



## HABARI FROM THE ZIEMS

### APRIL 2018

Hello Everyone!

We hope that you all had a wonderful Easter celebrating our Risen Lord. Here in Tanzania it is a 4 day weekend for most people as both Christian and Muslim Holidays are official public Holidays. But even though it is officially a Holiday, many people, similar to other countries, do not have any idea what the Holiday represents. As we continue to Serve Our Neighbors our prayer is that many will come to know the hope that we have in Jesus, the Living Water! I have been procrastinating on getting this out, mostly because so much has happened over the past few months, both exciting and challenging, that it's hard to choose where to begin! *(And also because I have to learn how to use mailchimp all over again!)*

### ACTIVITIES IN MKOKO VILLAGE

The second lesson of our Puberty Education Curriculum was completed this past week. The students were excited to be given their books to take home! It is a real treat to have a book of your own. The SON team of staff and volunteers did a great job. There are two more lessons for this group of students.



Other activities in Mkoko have included sharing the Easter Story with the younger children inclusive of balloons to attract interest and a hunt for eggs with candy inside! The SON team, under the leadership of Charles, visits each household that has a filter and hands out Shabu or Alum packets to those that are doing a good job of

using and maintaining their filters. The river water in Mkoko during this time of year is very very muddy and dirty and the filters become clogged very easily if the water isn't properly settled out before pouring it into the filter.



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## World Water Day!

On March 22nd the world celebrates water. The SON team met together to review our mission, learn about other bio-sand filter and WASH Projects, receive a report on the ABINET conference in Malawi that Karim attended, discuss poverty, and practice using some of our new data gathering technology. Of course there were a few games, food & fun as well!







**THE SON TEAM SHOWING OFF THEIR NEW T-SHIRTS**



Thanks to the efforts of several SON Team members, we have had a few visits from government officials. We are continuing to follow up in hopes that we will be able to work with and through government systems for WASH education and installation of filters in homes throughout Morogoro Town, District and Region. With support and recommendation of various government leaders we would be able to serve many more people with filters and education.

### **WASH EDUCATION**

The SON WASH Education team finished the first course ( 7 lessons) of the year in 3 different primary schools close to our Morogoro workshop. The evaluation of the course with the teachers from the schools was very encouraging! It is clear that the work with the students, mostly class 5, is having an impact on both the students and the school environment! For example Shayo a teacher at Mkundi primary schools told us that the WASH education is making a big difference at his school because the students that have completed the WASH education now try to keep the school

environment clean by picking up their trash and also washing their hands after using the toilet. He notices the difference! And from Kihonda Noto school, teacher Secharo says that the children are now encouraging each other to wash their hands after using the toilets and also don't ask for snacks from other students because they are afraid they have not washed their hands! Nice Job SON Team!



Sharing Jesus through the use of BIG SCREEN. We have been partnering with local pastors and evangelists in the Morogoro Area.

## THE WEDDING!

Madison and Andrey were married on the 17th of February in downtown Detroit. We are so very happy for them. Everyone was dressed in their finest including Todd who decided it was time to buy a new suit, as his old one was nearly 25 years old! We all had a wonderful time with good food, laughter, dancing and a great photographer! If you want to see more pics just send us an email and we will give you the link.





### **A BIT OF FUN!**

After the wedding, Todd & I were blessed to share with the congregation of Castle Oaks Covenant Church in Colorado. And of course, while in the area we had to spend a couple of days on the slopes! Thank you so much to our friends who hosted us. We so enjoyed our time of sharing, fun, skiing and fellowship!

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### ***PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER.....***

- For us, along with the entire SON Team to place trust in God each and everyday, in the little things as well as the big things. To remember God IS in control.
- For the children and families of Mkoko Village. Open minds and hearts for the things of God as well as improvements to their physical health.

- For wisdom, discernment as we go forward with setting of goals and plans for the future for SON in Tanzania and the development of new partners including government officials.
- For Emmanuel and his family currently as they have relocated to a different area, enrolled their children in new schools and are beginning to Serve their Neighbors close to Bukoba Town. Please pray for health, both spiritually and physically.
- For Yusto's family as they have finally relocated to Morogoro and are undergoing a time of transition and for Yusto as he is being given more responsibilities at the workshop
- For God to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to accomplish His purposes for His work.
- For Soko and his future wife, Janet. They will be married this coming weekend. Please pray for all to go smoothly and for family and friends attending the wedding to be gracious in their support of the event and their future together.
- The the Dodoma team lead by Dismas as they are challenging themselves with alot of outreach and work in the coming months. Also for the new leader of the Bible College to allow the continuation of the filter workshop on their property without payment of rent.
- For all SON Team members to be true to the mission and values of SON. That God will work in their hearts and make them strong in their faith and integrity.

*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*

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