



REPORT FROM THE AMANI CENTER MAKANG'WA

Dear Friends,

There is good news to share and opportunities to address. But firstly I want to thank you for the generous support you offer to the work here. Recently an official of the Diocese here asked me how we manage to achieve so much, touching the lives of very many people. I replied, "Amani has many friends and God is faithful to His purpose." Truly, Jesus uses our hands, our hearts, our feet, our love to bring his purposes to fulfillment.

Our Guest House at the Amani Center has just farewelled its first three local visitors. They are missionaries serving in the field of education in Dodoma, Jane Window and Neville and Elspeth Carr, all from Australia. They enjoyed the peace and the wonderful view across the valley to the distant hills and mountains. We are assured that more visitors will be coming. Thanks to the generous donation of a two burner bench top gas cooker, given recently by Gabriella Pietrucci of Brisbane (pictured on the right of the above photograph), they were able to be independent and undisturbed. They were able to enjoy some of the first of the tasty table grapes from the new vines at Mvumi Makulu! I believe Gabriella is still in Italy but will soon be on her way 'home' to Brisbane.



I have included a photograph of Young Ben as we call him, one of the key people involved with the care of the former street children in Dodoma. With him are two wonderful young guys, both now in Secondary School. It is difficult to recall the appearance of these two when we first met them in 2005 – two rather unkempt little urchins. Just recently, Paulo, on the right, gained Division I in the National Form IV Examinations. That is the highest category of pass. Martin, on the left, is in Form III, also doing very well. Thank the Lord for people like 'Young Ben' who care so lovingly and sacrificially for the children and young people and the folk in Laidley, Australia. 'Thank you' also to the Billings friends who have offered gifts enabling eleven local orphans and youth from very poor households to continue in Secondary School.

The second semester of Primary and Secondary School has commenced today, July 11th. One hundred and sixty one Kindy, Preschool and primary children commenced at Prince of Peace school and 130 Kindy and Preschool children gathered at Children of Peace School. This coming Saturday about 160 Junior primary children will also gather at Children of Peace. That is MANY children. People say, "How does Amani do this in the villages?" I believe you know the answer because you are at the heart of it. Of course, we do have faithful and dedicated staff. Most of the teachers are Amani sponsored graduates. That is a most important aspect of the work here. We are related in the love of God'.



The second photograph is of Joseph and Anna, two of our young people who were married very recently at St. John's, just over the river. Anna teaches at Prince of Peace school. Joseph is our assistant 'water man' here at the Center, assisting in every aspect of the pumping and distribution of water. They are two very attractive young adults.

I have learned this past week of the death of three dear friends in Billings, Montana. Don Grainger, Ray Collins and Ladd Shorey were long time friends of mine and friends of Amani. I stayed with Don and his late wife Marion when I first visited Billings in October of 1988. Billings will not quite be the same when I visit later in the year. I know that each of the men delighted in the achievements of their children and grandchildren, in the love of their wives and in the greater love of God. At times like this one feels very far away and yet also very close. You understand, Sunday by Sunday we worshipped together!

And then I heard of the death of Jacque Davie in Brisbane. Jacque and I celebrated our 40th Birthday together! I was then Rector of St. Barnabas', Sunnybank. Jacque was a TEACHER. I experienced the fruit of her abilities when I visited Robertson Primary School for religious Instruction week by week. Her class was informed, well behaved and prepared – and expectant. Most significantly through the needs and opportunities presented through their son Nicholas Jacque and Neil set out to serve the needs of many of God's 'special' people, enabling many to live happy, peaceful, safe and productive lives! Truly, all over the world God's Spirit is moving, seeking hearts which will become an expression of His compassion.

Finally: Although Primary Schools and Secondary Schools are moving into the second semester Teacher Training Colleges are about to commence a new year of study! Mid July to September is 'stress' time for many students. I have two urgent requests. Of course there are many but these are the two I have selected for support if we can manage it.

Baraka Simon (20 years) is the son of a local family. His dream is to become a Primary School teacher, attending the Capitol Teacher Training College in Dodoma. The fee is 600,000/= per year. Currently that translates into c. \$400.00 US/Aust – or \$200.00 for the first semester. Baraka (means blessing) is a very well mannered young man, worthy of support, My advice to a potential sponsor is to add \$34.00 to the half or \$70.00 to the whole as he will need a uniform and basic study requirements.

Elizabeth Ulaya, also from a local family, is also a beautiful young woman who also hopes to attend Capitol College. The same fees apply to her needs. If anyone can assist these young adults please contact either Hearts for Africa Foundation, Brisbane or Amani for Africa USA Foundation, Billings. The deadline for the need is July 18th – so very close. If I hear that an offer of support is received I can forward the fee from the fund here and then let the transfer 'catch up'! This is a two year course, but we may proceed year by year.

Very soon now I shall be in Australia. Please warm the place up a little!

Every blessing.

John Naumann