# July 2021 Volume 40 Tales of Tanzania



## 'Gone Fishing'

These amazing Christians spent a week out in the 'bush' surrounding Shinyanga, walking the dirt paths, greeting people, sharing the story of Jesus Christ, and baptizing men, women, children and infants. Our Lord was at work alongside us, opening 830 hearts to baptism and faith in Jesus Christ. Bob and Susie Allen, of Whitehouse, Tennessee, organize this tour every year, and have been here 14 times. Last year was impossible due to Covid. Being my first experience, I shed a few tears over the infants, converted Muslims, and elderly being baptized.

Their zeal for sharing the story of Jesus is contagious, and without even realizing how influential that experience was for me, I encountered the powerful and mysterious work of God in a sweet incident the following week.

Walking to the rural areas outside of Mwadui, with Greta alongside, a huge baobab tree with boulders jutting out of the ground nearby grabbed my attention. I sat down to admire the setting and enjoy the cool morning breeze with grazing cattle and a small group of curious children staring at us. As we settled onto the rocks, I invited the chil dren to come closer. Most people are very fearful of dogs, but Greta is an uncommon breed for this area and draws attention (as do white people). After pointing out some baobab seed pods remaining on the tree, one of the boys began throwing rocks at them, knocking one to the ground. He wanted me to have it — a very precious gift to me.

As we exchanged names, ages, school attendance, and general information, I asked the children if they knew Jesus Christ. At first they did not understand my question, but then a young girl who understood English translated. They knew Jesus but had not been baptized. I asked them to meet me the next day at the same location and to bring their friends and parents, and I would bring friends with me and we'd talk some more. They eagerly agreed. They came! 26 were baptized, and now worship service is held every Sunday and over 46 received the Holy Spirit through baptism. KKKT Mwadui Lutheran Church is now discussing starting a new church at that site. Glory to God on high!



# "Taste of Maasai Culture"

The Maasaii people are indigenous to Tanzania and still live as their ancestors, dependent on natural resources for their sustenance. Many speak excellent English, are

honest, hard workers striving to own large herds of cattle and goats. I have become good friends with Silas and Alpha, and was honored as a guest at Silas' wedding ceremony. Three days of ceremonial gathering of friends and family, feasts of freshly killed beef and pilau, spirits concocted from natural plants and trees, and colorful dress, concluded with vows exchanged and celebratory dancing and singing. My friend, Happy Gacha, accompanied me for this unique occasion, and we both were elated to be among the Maasai and experience their culture.

Silas, his bride, Kisiko, are pictured below with me. Videos of their dance are worth seeing on FB, Tales of Tanzania.





Silas and Kisoko are Lutherans. The people have built a small white church with blue roof, where a strikingly beautiful cross is placed atop. Children attend school there during the week.



#### Thanks to all who have given books and money for books! Most are checked out and being read! Students are so thankful



Sharing some homestyle American food and hospitality with students who are orphans and unable to travel home over the June holiday. We went shopping, enjoyed movies, and laughed a lot!



## Masks are back in fashion—-COVID 19 is a serious threat here!

Pictured here are new teachers at Mwadui Lutheran Secondary getting their masks. Although they are not required at school, many places in Mwadui do not allow admittance without them now.



How to Give and Contact Information

Your personal sacrifices and prayers sustain this ministry and encourage me. I give thanks for you, and ask that God bless you and keep you. If you are able and so called, you may contribute by making checks out to Global Lutheran Outreach with "Kruckemeyer" on the memo line, and mailing it to GLO at 6709 Ficus Drive Miramar, FL 33023. Online giving is available at my website: <u>www.GlobalLutheranOutreach.com/blog/Kruckemeyer</u>.

Monthly contributions continue to fall below my budgeted needs. I plan to return to the U.S. in January 2022 and will need your help to remain for that length of time.

Visit "Tales of Tanzania" on Facebook for more pictures and updates throughout the month. <u>facebook.com/TalesofTanzania</u>.

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