busier, it did. George has worked feverishly to get our water situation in better working order, knowing that with extra folks in the house, we'd have a greater demand for water. After working some long hours, he and the boys got a tower built. At the last minute, they were able to find a crane to come and set the water tank on the tower. Now we are able to have better water pressure, and store more water for those days we do not have city water. There is still more work needed to finish up the project, but we are making progress!

On May 13<sup>th</sup> a group of ten arrived from Northport, AL. They came to work primarily at the congregation in Mto wa Mbu (Mosquito River). They taught personal Bible classes during the mornings, the young women held a VBS for the children in the afternoons. Interestingly, there had been an invitation extended by a local denomination for the visitors to give lessons, and so they did just that. Towards the end of the week the invitation had been revoked, due to some members of the denomination not appreciating the messages that were given.

Family friends – Josh Heck and Lydia Purdom – arrived the night of May 15<sup>th</sup>. They have come to help with the campaigns, children's seminars, etc, and they will be with us until June 15<sup>th</sup>.

We also had three men who came at approximately the same time as the Northport group. A couple of them were teaching short courses at ACSOP, and the third was doing some evangelism work. The missionary families took turns feeding all of our visitors, including providing transportation for them back and forth to our homes. This was a bit of an extra challenge for us. We had to use two borrowed vehicles, and George and I would make the 25 min. drive to the school, pick them up, drive them to our home, feed them, and then make the round trip again. The Northport group returned home May 27.



On the evening of May 23 we had a small group over to celebrate Luke's graduation from high school. It's kind of a challenge to make it a special event here, with most of our friends and family still in the states and it being right in the middle of so many other events. However, due to the fact that we have Lydia Purdom and Josh Heck, who are good friends of our family, are visiting with us, Luke wanted to celebrate while they are here. We are very proud of Luke and the work he has accomplished.

The night of May 23 a group of 10 from Hoover, AL arrived to participate in the Arusha campaign, and they were here until May 31. They brought with them many of the supplies we used to teach the children's seminar, which also took place Wednesday through Saturday. By Saturday, we had well over 300 children. This year's theme was "We Believe Because...", using the material written by my mother. Teaching children how to reason and how to understand basic arguments to combat evolutionary thinking is a great need that needs to be addressed here.

We are very thankful for all those who have taken the time to come and help us in the work here. We are also very appreciative for many of you who have willingly given funds so that these workers could come. As always, we appreciate so very much our faithful supporters upon we depend, so that we can continue our work here. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, as we do you. *In Christian Love, Joy*



**Contributions May Be Sent To:**  
Jensen Mission Fund  
P.O. Box 41  
Dyer, AR 72935

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