

“...that the message of the Lord may spread...”

2 Thes. 3:1



## Dixon & Christiana Gbeanquoi

Missionaries to Tanzania



Issue 7 (July 2014)

“...The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore to send out workers into the harvest field.”

(Matthew 9:37-38)

### When the door seemed closed...

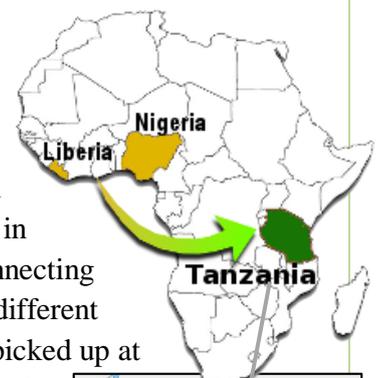
For about a year and a half now we have been seeking God’s directions and guidance on where He would like us to serve in His ministry of bringing the Gospel to His people on earth. We started in 2012 and had a hope that Botswana was the perfect place for us, until at the latter end of our preparations, God closed the door to service in Botswana. We felt disappointed indeed, but still trusted that God had a better place for us in mind. A year after this set-back in our lives, we finally received an invitation by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, East of Lake Victoria Diocese to come and explore mission opportunities in that part of Tanzania.

We felt God’s leading and hand in this opportunity to explore at a moment when we were praying to God, trying to find out whether we should continue or finally call it a quit to missionary services. It was not after three days of praying and fasting that the opportunity to explore came. This opportunity also came with a challenge. We had the invitation quite right, but the means to get to Mwanza, Tanzania became a problem. Faced with this challenge and having little in our account with GLO, we felt this was a trip that would be impossible to make. It was not after presenting this challenge to our Father in heaven, who hears all the prayers of His children and presenting this to the leadership of GLO that they (the leadership) decided to advance us with some money to make this trip possible. Let me pause here to say a special thanks and appreciation to all of you who were with us in prayers for my (Dixon) trip to Tanzania; also we appreciate your supports financially. May God reward you greatly!

### Mwanza trip

The trip to Mwanza was an experience which I will never forget. I left from Abuja the capital of Nigeria on the 24th of May via Ethiopia and finally landed in Dar es Salaam around 2am the next day. Although I had a problem with the connecting flight to Mwanza, I must appreciate God for making it possible for me to get a different flight that same day. I arrived in Mwanza 8:40am on the 25th of May and was picked up at the airport by the Bishop Rev. Andrew P. Gulle. This was indeed a sign from God that we will be very welcome in Tanzania.

Having stayed in Tanzania ten (10) days exploring mission opportunities, visiting places and the good people of Mwanza, it became clear to me that there is serious work needed to be done. Mwanza is the second largest city in Tanzania after Dar es Salaam. It also is rapidly developing and has a population of about four (4) million people, 60% of which lived in the rural areas and with no or little access to the Gospel. The Lutheran Church in Tanzania is faced with the challenge





*Some members conducting Bible study with no pastor.*



*New church building in the Kesesa mission area.*



*Church building in construction in Usagala mission area.*

of meeting the spiritual yearnings and spreading the Gospel to these rural dwellers. Out of the forty (40) congregations of the Lutheran church in Mwanza (ELV diocese) only nineteen (19) trained pastors are available to cater to the Lutheran congregations, and seventeen (17) evangelists are still undergoing training. What this means is that, there cannot be church planting or evangelism due to lack of man power. One important thing I noticed in Mwanza is how receptive the people are to visitors. They are eager to hear and be taught the Christian life. They want to know Christ but have no means to do so. The ground for harvest is ripe in Mwanza but the labourers are very few.

### What we will be doing

We have been asked to come and help. They want us to help with **evangelism and building up churches** in two areas just outside Mwanza (Kesesa and Usagala). Christiana, a teacher, has been asked to help start a **Lutheran secondary school** in the area. In view of this, we ask for your help in sending us to Mwanza to be a part of the labourers already there. We have received the invitation, but we cannot go unless we are sent by you. We need you our supporters and prayer partners to support us both financially and prayerfully. [My full report from my trip to Mwanza can be found on our website at [www.globallutheranoutreach.com/blog/gbeanquoi](http://www.globallutheranoutreach.com/blog/gbeanquoi) Please feel free to read it and make comments.]

### Can you help?

We are excited about this **open door for mission outreach**, but we need brothers and sisters who understand the need to bring Christ to those in darkness to help us with your gifts, large and small. Start up costs will bring the first year expenses to about \$30,000.

If there is any way you can be a blessing to our ministry, or you know someone that is interested in supporting our ministry to Tanzania please feel free to contact the person or link us with the person and we will be glad you did so.

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Donations can be made online at:

[www.globallutheranoutreach.com/blog/gbeanquoi](http://www.globallutheranoutreach.com/blog/gbeanquoi) (click the "Give" button.)

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**In Nigeria:** Donations can be deposited into

Acct. Name: **Mission Advocates**

Acct.Num.: **0021538498**

**Access Bank** branch: **16, Ahmadu Bello Way, Jos**

Sort Code: **044211438** Acct. Type: **Current**

Designate deposit as: **"for Gbeanquoi mission"**

**In the US:** Checks can be mailed to:

Global Lutheran Outreach

6709 Ficus Drive, Miramar, FL 33023

(Make check out to "Global Lutheran Outreach" with "Gbeanquoi" in the memo line.)

***Donations in the US are tax-deductible***

### Please Pray

- God's directions as we seek out our support partners.
- God's provision of support as we prepare and deploy for service in Tanzania
- Opportunities to visit congregations and individuals to share our vision.
- Progress in ongoing preparations for cross-cultural ministry.