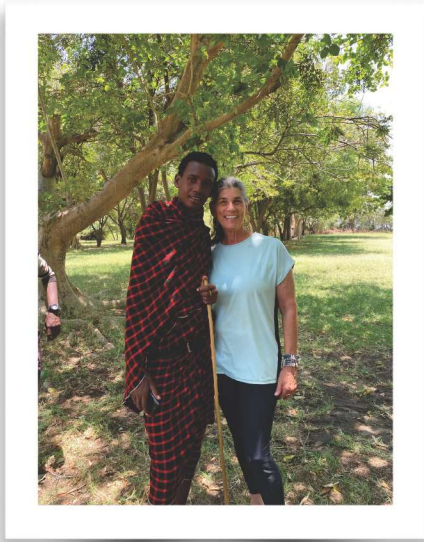


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## Tales of Tanzania



## Hongera! Graduation 2021

**Congratulations** to our Mwadui Lutheran Form 4 students' for earning certificates of completion. Although parents could not attend due to COVID restrictions, students joyfully entertained us with dancing, singing, gymnastics and athletic performances. Bishop Makala addressed the audience giving encouraging advice and commendations to the students. Many students were recognized for outstanding performances.



Steady growth in student population, improved scores on national exams, and talented teaching staff, reflect a few of the many positive attributes of this fine school. Congrats! May God continue to bless this school, students, teachers, and all leadership so that they may experience success living according to His plan and will for them.

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## Worship Under the Baobab Tree

In July's newsletter I shared the story of how we began having worship services in a village just outside of Mwadui, under a baobab tree. Recently, we were forced to relocate to a different tree because of unfriendly bees wanting to share our fruit, but we continue to meet every Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers join me to sing, share Bible stories, and play games with 40-50 children every Saturday morning. Sundays, Mwadui KKKT Lutheran Church designates a pastor, church leader, or student pastor to deliver the message to the adults, and young college students lead the children's study. Sometimes Mwadui Lutheran students accompany us to sing and dance with the children. Saturdays we have fruit for the children, water in five gallon cans, and music for games and singing. Children enjoy having their faces, hair, arms, legs and feet washed before devouring the fruit, usually bananas or watermelon. Access to water is more than 2-3 miles and children on bicycles carry the water most evenings.



Your faithful and prayerful support allows the provision of fruit, basic needs where there is a shortage, Bibles and Children's Bible Story books in Swahili and English. Many needs go unmet, so with your help we can do more. There is still an opportunity to contribute if you want to help; please see the information below to send your contribution.

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Mwadui KKKT Lutheran Church would like to plant a church at this site in the village and has been told the owner is willing to sell the land. At this time, if you will, join with me in prayer to seek the will of God, asking for provision from the SELVD Diocese to provide additional involvement and support. The rainy season is due, and soon we will need shelter, if even a tent. A water well would lift a heavy burden from the children who transport the water on bicycle or foot. What a joy it is to see this small congregation growing in love for Christ and for each other.

**Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for allowing us to plant seeds of love in this small village. May You continue to bless these Your beloved, and may they witness Your love through worshipping together and sharing your Word in the rural areas of Tanzania. Amen.**

### **Beatings and Corporal Punishment**

Over 7 years ago, Linda and Eric Funke witnessed the abusive beatings of students at Mwadui Lutheran Secondary School, the shaming, slapping and kneeling. They began planting seeds of change, of love rather than anger, and for a short time, this practice was limited or just well hidden. And this baton, passed to me for such a time as this, has proven quite difficult. I, too, have witnessed abuse in different ways and in different degrees of severity. As did Linda, I have cried for these children, spent sleepless nights worrying for their safety. By emphasizing the love of Christ and love for one another, and praying for the Lord's intervention, we plead for change. It breaks my heart and I know the Lord's heart as well, to see His children physically abused. So now, the Funkes and I agree this practice must stop before another Lutheran missionary from America can be encouraged to come here. This has spurred action by Headmaster, Rev. Nzelu and Bishop Makala.

Rev. Nzelu emphatically announced to his staff last week that there is to be no more corporal punishment. Understand, this is not his first announcement on this matter, but it seems the diocese is prepared to punish and even let teachers go if they continue to beat the students. For me, this will have to be proven for an extended period of time, regardless of whether a missionary is here or not.

Change is occurring because you are praying alongside me, and our Lord loves to hear from us, asking for His help and His mercy on His people. These teachers need prayers, prayers to soften their hearts, transforming hearts of anger into love, helping them learn methods to discipline and exercise mutual respect for effective learning. ***Will you pray with me?***

***Heavenly Father, we fall on bended knee to honor you, to praise you, and to thank you for Your bountiful gifts. Your love for us goes beyond our understanding, and we ask for wisdom to know you better each day. We come together asking for undeserved forgiveness in all the ways we fail You, knowing you have already granted us this. Specifically now, we ask Your guidance on the teachers at Mwadui Lutheran Secondary School so that they may transform harshness, anger, and culture into love, understanding, patience, kindness, goodness, and mutual respect for their students. Give them the wisdom and***

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***knowledge to teach in this manner, and give them joy in so doing. In Jesus' Holy and precious name, we pray this. Amen***

### [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. On-line giving is available at my website: [www.GlobalLutheranOutreach.com/blog/Kruckemeyer](http://www.GlobalLutheranOutreach.com/blog/Kruckemeyer).

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.  
[facebook.com/TalesofTanzania](https://facebook.com/TalesofTanzania).

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*If you no longer want to receive these newsletters, please send me an email and I will remove your name from the email list.*



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