



Habari from the Ziems August 2023

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not unto your own understanding,
In all your ways acknowledge Him and he will direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6*

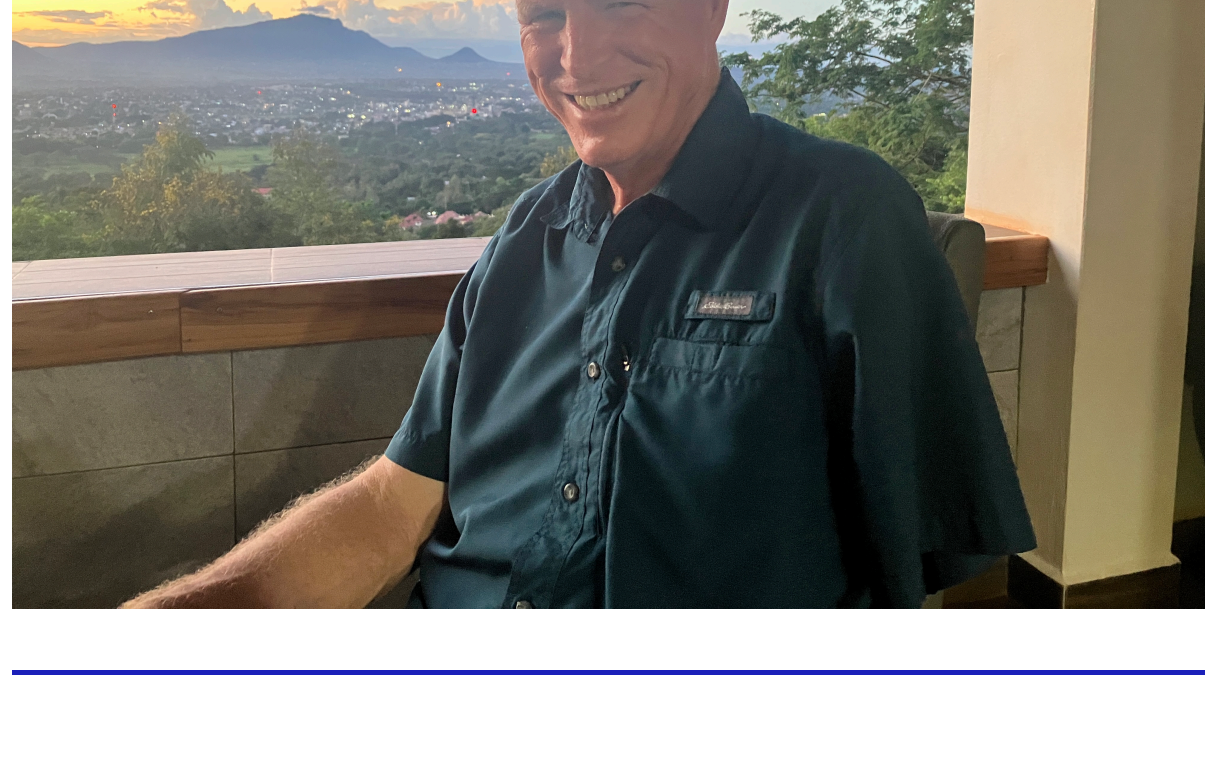
August 15, 2003 - 20 years ago

A tremendously horrible day and a wonderfully glorious day. It depends upon your perspective! It certainly was a day that changed our lives! I remember sitting on the floor, outside the ER at U of M hospital, in the dark. There were no lights because of the blackout, praying and begging God that Todd would be okay. I was surprisingly calm and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. It was the day that the tree fell on Todd and pinched off his left arm. An ER nurse gave me his wedding ring shortly after they allowed me in the emergency room and I remember saying, "Honey, if you didn't want to go to Tanzania, you could have just said so!" And I believe he did smile. I was both so very grateful that Todd was alive and so very devastated when the surgeon clearly said they could not reattach his arm and that there was a huge risk of infection.

Somewhere in the piles of containers and boxes in my dad's basement there are several newspaper articles, pictures, cards of sympathy, notes of encouragement, as well as journals documenting my thoughts of that time of our lives. As I write this, I wish I had access to them so I could better remember! I do remember the tremendous outpouring of love from so many of our friends and even at times people didn't know at all! I know that many of you also have many memories of those months. Please feel free to share them with us or others.

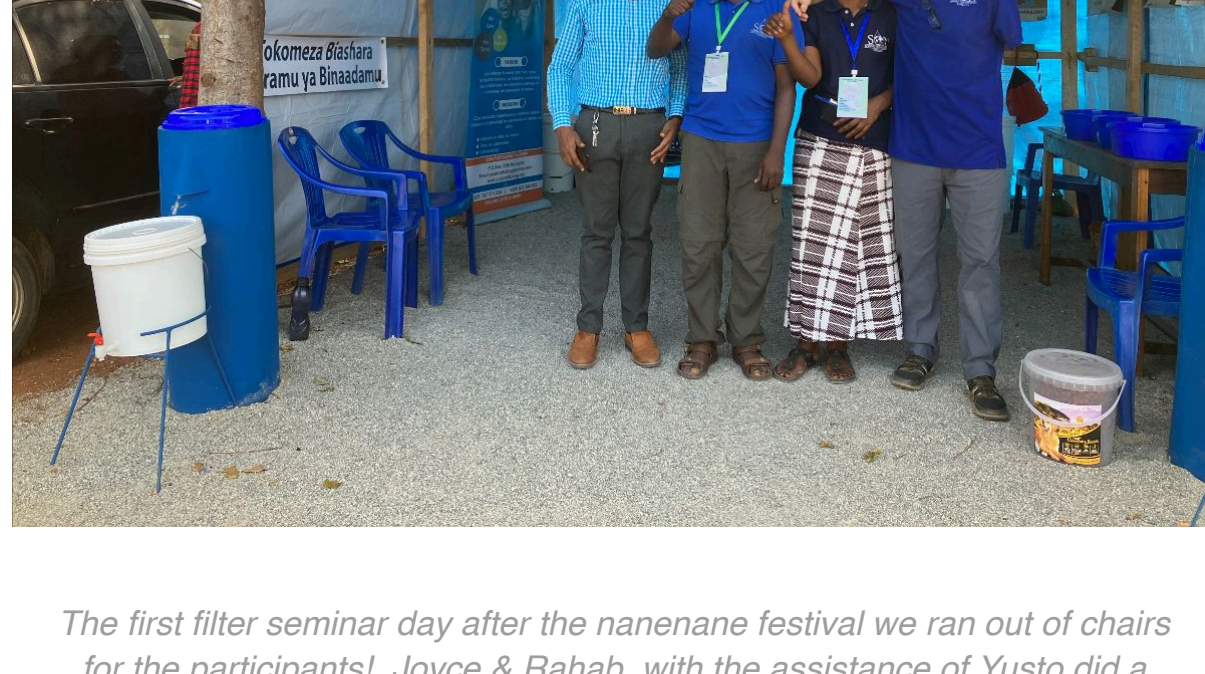
Now, I don't think of that day very often. However, the 20th anniversary of that day is certainly time to remember. It still was both a tremendously horrible day and a wonderfully glorious day. God has used us, Todd especially, in so many wonderful ways both in Tanzania and in the U.S. God has provided for us, taught us, used us for his purposes, strengthened and loved us in so many wonderful ways. The Serving Our Neighbor Ministry and Team have become something we could not even imagine on that day in 2003. It is overwhelming and so humbling to realize what God has done.

When I asked Todd how he feels today....his response was"I still miss my arm! And I miss giving big bear hugs."



Nanene Fair

August 8th or "NaneNane" or Farmers Day, is a holiday in Tanzania. It is a week long event in Morogoro Town with its own fairgrounds. It is very similar to a State Fair in the U.S. The SON-TZ Team was kept quite busy answering questions and sharing about the bio-sand filter. This year we shared our booth with our partnering organization Zuia (Prevention) Trafficking Tanzania.

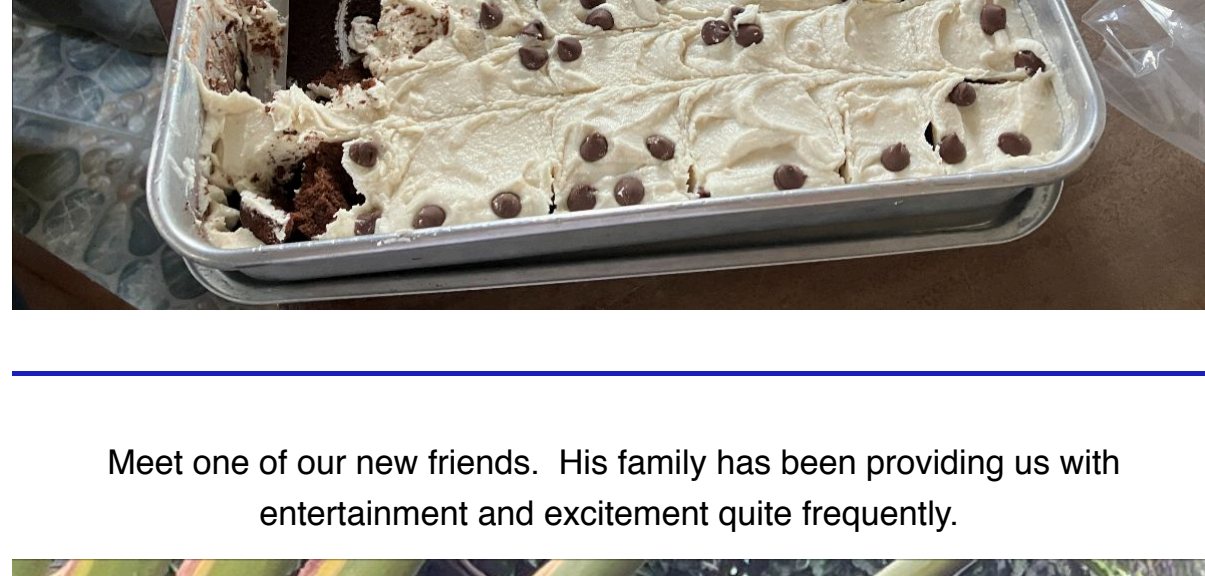


The first filter seminar day after the nanene festival we ran out of chairs for the participants! Joyce & Rahab, with the assistance of Yusto did a great job of improvising so everyone would be as comfortable as possible!

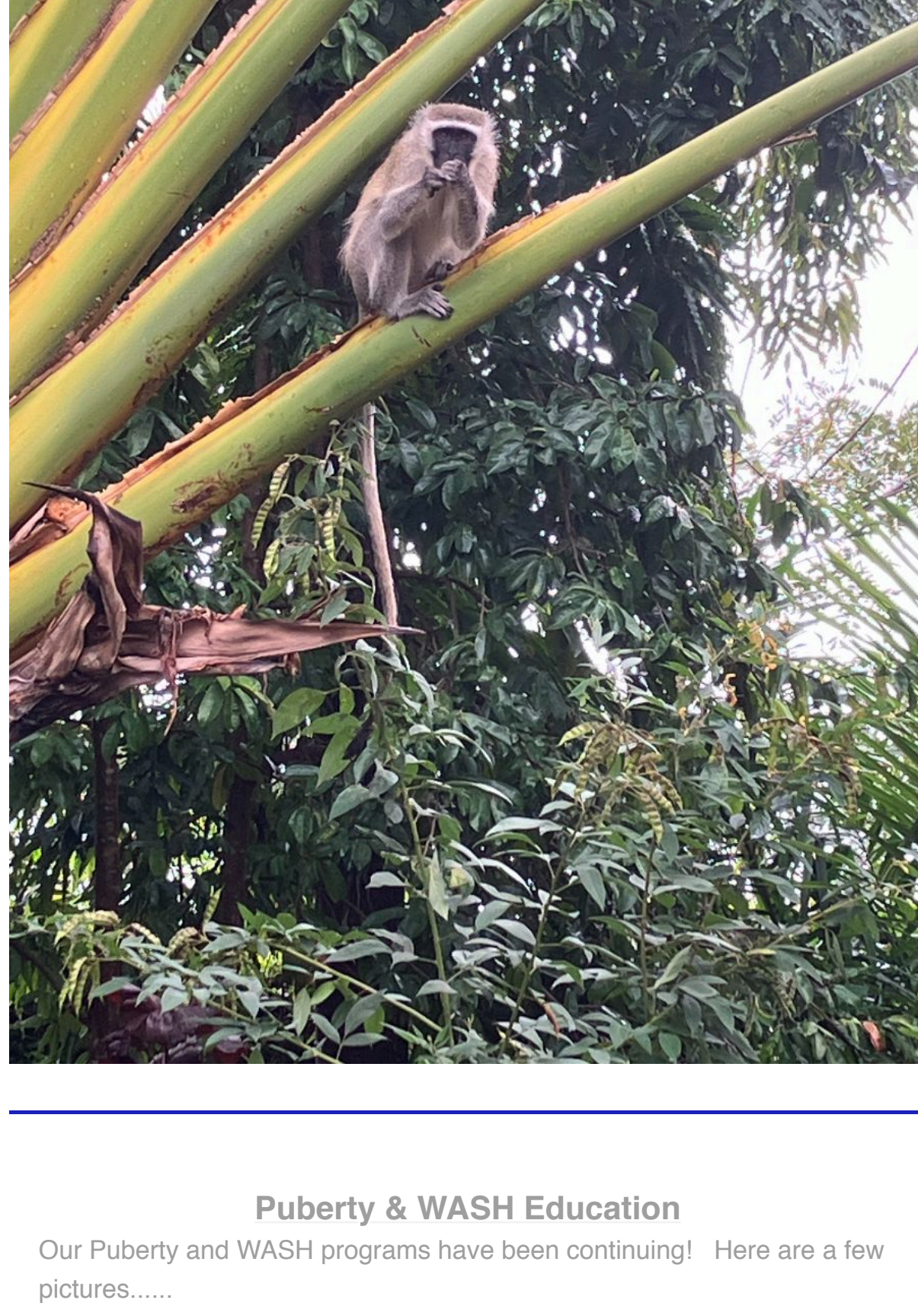


HAPPY BIRTHDAY DENNIS!

The SON-TZ team celebrated Dennis's 60th birthday last month! We are so grateful for Dennis and his commitment to Serving Our Neighbor! His is a very valuable member of our Team, providing leadership, encouragement & wisdom. And although 60 is retirement age in Tanzania, we are praying that God will continue to use him in amazing ways as he Serves His Neighbors and the members of the SON Team.



Meet one of our new friends. His family has been providing us with entertainment and excitement quite frequently.



Puberty & WASH Education

Our Puberty and WASH programs have been continuing! Here are a few pictures.....



***The prayers of a righteous man are powerful & effective!
Please commit to praying with us.....***

- For the SON Team Leaders to make wise decisions that will glorify our Lord, especially Charles, Emmanuel, Dennis, & Yusto.
- For Evance (Bukoba workshop) and his new bride as they start their life together.
- For God to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to accomplish His purposes for the SON Ministry. We continue to be so very grateful for the support and generosity of so many of you individually as well as our partnering organizations.
- For the health and safety of the SON-TZ families.
- For our activities in Kihonda Bwawani Village, including filter installation and the Puberty Program.
- For wisdom and patience for Todd & I as we continue to step back and turn over the leadership to our Tanzanian Team.
- Praise God for the SON International & SON-TZ Board members. We are grateful for their commitment and wisdom. Please pray for them.
- For safe and uneventful travel for Todd & I during our upcoming trip to the U.S. That our time will be both productive and restful. Also that everything will go smoothly for those responsible for taking care of our house and Simba, our security dog, and Todd's walking partner!
- For the leaders of our partnering organization "Zuia" as they request permission from the government to teach and educate young people and communities.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- Todd & I will be in the U.S. and available to share what God is doing here in Tanzania with the SON Team from September through Christmas. We hope to see as many of you as possible! There are still many dates open...so let us know!
- We are looking for "Taste of Tanzania" hosts to better share the SON Ministry during our time in the U.S. - It is alot of fun, the food is great and it helps SON to share the living water of Jesus.
- Stay alert for other events which involve COFFEE!
- A SON Calendar for 2024 is in the process of being prepared. We will need help in sharing and distributing.
- Learn more about ZUIA TRAFFICKING TANZANIA - at www.zuia Trafficking.org

*The Spirit and the Bride say "Come!", And let him who hears say, "Come!", whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."
Revelation 22:17*