

# HEART FOR AFRICA



*February 2016*

*Larson Mission Update*



**Shall we indeed accept  
good from God, and  
shall we not accept adversity?  
Job 2:10**

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### ***"Grace to Gratitude"***

We recently arrived back in Tanzania to continue with the ministry work the Lord has called us to. We were very pleased to confirm that in our absence our faithful team of Tanzanian ministers completed almost 60 seminars all across the country. This is what we have trained them to do and though it may not have gone as smooth as we planned nor looked as organized and orderly as we would have liked, in the context of this culture it was absolutely beautiful and a resounding success!

Unfortunately, we also experienced loss in our ministry family as two men lost wives to sickness; one lost a young child to malaria; and several lost adult siblings. As anywhere in the world, losses such as these can seem like a routine part of life, but it does not take away the hurt and pain. For us, the great reach of our team allows members to comfort and encourage one another through times of mourning and grief.

***"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."  
Psalm 116:1***

Additionally Pastor Silas, our national director, has been engulfed in handling a cholera outbreak in our region since the start of the New Year. Not only is Pastor Silas a respected government agriculture consultant for his very large district, he is also highly sought after by his member of parliament and other senior government officials for his ability to respond with a level head and calm in times of serious local health emergencies and natural disasters. These skills often put him in perfect opportunities to put forth a compassionate witness for



***"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."  
Colossians 3:17***



Christ. The impact of the cholera outbreak to our ministry is that we had to reschedule the final session of our first Women's Training Center class because Pastor Silas is the overall coordinator of this program along with his wife Greven, and she just lost a younger brother in January to disease.

Still, Pastors Silas and Loth were able to schedule four new Pastoral Training Center classes while we were in the US which involves over 60 students from across Tanzania. This will give us one 10-day session each month taught by one of our four 2-person teaching teams. This is a great development for us as the training is transformational in Tanzanian pastors who attend, not only in equipping them to teach through the whole Bible but also in showing them how to preach effectively within their cultural context. This approach is a very effective and efficient means for impacting all of Tanzania with God's Word.

Finally, we were pleased to hear everything went smoothly in Tanzania's national elections last October. When we left in September, there was potential for problems, but our team said there was peace afterward except for a few pockets of conflict and tension around the larger cities. We thank the Lord that national healing and forward progress appear to be well underway.

***"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."  
2 Chronicles 7:14***



Personally, we sort of miss the hectic schedule of moving around the United States and visiting with all our many supporters while home on furlough, and we're really sorry we didn't make it to everyone...but maybe next time! We left some pretty strange weather (balmy breezes, rain, and cold) but have finally adjusted to the time zone change and difference in climate, and are settling back into a normal routine. Although we cherished the time spent with family and friends in the US, it is good to be home, sleeping in our own bed, and not living out of suitcases anymore! Our local church in Moshi has changed its physical location since we left, as well as the Tabernacle structure we used, and it has been joyful to see the progress and reuniting in worship with everyone again. We're looking forward to much activity with them this coming year.



### Our Church, "The Ship" (Above)

We have a proper roof structure now and a floor of brick pavers which helps tremendously during the rainy season...no more mud! PTL!

Contrasted with one of our supporting churches in the US where Jim shared in December. (Left)

A rudimentary structure (back cover) serves as church to the Masaai in our area.

The Spirit of the Lord is strongly present in all of them!

Jim was able to give a half-day overview of IBS to some pastors and church leaders in Tennessee during December as well, and shared some points on expositional teaching and preaching.



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



## CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

Intensive Care Ministries  
P.O. Box 109  
Mentone, CA 92359-0109

Note "LARSON" in Memo of check



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## PRAYER ITEMS

- For the ministry team to have a smooth coalescing as we all come back together to work.
- Favor from government entities as we renew our permits for another 2 years.
- Prayers for all the pastors coming to the Pastors' Training Center this year.
- Pray for the high school students who will hear the Word preached to them by Jim each Sunday, and the elementary children in Janice's Sunday School class.
- For the Lord to sustain us and our family through another year of separation.