



Dear ministry partners,

Jesus says to his disciples in John 15:14, *"You are my friends if you do what I command you."* I want to be a **friend of Jesus**, how about you? But when our friends are also friends of Jesus, there is a sweet brotherhood we share together in Christ. Such is the case with these dear African brothers. Acknowledging **God's faithfulness over many years**, we echo the words in Psalm 89:1, *"I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations."* (Ps. 89:1) I began working with these four pastors in 2010, and 14 years later, we reunited once again last month in Dar es Salaam for a sweet time of fellowship and refreshing healthy Bible study principles. Each of these men is now in a position of much influence and according to their testimony, they continue to benefit from our times together in the Word.

Ministry Highlights

Having concluded a very full season of ministry (only home for two weeks in April and May), I praise our gracious God for His sustaining energy and focus as He heard and answered your prayers.

Iowa – Our Pathways team met, planned, prayed, trained a large group of pastors, and then Steve, Mike, and I continued to work on revising our curriculum. For more details, [CLICK HERE](#).

South Asia – Multiple trainings, preaching, giving a graduation message, I even got caught in a mob of many thousands during a Hindu festival – no shortage of adventure! [CLICK HERE](#) for more.

Kentucky – I trained local pastors with colleague Matt, then celebrated our daughter-in-law Sofia's graduation. [CLICK HERE](#).

Tanzania – Arm in arm with my bride (her first time back to TZ since we lived there), I walked brothers in Dar through a refresher workshop followed by ministry in a church in Madale. Then we took a six-hour bus ride to northern Tanzania where I offered a final training to our network and ended with a joy-filled graduation.

Meanwhile Holly was meeting with many women, praying with ministry leaders, pastors, and church members, and supporting me in my work. She did spectacularly well!

[CLICK HERE](#) for testimonies and more highlights.



Looking Ahead

- June 25 – July 5: **Kenya**. Pre-launch conference and meetings in Nairobi, then training a network of pastors in Mombasa.
- August 3-9: **Mexico**. Holly and I will participate in our biennial Global Equipping conference.
- Mid August – mid October: Holly and I will engage in "**Renew**," a mission-required period of rest, reflection, and realigning (think "sabbatical.") More about this in our next newsletter.

Please Pray

- Praise God for amazing ministry over the last few months by His grace and the Spirit's work. Holly and I renewed sweet relationships with dear African ministry partners, celebrated God's faithfulness in commending others to the Lord's work, and grew deeper in our love for each other and appreciation of our **shared passion** to see the nations praise our glorious God.
- Praise God that **Alyssa** had a very successful time in SE Asia and is now home for a couple months. **Adam and Sofia** are still on their mission trip in SE Asia investing in the lives of locals and getting a good taste of longer-term overseas work. Please pray for their health as they have had some recent struggles.
- Pray for the trainings I will offer in **Kenya**. I will work with a new partner in Nairobi (Silas) as he coordinates our training there. In Mombasa I will work with a Tyrannus Bible School network made up of several tribes including Somalis – an answer to prayer since I cannot enter Somalia.
- Pray for wisdom for Holly and me as we establish our goals for our **Renew time**, select our coaches, and prepare for this strategic time "in the wilderness."



Dear friends Daniel and Suzy Ikongo

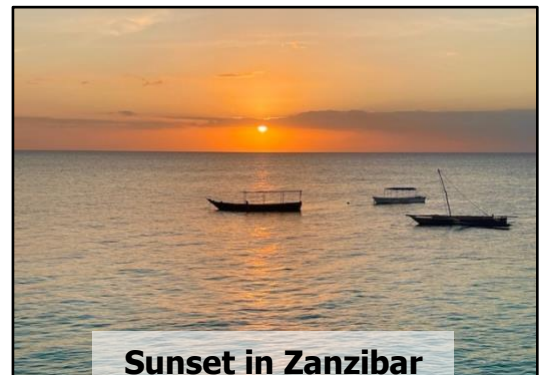
Thank you so very much for your **faithful prayers and sacrificial contributions** so that we can continue to serve God by equipping His messengers with essential skills in studying and preaching His Word.

Pressing on,
Eric and Holly



Graduation in Muheza, northern Tanzania

Paul's final words to the Ephesian elders provide a fitting doxology for you, our dear ministry partners: *"I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."* -Acts 20:32



Sunset in Zanzibar