



November 2018

## GIVING THANKS!

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

1 Chronicles 16:34

The Thanksgiving season always has us thinking about the many things in our lives that we are grateful for. This year we are absolutely thankful for getting the opportunity to be a part of the work that God is doing here in Tanzania.

This precious little girl's name is Martha. She was the very first child to walk through the doors of the Lutheran Church's preschool. And she has faithfully come to learn and have fun every single day that the has been open. Each day I get to know more of Martha's sweet and spunky personality. But don't let her name fool you, she is nothing like the anxiously busy Martha that we often hear about from the New Testament. She is teaching me to take life slow and enjoy the simple things. Every day, without fail, during breakfast time, she tells me how deliciously sweet the porridge is and is always the last one to finish. She greets everyone with a hug and encourages the other children to, as well. She is less interested in getting her work done from that day's lesson and more interested in asking many questions just so she can get your undivided attention. Out on the playground, she radiates joy while she is on the swings and as soon as it is someone else's turn the tears start flowing. She, also, never misses a moment to break out in a dance to the songs playing in her head. But perhaps my favorite thing about her is her laughter, which happens frequently and can bring a smile to anyone's face. I am so thankful to get the opportunity to have met Martha!



We are grateful for our church community here in Tanzania.

One early morning, my phone rang resounding through our quiet house. It was the church diocese secretary asking frantically if we could meet her at the church in an hour. I answered that we could and with that the phone call ended. Immediately, I started to think about all the different reasons she could be calling us up to the church. But we rushed to get ready for the day and headed into town. When we arrived at the church, we noticed a big cake and many chairs. We sat as they started to announce that they were celebrating birthdays from July, August, September, and October. Both Austin and I's birthdays are in those months so we were called up to get a birthday hat and a piece of cake. But the best moment was when the whole entire church staff sang happy birthday to us. It was that fun and unexpected morning when I realized just how thankful I am to work alongside the most amazing people.



We are, also, thankful for family visiting us during this holiday season.

For two weeks, we were blessed to host Austin's mom, Stephanie, and brother, Will, at our home in Shinyanga, Tanzania. We were able to introduce them to our ministry with the preschool and church. But they were, also, able to do some ministry themselves and share their hearts with the people here. One of the days, we took them to meet the women with albinism who are participating in the sewing program. Stephanie had a special message for the women saying that they were created beautifully and being covered in prayer by many people. Then she let each lady pick out some beautiful jewelry that fit their style and personality. All the women were so thankful and felt so blessed by this small gesture of love.



We, also, travelled with them to experience God's beauty and creativity of creation in the Serengeti as well as celebrate Thanksgiving. These memories with our family we will cherish forever.

Most importantly, we are incredibly grateful for you, our faithful supporters. We couldn't do this without you. Thank you for making it possible for us to continue our ministry here in Tanzania. Thank you for the sacrifices you make and the generosity you pour out! And thank you for joining God's great adventure through supporting this ministry.

Because of our generous supporters, we have been able to purchase some new and much needed furniture for the preschool. The teachers and students, alike, have shown much appreciation for the new cubbies, tables, and chalkboard.



## Prayer Requests

- Thanksgiving for a safe and fun visit with Austin's family and for the talented carpenter who has hand crafted all the furniture for the preschool.
- Safe travels for Amber's parents and family friends as they travel to Tanzania to visit us this upcoming month for Christmas.
- That the preschool would continue to grow and welcome in more young children from the surrounding community in order to spread the light, life, and love of Jesus.

### ***How To Partner With Us Financially:***

Make checks out to

"Global Lutheran Outreach".

Write "REED" in the memo line.

Mail to **Global Lutheran Outreach**

6709 Ficus Drive,

Miramar, FL, 33023

OR

You can give online using credit or debit card at our website.

\*All donations are tax deductible.\*

### **THRIVENT MEMBERS:**

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