



HABARI FROM THE ZIEMS JULY 2018

Hello Everyone,

"Poverty is the inability for a human being to live in right relationship with God, self, others and the rest of creation. This poverty is due to broken individuals, broken systems and demonic forces." This is one of the principles identified in the books When Helping Hurts and From Dependence to Dignity authored by Brian Fikkert and Russell Mask. Both of these books have powerful and sometimes difficult messages. In our "Basic Seminar" we teach how when Adam and Eve sinned it affected the entire creation, and it especially broke our relationship with our Creator. As a result of this sin, we live in a world with poverty, sickness, death including diseases caused by contaminated water. The ideas discussed in these books have given me a better understanding of many of the challenges we have faced working with the poor, and the "wealthy", in our years serving here in Tanzania. There is certainly much to discuss on this topic from a biblical and practical aspect. With your help we are trying to do our very small part in the fight against poverty both material and spiritual. Thank you all for your partnership! Here are a few of things that have been happening over the past few months.

MKOKO VILLAGE

The SON Team continued with the puberty education.....
Charles, Rock & Joyce are doing an amazing job with these students.





Neema, a SON Volunteer with a heart for the women in Mkoko, is doing a great job at the clinic and with the women's group. The group continues to grow, with 18 women participating in June. A recent lesson about the rights of women sparked a lot of questions and discussion. Neema shared with them the story of Abigail from I Samuel. We are praying as she gains the trust of these women the Holy Spirit will open the door for her to share the hope and freedom that trusting in Jesus offers.



Other activities in Mkoko have included continuing to visit families that have filters and making sure their filters are working, especially because of the muddy water from the river at this time of year. The teachers and students at the primary school are taking good care of their filters. Some families in the village have used there filter for many years.



DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

Several members of the SON Team are working hard at developing new partnerships with other organizations and individuals. We are participating in a project that works with small businesses and women's groups. Joyce, Charles & Karim have participated in several meetings introducing SON and the Bio-Sand Water Filter. We will also participate in a "road show" that goes from village to village showcasing products related to Water, Sanitation & Hygiene. Pastor Dennis recently held a pastors partnership meeting at the SON office for those around Morogoro.



WASH EDUCATION CONTINUES

The SON WASH Education team in Morogoro continued to teach in the 3 primary schools close to our Morogoro workshop. This week is the last week of the second round of students for this year. As Classroom space is a big challenge, most of the lessons are taught outside. These students learned about how the bio-sand filter works by making one out of used water bottles.



The SON Dodoma Team of Dismas, Siamon and John also conducted WASH Training with children. Here you see some of the children demonstrating the ways they use water. Participatory or active learning is not a normal way of teaching in Tanzania. These students were excited to be invited to this session at a Pentecostal Church near our Dodoma Workshop.

FAMILIES RECEIVING FILTERS





Mzee Angero retired from SON this past week. At his retirement party we danced together, sang songs with him, presented him with a certificate and shared how important he was to all of us. Of course there was cake too! He is a very hard worker and we will miss having him around.



What a treat to have a visit from Pastor Paul and a team from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Paul and Todd are like brothers as they grew up across the street from each other! It was a blessing to be able to share what God is doing through SON with him and his team here on African soil!



Meeting Jane Goodall

We were invited to the U.S. Embassy for the Independence Day Celebration. As it has been several years since we were invited we were excited to go. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves despite a bit of rain. The food was great and we met quite a few interesting people, including Jane Goodall! It was quite a treat and surprise to see her there! In our brief conversation we learned that she definitely has a sense of humor and given the choice would prefer hanging out with her animal friends.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER.....

- 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.
- For the upcoming outreach in Mkoko Village. Open minds and hearts for the things of God, especially with the women's group and children's activities. Please pray especially for Neema as she is leading this women's group.
- 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 and other local charity groups and NGO's.
- For Mr. Mkunda and his family, one of our strong filter promoters and partners in Mkamba Village. He had a stroke just a few days before the writing of this newsletter and while he can communicate, his mobility is very limited. We are very sad for him.
- For Emmanuel and his family as they are still in the process of settling into a new area and community.
- For Dismas and his wife as they continue with their lives without their son. Aneth will be sitting exams for her bachelor's degree in nursing soon.
- For John, one of the Dodoma BSF Techs continues to suffer from an infection in his mouth, making it very difficult to eat.
- We are saddened because Soko is no longer part of the SON Team. Please pray for him and his new wife. We will have a mediation meeting with Soko on July 18th. Please pray for healing, changed hearts, for the truth to be acknowledged and for God to be glorified.
- For Mzee Angero as he begins this new chapter in his life. For good health and that the government will release his retirement funds.

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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