



## **HABARI FROM THE ZIEMS December 2019**



## **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

The SON Team in Morogoro took time to fellowship and celebrate the birth of Jesus this week, just before taking our Lakizo or Holiday. We had lots of fun, food and games. In the Dodoma Workshop, one of the local goats, which keeps wandering into the workshop to eat the young trees, made for a wonderful Christmas Celebration!



## MKOKO VILLAGE

This little cutie made it her mission to help Charles with filter followups in Mkoko Village during the last visit. She insisted on following him everywhere and would run to get whatever he needed! This time of year, because of the heavy rains, the river water is very dirty. Rain water is readily available, but one of the challenges is to convince them that even though the rain water is clear, it still contains "vijidudu" which can make them sick, so they should use their filters!

## Mkoko Primary School

Joyce, Rahab and Mgaya shared the Story of Joseph with the students in Mkoko Primary School during the November visit. They all enjoyed the lessons and were eager to color the pictures after hearing about Joseph and his many-colored coat! It had been nearly a year since Joyce was able to be in Mkoko. Her favorite students were very happy to see her! We will be continuing with WASH and PUBERTY education beginning in January.





**WASH Education** is making a difference at Azimio Primary School. Although the standard 5 students didn't have enough time to finish their Action Plan during the normal WASH time...all on their own they brought their shovels and rakes the next day to complete the clean up of their environment! Of course the BIG TEETH are also a hit when learning about oral hygiene! Stickers are used as prizes when students get a right answer or participate in a positive way. They put them on their foreheads so everyone can see!



## A visit to the Dodoma Filter Workshop to meet some new faces!

We headed to Dodoma from Morogoro shortly after our arrival back in Tanzania. We were excited to meet the newest member of the SON Team, Gracie! It was also nice to meet two of the young volunteers that are helping Dimas. We also took a walk around the community and were welcomed by Siamon, his wife Olivia and his son Arnold. Todd & Arnold hit it off just great, but apparently, Dorcas, Dimas's 2 year old, wanted no part of the big Mzungu! She ran and hid for the entire visit! We are looking forward to what God has in store for this team in the coming months.



## Our Time in the U.S.

It was wonderful to spend some significant time in the U.S. with our family attending a wedding, birthday celebrations, helping with medical issues, and simply being together. We so enjoyed meeting many of you and sharing how you are Serving Our Neighbors in Tanzania. It was a very encouraging time for us. God provided for all of our needs and showed us how awesome he really is! We are so grateful for the interest, prayers and support. We are truly in awe of what God can do! While we continue to face many challenges (who doesn't!), we are confident that God will provide for His Work, and we are blessed to be a part of it! We did have some times of rest and relaxation. We are also realizing how much fun it is to have adult children to hang out with! Also upon our return, (although delayed, that is a story for another time) we received quite the welcome, with a banner, balloons, flowers and tinsel! It was so very nice to be welcomed back!



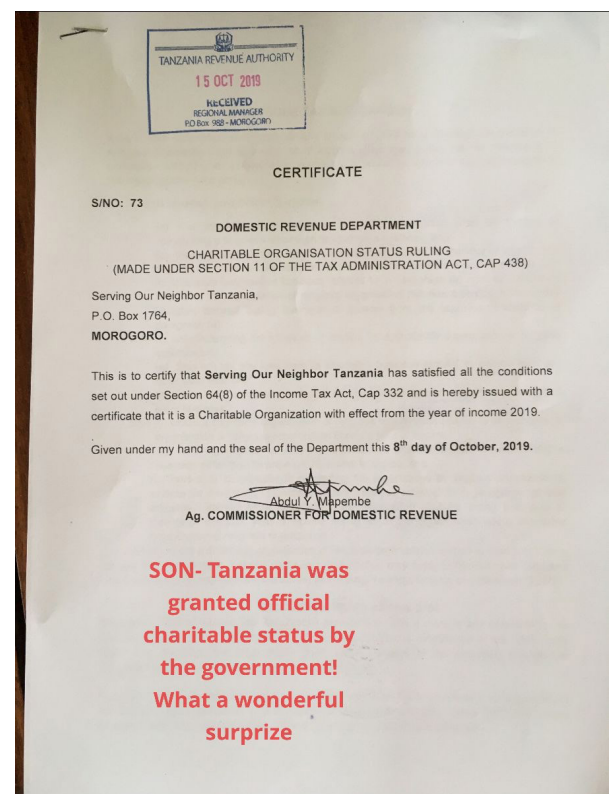
## The prayers of a righteous man are powerful & effective!

### Please pray with us.....

- For us, along with the entire SON Team to place trust in God each and everyday.
- For each of the SON families for protection and good health.
- For wisdom and grace as we plan and schedule activities for the next year. That we will be open to the voice and leading of the Holy Spirit. That we will be servants of the Most High.
- For additional SON -TZ board members that will understand and embrace the vision and mission that God has given us.
- For the Dismas and the Dodoma Team as they continue to grow the ministry in their new location.
- For our continuing ministry work in the areas of Puberty and WASH Education in the local primary schools. That God will be glorified.
- For additional volunteers & partners that have a heart for sharing Jesus in practical ways, especially in the areas of education & outreach.
- For God to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to accomplish His purposes here. Especially for the Dodoma Workshop which is need of a bigger filter delivery truck.
- Specifically for Charles and Karim as they take on more responsibilities for SON-TZ that they will continue to be men of integrity and faithfulness.

### A few other bits and blessings.....

- Todd & I went to visit the TRA shortly after we returned to follow up on our "charitable status" application....not expecting anything! But when we arrived in the proper office it was there! It had been approved! We apparently were only the 2nd organization in Morogoro region to be approved this year! That was a huge encouragement!
- We were pleasantly surprised at the participation in our "partner" meeting held the first week in December. 18 people showed up! It was a good and encouraging meeting!



- While we don't seem to have any passion fruit growing this year....our jack fruit tree has more than 50 fruit! While we aren't exactly fans, it is a local favorite!
- We seem to have successfully mostly eradicated the pests from the premises over the last couple of weeks...include rats (at least two were living INSIDE the house) and ticks! (Simba was covered in them) Unfortunately the gecko's are still hanging around! And It appears that it is more than just a rumor that the green snake is still living in the tree.....
- Don't know what to get the special someone for Christmas? Consider donating \$100 on their behalf so that a needy Tanzanian family will receive a filter and have clean water for years to come! Let us know via email ([sonintl@gmail.com](mailto:sonintl@gmail.com)) and we will send a picture and information about that family to your special someone! Donate by check or through our website using paypal. [www.son-international.org](http://www.son-international.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*