



April 2015

## Woods Tanzania Update: Making a Difference



### Empowering Widows!!

An important part of sharing the Gospel, and planting churches is "transformation". In many African tribes, widows are abused and left to live out the rest of their lives in extreme poverty. They have to beg to get anything. CMF has been coming along side of the Tanzanian churches to show them that just as in the Book of Acts, the church has a responsibility to care for widows.

Our team mate, Michelle Moss, heads this widows' ministry. She has been working with churches and their pastors to identify widows to enter the program. In the program, the widows have been taught many things, but one important aspect is the ability to start their own businesses and take care of themselves and their children.

This past Saturday, we all gathered to celebrate with 3 widows, who have graduated from the program, and have successfully started their businesses! It was a great day of singing, celebrating and eating. We bless these three ladies as they move forward with their businesses.

Transformation of these ladies' lives, and new understanding by the churches is a

great thing to celebrate!!



## Famine Relief

We have been involved in about 28 locations with famine relief. I recently visited one area close to Magugu. Our church planters were the ones distributing the food. They have planted 3 churches in this remote area in the past few years. Some of the Muslims in the community said, "we aren't going to take food from Christians!" Five other Muslims said, "What are you talking about? When has the mosque come and helped with food? These 5 said, "we are going to take the food, and follow Jesus and get baptized!"

Jesus be glorified, as those around us see our love and good works!



## Victory in Sadness

One of our church planter families in the Tanga region, Andrea and Martha, recently had their 10 year old first born daughter die from heart and lung complications.

They were going to have to bury her close to the hospital in Dar es Salaam, because of lack of funds to pay for carrying the body to their village. When we heard about this, we sent them the money to transport the body.

Bringing the body to the Muslim village where they live, then gave a great opportunity for the Gospel!! The whole village came to the funeral and burial. It was the first time that many of them had ever heard the Gospel.

John 12:24 "Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds".

## Nyamwezi Training Course

We thought that our off-site Church planter training course would begin in March, but due to a leader's death, it has been postponed. Right now it is looking like it will start on May 9th. We have 13 Nyamwezi couples signed up for the training!! God is good. Please pray for them as they move forward to take territory from the enemy!!

## Church Planter Forum

We will be joining church planters from around the world in Athens, Greece in May. It will be a great time of sharing with others who have a calling to church planting. I will also be in a meeting for all CMF Church planter team leaders. While we are there, we are going with our team to the old city of Corinth, and have a short Sunday morning prayer service.

After the forum, Judy and I will go to Christchurch, New Zealand to play with 2 of our grandchildren, Kecia and Judah (and of course visit with our daughter, Kendra and son-in-law, Jeremy).

We would appreciate your prayers for our travel.

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