

Hanson Heartbeat

Our Term in Review



Friends,

What a privilege it is to serve to the Lord in Tanzania! It is hard to believe that just over 3 years have come and gone. We are now getting ready to return to the States for a 6 month deputation period. This last term has been one of our most exciting since we came to Tanzania in 1994. God is doing some amazing things and it is wonderful to be able to have a part in what He is doing!

A Six Year Dream Fulfilled



Five and a half years ago the Lord gave us a vision to reach the least reached places in Tanzania. We targeted 230 areas where we didn't have a church, most of the areas were strongly Islamic or animistic. The challenge was enormous, not only did we need to find pastors willing to go into those areas but we also needed the finances to help buy church plots, send the pastor to Bible school and build a small start-up church building. In February 2011, by God's grace, we accomplished the goal God had given us. Today there are churches in every corner of the country. In areas where people had no access to Christ today people

have an opportunity to know Him. Thank you to those of you who have prayed and given to see this goal accomplished. It has been a great adventure to partner with you.

Training Pastors

One of the ways that we have been able to partner with the Tanzania Assemblies of God is through raising funds for Bible schools. In the last three years we have worked with teams to build 3 church planting schools and a principle's house at Arusha Bible school. Training is a vital part of our strategy to reach Tanzania. A well trained pastor is the key to discipling Tanzanians to reach their own communities for

Christ.



A coastal Muslim elder from one of the villages where we planted a tarafa church. One of our pastors who planted a church in a completely Muslim area. He faced tremendous persecution but remained faithful.



We have also had the privilege of partnering with friends to open a new Bible school in Mtama, a strongly Muslim area on the southern coast of Tanzania. What an incredible opportunity to help the church grow in an area of almost complete darkness. I'll never forget walking on to the cashew plantation we had purchased and beginning to dream of what God could do. Today the dream is a reality. Not only did we build a Bible school on the property but we also are just finishing our first vocational training school, where young people can learn a trade and be disciplined at the same time!



The blue areas were the areas where we did not have any churches before we started the Tarafa Project. Today there are churches spread through out the blue zone!

Decade of Harvest - Strategically Planning to Reach Tanzania

In 2008, under the leadership of our new General Superintendent the Lord birthed a new vision in our church. For 12 days we gathered as leaders to pray and fast for God's direction. God gave the church a bold vision for the next 10 years to aggressively make disciples in every corner of Tanzania. It has been amazing to see God's faithfulness in our endeavors. Here is an update on the progress the church is making:

10 Year Goal

7,200 new churches
1,800,000 new members
7,200 trained pastors
21 church planting schools
30 primary & secondary schools
10 foreign missionary couples

2 Year Benchmark

1,270 churches planted
132,218 new members
1,239 new pastors trained
20 church planting schools started
2 schools started, plots purchased in most districts
2 couples on the field, 2 couples itinerating to go

Targeting East Africa's Unreached People Groups



In the last 6 months God has been speaking to us as a mission regarding the millions of unreached people in East Africa. While some of the countries in East Africa like Tanzania are experiencing tremendous revival and growth; there are many countries and people groups that have little or no gospel witness. God has called us corporately to target these places. As a result we travelled to many places and people groups to see how we could engage. The places and the faces of those we visited have been etched in our hearts. Pray for us, as a area, as we begin to reorganize ourselves for a new initiative to reach these people groups.

Pray with us for the Rashaida in Sudan, the Comoros islands in the Indian Ocean, the Muslim majority on the island of Pemba and the desperately lost Somali and Afar from the Horn of Africa.



Your Partners in the Gospel,

Scott, Karen, Megan & Makenzi