

# TIDINGS FROM Tanzania

## December 2010

**Dear family and friends,** although it is hot and muggy here in Dar es Salaam, and Christmas marketing is minimal, yet we've not forgotten the message proclaimed by the angels over 2000 years ago, *"Today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."* May this season find you reflecting upon the truth that God became man, out of love for us.

### What's the latest... in Tanzania?



Good times with some of our African friends

Holly and the kids continue to do well, as Holly teaches art classes and the kids wind up the fall quarter. Holly also led the children's Christmas program in our international church plant. The kids are excited about our newest family member, Oreo, a Jack Russell pup that was given to us and has filled our house with much laughter.☺



I'm continuing to teach theology classes at a seminary in Dar, preach in various churches, and build bridges with pastors and leaders in equipping those who are shaping the church in Africa. Full days, significant work, and much appreciation to YOU for making it possible.

### ... in Uganda?

I (Eric) returned from Kenya and Uganda a little over a week ago after an amazing time of ministry, training, strategizing and partnership development. Although the journey was a bit challenging (airlines lost my bag on way to Uganda AND on way home, 9 hr. bus rides in overcrowded, filthy busses, some nights with only 1-4 hrs. sleep), but all was well worth it as God



18 Ugandans placing their faith in Christ

worked in exciting ways. By God's grace, following a message in a village church with several guests from a local refugee camp, 18 people (adults and children) placed their faith in Jesus Christ. After this, we went to a nearby river (yes, the muddy crocodile river, for those who remember from six months ago), and we baptized over 40 adults who publicly professed faith in Christ. This concluded



Baptisms in the local river

our NINE hour church service! Due to the generosity of many, we were able to present **vital assistance to refugees** who are required to leave camps and return to rebuild their homes and lives after years in hiding from rebel warfare. It will still be a long road, but God is working through the church to meet people at their point of acute need.



Using pushups to teach discipleship

As always, a highlight is conducting the training for the 20-25 pastors and leaders



Bats hanging out during the day

who gathered to be challenged in discipleship, cell church planting, and leadership development. Distributing Bibles my colleague Stu had collected in the US to those so eager for them is such a joy. In Kenya, we moved forward in building partnerships with academic institutions toward launching extension training sites here in Dar. Thank you again for your prayers during this exhausting but exhilarating time of ministry.



### Your giving is making a difference!

I'd like to reiterate once again that your faithful and generous giving is making all the difference in the lives of so many we're able to help here. From the regular training I do, to the lives of people we're able to bless with much needed assistance, to the encouragement we can offer through deepening relationships, your partnership is **an investment in eternity**. We truly thank you for spreading the meaning of Christmas, "*Freely you have received* (from God through Christ). *Freely give* (which you do each month to bless those in need).'" (Matt.10:8)

#### Contact and Giving Information

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**Note:** All gifts for 2010 must be postmarked by Dec.31.

For giving information, please visit:

<http://belzglobal.com/ministry/11-giving-information/>



May you sense God's good pleasure this Christmas season as we celebrate the newborn King! With love and prayers,

*The Belz Family*  
*Eric, Holly*  
*Adam, Andrew, Allie*



*"Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim His salvation day after day. Declare His glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise."*

-1 Chron. 16:23-25