

Our Tanzania Mission

We first heard about the Missionaries of The Precious Blood in 2001 when a family friend asked if our son would like to be part of a Mission group that is helping the people of Tanzania. Our son was part of the first group from Kamloops, which went in 2003, to work with the Missionaries in Tanzania. When we picked him up at the airport in Vancouver, he spent the next four hours telling us stories of his experiences. This set us on the path to be part of the Kamloops mission group.

In 2005 we went to Tanzania with two other adults and twelve youth. We spent over seven weeks working with the mission. We built a windmill water system in Iyumbu, helped get the St Gasper primary school ready and visited the various other places that are a part of the mission, such as orphanages & hospitals. After we returned, we had a hard time adjusting to the Canadian lifestyle. Which may seem odd, but we had just travelled to a country where the rural villages had no cars, no electricity and not even clean drinking water. They were happy welcoming people always there to help us and give us a smile. In Canada we have access to all the things in life, but I can't say we are all happy and welcoming. We always talked about "I wonder what Yona is doing now, or how Paulo and his family is doing, or how the windmill has changed Iyumbu".

In 2009 we were honoured to go with another youth group, a mix of Kamloops and Calgary. This time we worked in a village called Chihikwi, a very poor and isolated village. Again, our group built a windmill and water system with the help of the village.

This past summer ,2014, we went again. This time with a group of eight adults who raised the funds so we could build a windmill and water system for a village called Muungano.

Some people have asked why we keep going back to do the same work every time. We do it because it makes a life changing difference in people's lives every time. Imagine wanting for nothing but clean drinking water and a tummy that doesn't hurt. It gives them hope to know that people in a far away land care enough to raise money, spend our time, our energy, to visit, work and share with them. It's hard to break the connections you make each time you visit the mission fields and work alongside the Tanzanians in the villages as well as the missionaries that have committed to a life helping those in need. We go back to see the friends we have made and how their lives have changed. But having said all that we come back far more blessed, thankful for what we have, humbled and inspired seeing what the works of God can accomplish and how two totally different cultures can come together through the gift of giving & receiving. The Parishes in our dioceses, friends, family and many people in Kamloops have been a big part in making this happen. If it weren't for them, we would not have been able to experience what it means to give selflessly. A Big "Thank You" goes out to Brother Anthony and the others responsible for bringing the Missionaries of the Precious Blood to our diocese so that youth and adults can experience firsthand what it truly means to be a missionary for God.



