

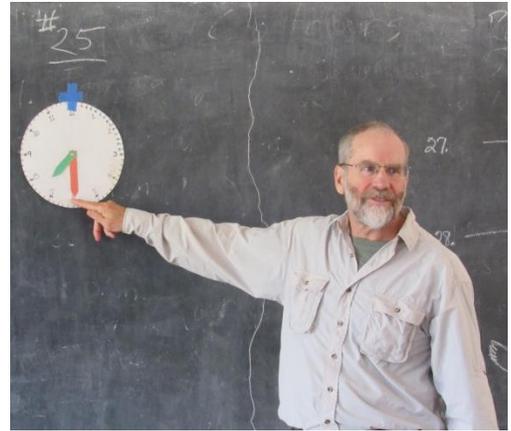
Tanzania Teaching Foundation 2015 Annual Report

The Tanzania Teaching Foundation (TTF) began as and continues to be a mission of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. We are dedicated to improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities in Tanzania through a targeted education program. Our “Pre-Form 1 English” program for students who are about to enter secondary school (high school gives students the necessary skills to progress through the educational system. We are “teaching them to fish” – to find the culturally appropriate solutions for the challenges their society faces. We also strive to develop and sustain relationships with members of the Manow community and to enrich the lives of both Tanzanians and the American TTF volunteers.

Each year, two or three American volunteers have taught the English course to 40 students who range in age from 12 to 16 and who live in a 6-mile radius around the small village of Manow in the south central highlands of Tanzania. Over the past seven years, our volunteers have included both Gloria Dei members and members of the greater Olympia, Spokane, and upstate New York communities. The volunteers teach an intensive curriculum for 10 weeks, with 7.5 hours per day of student contact time. The curriculum focuses on oral, written, and listening comprehension skills appropriate for the local culture. We also teach life skills such as nutrition, personal hygiene, first aid, STD prevention, and sustainable farming.



Huruma, Jackson, and Gregory completing a puzzle



Martin Werner teaching time

The 2015 Pre-Form 1 English program was the seventh consecutive year we have sent volunteers to teach. Returning volunteers Martin Werner and Nancy Winters (both Gloria Dei members) and served as our teachers. They had successful class of young Tanzanian students eager to learn valuable English skills. They continued to foster meaningful relationships within the Manow community, including serving as sponsors for a baptism, and singing in one of the three church choirs.

In last year’s annual report, we focused on several significant milestones since we took our first 40 students in 2009. As 2015 concludes, we have improved the English proficiency for almost 300 students. Our first graduates will complete Form 6 (the second year of junior college) in May 2016, many of them in the sciences. We continue to receive good reports from Tanzanian teachers that students from our classes have high English proficiency which helps in their classes.

In 2015 we launched a program to link Americans to our scholarship winners. These generous donors have committed to providing on-going scholarships that allow our top graduates to complete their secondary education at Manow Lutheran Junior Seminary. In early 2015, two sponsors began supporting the 2013 Pre-from 1 English for their sophomore through senior years. Six other sponsors have committed to supporting our top students who graduated in 2014

and 2015 through their secondary school career. We will continue to recruit sponsors for our future scholarship winners. This is a rewarding opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Tanzania students. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity to witness the educational growth of a student, please contact Nancy Winters.

As we continued to grow and expand the program, we recognized the need to be able to apply for grant funding, which required status as a non-profit organization under the federal government. We formed a board of directors that includes several members of our congregation: Ernie Malick, Victoria Metz, Kirsten Rue, George Spencer, Martin Werner, and Nancy Winters. In March 2015, we were accepted as a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. With that said, we will continue to be a mission of Gloria Dei Lutheran, and we depend on the prayers of our congregation members to carry out this service of empowering our brothers and sisters in Tanzania.

In the summer of 2015, TTF brought Martin Mwakaje, who serves as both the Second Head Master and the International Coordinator at Manow Lutheran Junior Seminary to the US to help us with the annual fundraiser. His genuinely warm personality formed fast friendships with many Gloria Dei and community members. Martin wrote that he felt very warmly welcomed into our church community and is deeply grateful.

In 2016, we will begin an intensive evaluation of our ability to expand the program to multiple communities in the south central highlands of Tanzania. We will assess our ability to attract additional volunteer teachers and grant opportunities to support program expansion.



Martin with "flat Jesus" June 20th

Our work is only possible with the financial, spiritual, and emotional support of each and every one of our supporters in the Gloria Dei community, the Olympia community, and beyond. The program requires approximately \$250 per Tanzanian student. These funds cover daily lunch and school supplies for the students, travel and living expenses for the volunteers, and on-year scholarships to Manow Lutheran Junior Seminary (MLJS) for the highest performing girl and boy of each the class. To each of our supporters I say *Asante sana* (thank you very much).

Nor would this program be possible without the 13 volunteers who have undertaken the intense three-month teaching schedule, requiring great patience, resourcefulness, energy, and a slight theatrical streak. Our teachers work under what most Americans would consider 1940s technology (blackboards with dusty chalk and erasers). They often come home at the end of the day to no electricity and no running water. Yet through the grace of God, they have each been enriched by their service. *Nashukuru sana* (I am deeply grateful) to all of our volunteers for the gifts each has brought to the program.

Nancy Winters