

HEART FOR AFRICA
"TRANSFORMING BIBLICAL PREACHING ONE PASTOR AT A TIME"

OCTOBER 2022

"Blessed is the man..."

*"But his delight is in the law of
the LORD, and in His law he
meditates day and night."*

Psalm 1:2

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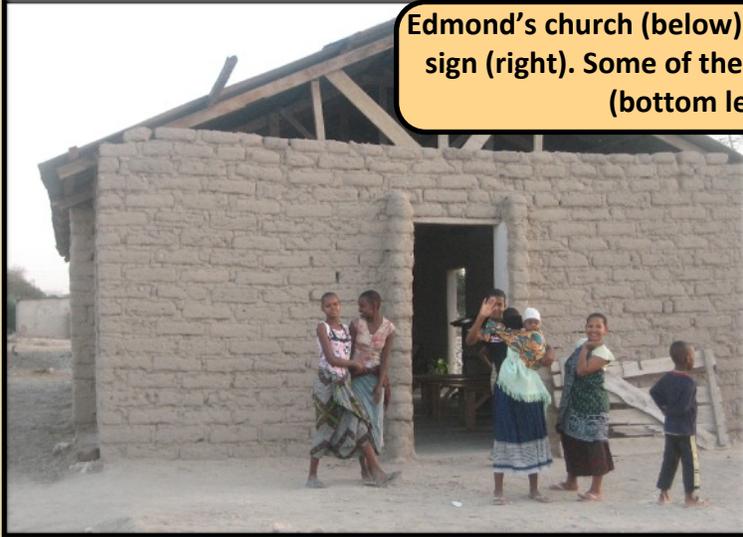


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God's sovereignty is awe-inspiring and breathtaking. Nothing in His creation is outside His control, yet He concerns Himself with the smallest of details—like whom He brings into our lives at just the right time. Pastor Edmond is one of those special people. The Lord led him to us a few months after we arrived in Tanzania, more than 11 years ago. We were overwhelmed by the culture, left speechless by the new language, and quite unsure as to what awaited us in the future... then we met Pastor Edmond.



Edmond's church (below) and simple church sign (right). Some of the church members (bottom left).



What struck us most about Pastor Edmond was his confidence and order in the midst of a chaotic environment, and his love and grace towards people. What an awesome first host that the Lord arranged for brand new guests to this diverse, expansive country! Somehow he made us feel like we had never lost those things that were so precious to us. Even our first taste of local food prepared and served in a village setting was so memorable.

He served as the gracious host of our very first inductive Bible study in July 2011. Nestled in a far-away corner of a dreary village way past its prime, his church building seemed perfectly suited for its desert-like setting. As we drove up to the church, there was nothing pretentious about it. Young people felt free to frolic outside its door, and we soon found that its unfinished walls and lack of glass window panes actually served a valuable function—they let a nice breeze flow through that helped keep the temperature inside bearable. But it would take until the evening to see what the most amazing thing was about this isolated building out in the desert. The sunset was absolutely gorgeous, a testament to God's beauty and majesty (cover photo).



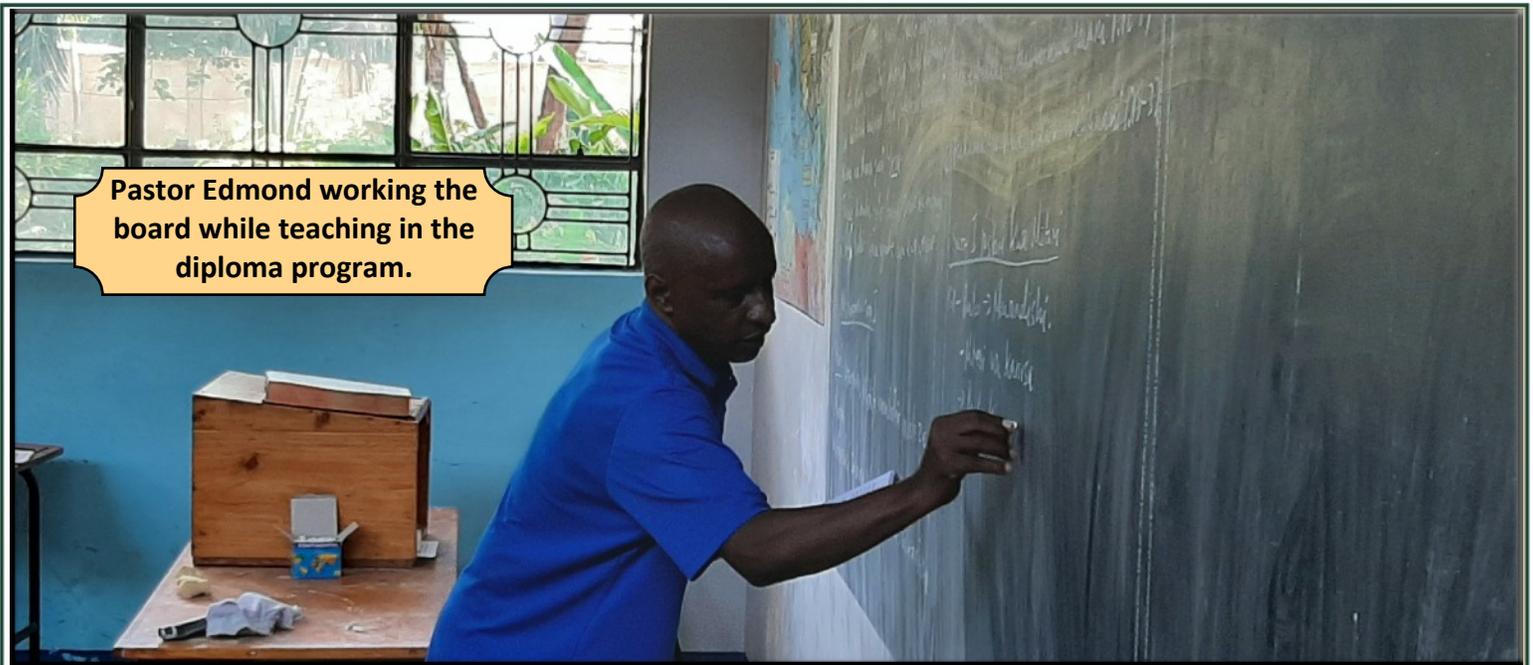
Pastor Edmond, seated 2nd from left, in our very first pastoral training class.

We never forgot that experience nor Pastor Edmond. He hosted more seminars and even joined our very first pastoral training center church class in 2012. We loved him like a brother, and soon he joined in our work, serving for a couple of years as a very capable translator and later as a trustworthy IBS instructor.

"From the rising of the sun to its going down the LORD's name is to be praised."
Psalm 113:3

But the Lord brought him and us through a new season, one that saw us reluctantly go our separate ways for a number of years. Pastor Edmond had the heart of an educator. He felt called to start a modest private Christian school to serve the disadvantaged children in his village. It did not take long for the school to grow and soon he became very busy. It was not possible for him to work with us and balance his school responsibilities at the same time, as he now had more than 200 kids





Pastor Edmond working the board while teaching in the diploma program.

attending. A very sad day for sure, but the Lord brought others into the ministry to fill the large void left by his departure.

Four years after saying tearful goodbyes to Edmond, the Lord brought him back into our lives and back into our ministry. Praise Jesus! Truly, you never want to wish anything bad on someone else, especially a good brother, but when the Tanzanian government shut down his school a few years later, he reached out to us. He spoke fondly of his time with Intensive Care Ministries and was willing to serve in any capacity—even cleaning restrooms—if he could come back! What a heart this man of God has!

The Lord's timing was perfect because we had just spent time in the U.S. visiting churches and praying for more workers to join us. We had four college campuses up and running and needed more instructors. The Lord brought us one of the best, and just in time to enroll in our diploma program. He graduated as a top student and accepted our challenge to go back through the 2-year program a second time to be certified as an instructor.

***“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”
Colossians 2:6***

He finished in 2021 and has been teaching in the diploma program ever since. In a testament to his leadership and administrative skills, the ICM-Africa leadership team assigned Pastor Edmond to be the director for the diploma program. Further, in recognition

of his top-notch teaching abilities and faithfulness, complemented by his superior English language proficiency, Jim has assigned him to be his co-teacher in South Sudan starting this December. In addition, he will lead our Nairobi, Kenya, campus which we plan to inaugurate next year.

Pastor Edmond continues to be a light in the midst of our team, reflecting Christ to all he comes in contact with—a faithful steward who bountifully uses all of the gifts the Lord has blessed him with. Blessed is the man, the man of God, Pastor Edmond!



Edmond and his wife Anna hosted us at their home and church last month.

Catch up on our personal journey through our website news, and find many more pictures there.

www.jimandjanicelarson.com

Picture of the Month



...sset, quo sollicitudin erat magna non leo. Vestibulum
...tunc in utat vitae massa. Scelerisque rhoncus. Prae
...tante eu. Sed. Quisque malesuada blandit euismod.
...ndum, frugiat facilisis, nisi. Nam scelerisque odio
...sunt pharetra. In consequat felis in tellus. In n
...t enim mauris. Suspendisse auctor erat id ipsum
...nd

...st. Mauris rutrum enim vitae mauris. Proin mali
... Quisque pede felis, dictum eget, dapibus ac, sod
...alestie sit amet, imperdiet id, faucibus quis, arcu. Nu
...et. Ut. Aliquam quis magna. Ut. Viverra ut
...ridi



Two of the four graduations held in September: one at our Morogoro campus (top) and the other at the Mwanza campus (right), both from the diploma program. We also graduated our 2nd class of women in Moshi, and another church planting class in Mwanza.

CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

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Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

On-line giving available through our website



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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for our 2nd annual Preachers Conference 3-6 October in Moshi.
- Pray for another team of visitors coming 13-22 October from St Petersburg. One will be teaching at the college, and the other assisting Janice with projects.
- Another visitor is coming from Alabama to teach at the college 23 Oct-2 Nov.
- Praise for God's mighty provision through many supporters this past month!
- Continue to pray for our work permits. They have been "in the system" for over a month now (a little long), so we pray they are approved without any problem in October, thus allowing us to apply for our resident visas again.