

# Report to Graham

Peter and Kim - July/August 2024

All flights went to plan although due to delays in Istanbul, the connection between Dar es salam and Mwanza was tight and we were running between terminals to just get to the gate as people were boarding. We got a good night`s sleep in Mwanza and Jesca and Yohna picked us up the next day at the expected time. It was lovely to see them both in person as it has been six years since our last visit. Both looked well with Jesca expecting her first child - a baby boy. It was also our first trip in the new Bethany vehicle which looks great and is running well. We stopped off at a bank to get some local currency and then bought some large sacks of pineapples and watermelons for the children and biscuits for the staff and ourselves.

We arrived at Bethany in the late afternoon. We didn't expect any of the children to remember us but we were warmly greeted by some familiar faces and as the week progressed it was great to see that some of the children we knew had progressed into leadership roles - Consolata and Jacob really stood out to us. Charma is a excellent presence in the home alongside his teaching role, and is the main adult presence at all evening services and the Sunday service.

We met Emma returning from school at the end of the school day. She looked well and invited us to take the preaching slot at the key stage 2 assembly the next day. Kim prepared

a message on 1 Peter 4:10 and Mathew 25 - the parable of the talents. The message was that God has given everyone different gifts and talents and we need to use these gifts and talents to serve others.

Peter took the Sunday Service and preached on the Parable of the Sower, with pots passed around the children to explain the different ground conditions. In the afternoon, we did a craft activity with Standard 1 and 2 Bethany children, making colourful fishes.

On Monday, we joined the nursery class at school and did a craft activity making colourful sheep. We joined Reception in the afternoon as they were copying out their homework and then they played a game of matching cards in a circle.

In the evening, we did craft activities with Standard 3 Bethany children making animal masks.

We had some craft activities spare so this morning we spoke to Emma to see if there were any village children in Standard 1 and 2 who had been working hard and deserved a reward. 6 children from each standard were selected and we did 2 craft groups in the dining hall. This evening we are doing a craft activity with Standard 5.

For the rest of the week, we will be doing the same. Going into classes during the day, rewarding selected village pupils with craft activities and doing bible studies and craft activities with Bethany children after dinner.

Our overall impression is that things are running well at Bethany. We haven't yet seen Mwita on site. Jesca is still living in the visitor accommodation and we understand Mwita is waiting for money from David to finish the Coordinator's house before Jesca's baby comes. Is this the case? Other news is that Charma has built a small chicken coop (funded by himself). Also, the food cooked by Grace has been excellent and varied and Jesca and Sarah have looked after us very well.

We hope this report gives you an overview of how our visit is progressing and also attach some photos!