

Jensen Missions

Iringa, Tanzania

East Africa

George and Joy
Jacob, Luke and Lindsey

September 2011



Our Mailing Address:

George and Joy Jensen
church of Christ
P.O. Box 594
Iringa, Tanzania
East Africa

Our Website:

jensenmissions.com

Our Travel Blog:

www.mytb.org/George-and-Joy

Mail Support to:

Dyer Church of Christ
P.O. Box 17
Dyer, AR 72935

A Body Can Heal Itself



“Church” is a word so misunderstood by the masses! However, genuine Christians understand that they themselves are the church. In Scriptural parlance the church is likened unto the physical body (1 Corinthians 12). The Creator has designed the human body with the capability to repair itself. When you cut your finger, you don’t normally require extreme intervention – the body makes self-repairs. So also in the church, if one “member” has a need, there should be aid from within the body. “And whether one member suffereth, all the members suffer with it” (1 Corinthians 12:26).

May I direct your attention toward two novices in the faith. First let’s consider the life of Olivia. Before attending our Saturday classes, which later resulted in her conversion, she had a child out of wedlock. The father of her child is

no longer in her life. She works from sun-up till sundown for a family with many children. She is responsible for the bulk of cooking, cleaning and washing, in exchange for room, board. During the performance of all these chores she must also care for her own child, Travis. Without modern conveniences, the discharge of these duties requires much strenuous toil.

Having no husband means she has faced these challenges alone, but no longer. She is now a part of God’s family. As her new brothers and sisters, we learned that due to surgery during her delivery, she is suffering from the demands being placed upon her body. Last Sunday the men met to discuss the best way to... *continued on pg. 2*



Member of the Month

Meet David and Upendo. David has served as the primary preacher for the congregation in Iringa. He is very likely the reason why the doors have remained open. He and his wife, Upendo, have two children of their own, plus they care for a niece, who lost her parents. David works at a small booth at the Soko Kuu, where he prepares chips (fries) as well as a few other small food items. The picture to the left was taken when they invited us to their home for a meal.

A Body Can Heal Itself...continued

alleviate this hardship. From the treasury she will be provided an amount each month that will allow her to rent a room. Members, by free-will offerings, will provide other items such as a charcoal cooker, utensils, plates, and foodstuffs. In addition, a plan is in the works to help her to help herself. Editha is skilled at working an embroidery sewing machine. She has agreed to teach Olivia so she can be equipped to support herself. Here in Tanzania ladies are anxious to buy pillowcases, couch doilies, and other items that have been decoratively adorned. This would allow Olivia to do most of her work from home and also care for Travis. What a thrill to see local brethren working together to assist another family member (Galatians 6:10)!

Second, please consider Shadrack. His work is to prepare tea and a few "bites" for those who come to the local *Soko Kuu* (large market). This entrepreneur might best be described as the East African version of a coffee cafe owner. However, he has no shop, but rather only a section of a table in the "food court" of the market. This young single man is a rare jewel. He is just eagerly "eating up" the Scriptures. Carey and I have discussed how best to mentor this zealous new brother.

Many Schools of Preaching highlight 2 Timothy 2:2 as sort of a motto-verse upon which their institution is founded. Such is certainly valid. But likely something more closely aligned with what Timothy would have done is more one-on-one training of faithful men; as Paul doubtless did for him. We would like to provide just such encouragement and training for Shadrack.

Please keep these two in your prayers as they grow in Christ. The hardships of life can forge some of the strongest of Christians. "[A]ll the body fitly framed and knit together through that which every joint supplieth, according to the working in due measure of each part, maketh the increase of the body unto the **building up of itself in love**" Ephesians 4:16 (emphasis added). *George Jensen, 2011*



Journey with Joy...

The month of September always starts with a bang, because Lindsey's birthday is September 1st. Celebrating family events here requires a good deal of imagination, which is not always plentiful, but this one - her 19th

birthday - ought to prove to be memorable for her, since we had hippo burgers! (Surprisingly they were very tasty.) It's very hard to believe that our lastborn is in her last of the teen years. Where, oh where has the time gone?

Due to various reasons, the month of September has been a bit slow, work-wise. Plans rarely happen exactly as is anticipated, due to someone traveling, sickness, etc. We had planned to resume weekly classes with Zawadi, but she has been sick quite a bit this month. In fact, George and Charles took her to the hospital on one occasion, so that she could get some medical attention.

One day we went to visit a young woman with whom George has had some previous studies. She had quite a few classes, but when the time came to count the cost and understand the ongoing commitment one must make in order to be a child of God, she lost interest. We wanted to pay her a visit and remind her that we were still available, should she change her mind.

We had also planned to visit the Ilula congregation and hopefully begin helping them on a regular basis with evangelism and some Bible classes, but the man in charge there has been traveling, and so those plans have been

delayed. Hopefully a planning session can be arranged with him soon.

It has been a wonderful thing to see the progress that the Tanzanian children are making every Sunday. Because of the weekly bible drills, some of the littler ones are gained enough confidence to recite what they have learned so far and it is a significant accomplishment.

One of my "secretarial" projects has been the formatting of a couple of tracts that have been translated into Swahili. They are almost ready to go to print.



Another September birthday was on the 24th, when George celebrated his 48th. After three long months he finally caught up to me! I made a double-layer chocolate cake and homemade chocolate ice cream to celebrate. Notice the emergency candle on his cake, lovingly placed there by his children. :)

The last week of September has been busy with preparations for the resuming of Saturday classes, which will begin Oct. 1. Fliers have been printed and are being distributed. Arrangements were made to advertise for three days on the radio - the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before class starts on Saturday. There have already been numerous phone calls for further inquiry. We are prayerful that new contacts

can be made through these classes.

Thank you for your continual prayers and faithful support of our endeavors. We are truly grateful for each and every one of you. Until next time... *Joy*

Visit my blog: journey-with-joy.com