

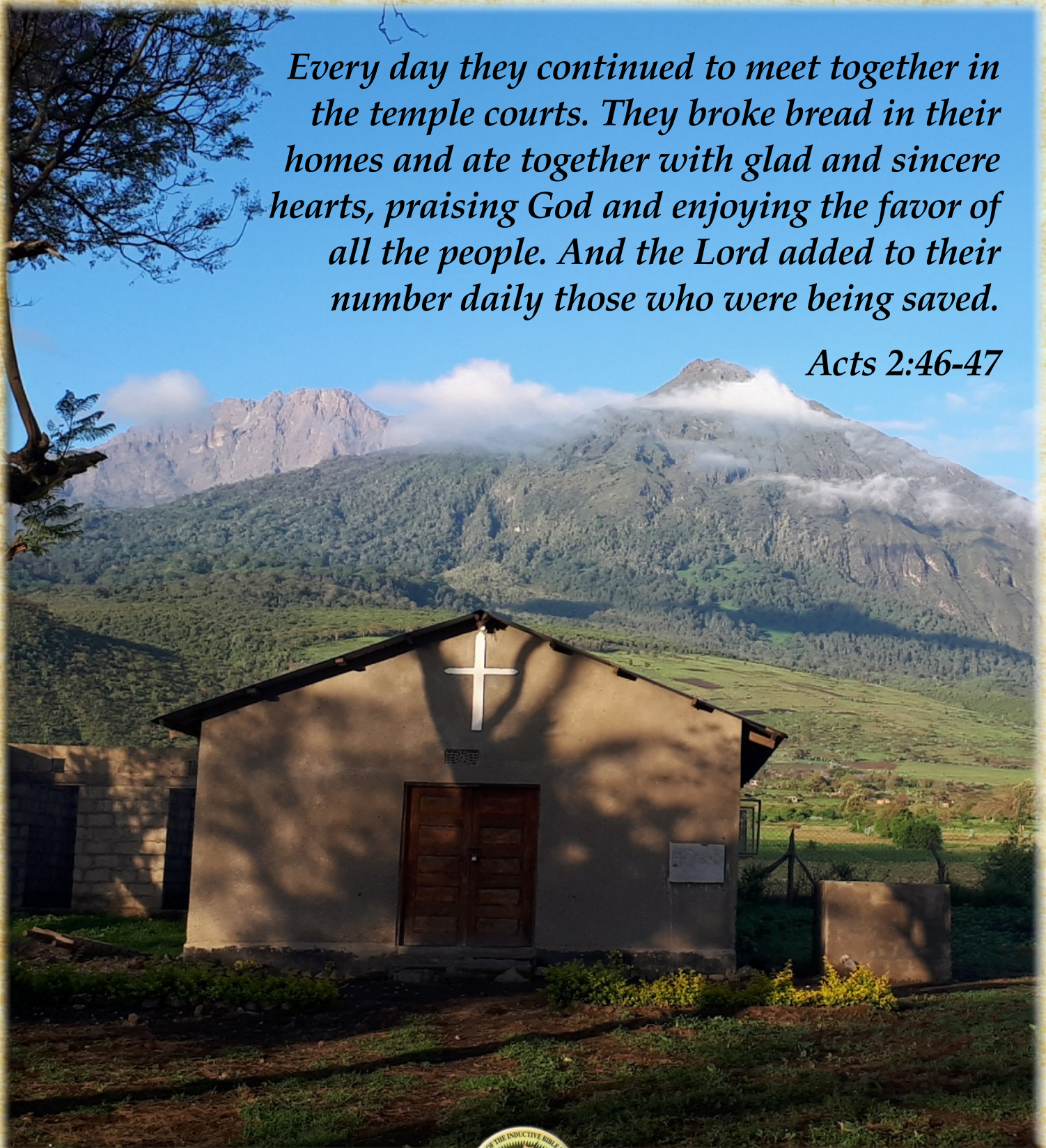
# HEART FOR AFRICA

"TRANSFORMING BIBLICAL PREACHING ONE PASTOR AT A TIME"

## OCTOBER 2021

*Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

*Acts 2:46-47*



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# *“Community”*

The Lord has blessed ICM-Africa with very strong and capable national leaders, which allows us the freedom to become “ambassadors” to the communities where we have established campuses. We traveled to 4 of our 5 locations recently to either attend graduation ceremonies or just check in and see how things are progressing. It was encouraging to see how the ministry has united both tribes as well as denominations into one body of believers.

While at our Meru campus, we had the privilege to get out and walk through the mountain village and visit several of the families who work at the ICM facility. One is a teacher, two are cooks, one handles all the cleaning, and another is the groundskeeper. Prior to the ICM school being built there, these families struggled for their daily existence of food and adequate shelter. Now, they were all proud to show us how ICM has provided the means for them to enlarge their homes, build outdoor toilets, and have plenty of food. And each family provided us a meal to show their gratitude. We ate 5 meals in about a 3-hour time span!!! One even gifted us with a live rooster which we could prepare after returning home. I had to tell them that I had no idea how to kill or butcher the poor thing, so they did it for me and sent us home with the meat.



**Top:** This woman is a widow whose husband died during the construction of the campus. She is now employed as a cook.

**Bottom:** Eliya and his grandfather with Jim.



There is a special young man named Eliya (Elijah) who has worked at the school since it was built in 2017. He began as a helper who boiled hot water for everyone’s morning showers before classes began. But over the years, you could tell the Lord was placing a call on his life to serve in a different capacity. He became a deacon in his church and began to thirst for God’s Word. Our principal at the Meru campus, Pastor Loth, eventually ordained him as an assistant pastor and he has completed our “Certificate in Church Planting” program. He also just became one of our instructors in that same program! His life has changed spiritually as well as physically. While being our escort going from home to home in the village, he took us to his grandfather’s house. This gentleman was in his 90s and had been a pastor since he was in his 20s; he had probably planted more than 20 Lutheran churches in his lifetime, all of which were still active! What a legacy, and how proud he was that his grandson may carry it on, even though in a different denomination!

**Upper Left, clockwise:** Being served our first meal while visiting the restaurant one of the employees has opened. Our second meal in Eliya’s home. Our third meal in another’s home. Finally, the rooster!  
**Left:** Eliya with his wife and children in front of their expanding home, which now has a roof and hopefully windows this year.





Our newest campus, **Mirerani**, is in the area which contains all the Tanzanite mines. It reminds me of descriptions of California goldrush towns—rough, lawless, and booming. But right in the center is a large compound with a huge church, a burgeoning Christian school for children, and now a Bible college classroom. Again, the construction provided jobs for many, and it has turned out to be one of the nicest-looking classrooms we have. This property is owned by the national bishop of a 900-church denomination, but he felt led to partner with ICM-Africa in order to strengthen the Church universal in his country.

*All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.*

*Acts 4:32*

One of our existing instructors, Fredy, is a member of the bishop's denomination and a resident of Mirerani. He was one of the first teachers we assigned to the new site, and it just so happened that the most recent class began just days after his wife gave birth to their third child. The students, from different denominations, contributed toward helping Fredy cover the hospital costs. In addition, the bishop's daughter was getting married at the same time and, although we couldn't personally attend, Fredy represented ICM and extended a gift to the bishop on behalf of the entire ICM family.



**Left:** Fredy's wife and new child; presenting the ICM gift to the bishop; and with students at the new classroom.



**Top:** Sitting in Bishop Selemani's house with his wife, who took care of us as if we were family!

**Bottom left:** Walking down through the village from the college to the bishop's home.

**Bottom right:** Village kids who like to stop by and talk.

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!*

*Psalms 133:1*

The **Mwanza** campus is located in an impoverished and crowded urban area where most residents have to leave each day to find work. But the ICM-Africa campus has changed that for some people. Again, construction workers, cooks, and cleaners are having their spiritual and physical needs met by the presence of this campus. Kids are now attending kindergarten on the property and a new dining hall will soon be feeding them as well. Even local government officials have defended its presence to some who objected to its recent expansion. When that happens, you know the Lord is moving in people's hearts!

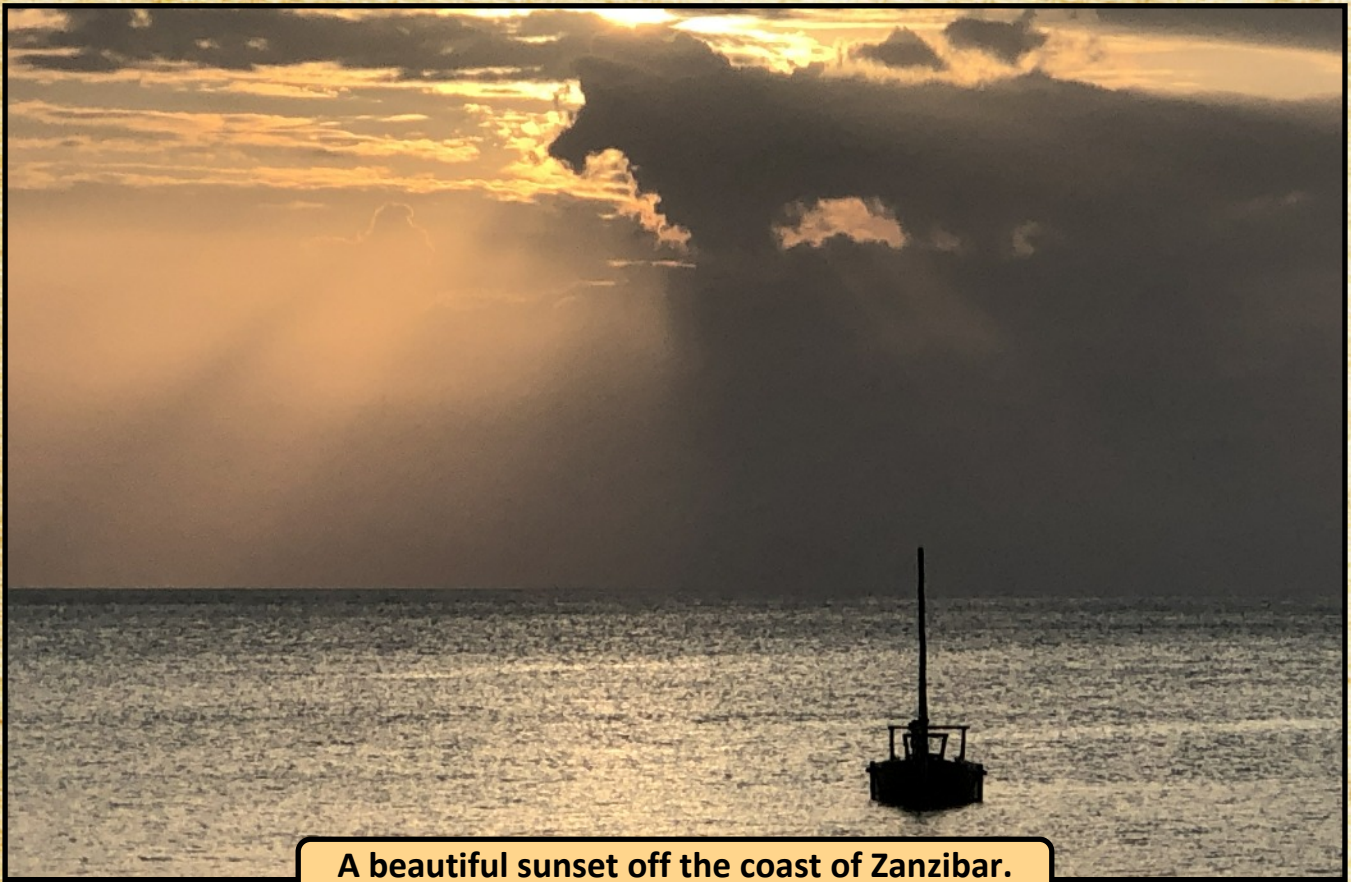
We are reminded over and over how marvelous it is when walls of separation and division are broken down within the body of Christ. It isn't always easy, and sometimes we stumble and grumble in the process, but the bonds that are formed are what hold us together in both the trials and triumphs. To God be the glory!

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

[www.jimandjanicelarson.com](http://www.jimandjanicelarson.com)



# Picture of the Month



A beautiful sunset off the coast of Zanzibar.

## CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

Intensive Care Ministries  
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Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Several of our staff have encountered health challenges recently, but we've been fortunate to assist them in accessing quality care. Please pray for their continued improvement.
- Pray for our first all-female Certificate in Bible Teaching class, with women instructors, taking place 20-29 October in Moshi.
- Continue to pray for the final approval of ICM-Africa with the Tanzanian government so we might finish our work permit applications. Our temporary business visas are expiring so we will have to leave the country for about 10 days while applying for new ones. We have the opportunity to go to the Middle East during that time, so pray for that as well.