

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN TANZANIA REPORT TO THE DRAE MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 2015**

Dear friends, Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus.

I bring you greetings from your sisters and brothers in Africa and especially in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

My report will comprise of three Diakonia institutions all in Tanzania. I am sorry the other institutions from other countries South of Tanzania i.e Zambia, Malawi etc. didn't respond to my e-mail which requested them to send reports.

**REPORT OF USHIRIKA WA NEEMA**

Since my last report, Ushirika wa Neema, a deaconess institution of the ELCT Northern Diocese, Moshi Tanzania, the following progress has taken place.

**SISTERS:** The growth of sisters has been gradual. Only a little number of young girls are joining the sisterhood today. Total number of our sisters is 79 and three girls who joined last year.

We are planning to have a month of visiting Parishes to send a CALL to girls who would like to join sisterhood.

**EDUCATION OF SISTERS:** There is a great need of education for sisters' in order to run our centers and our schools. We have sisters in Secondary Schools, Colleges and Universities.

**DORKAS COMMUNITY**

Ushirika wa Neema has started a lay community of single women known as Dorcas. These women meet for spiritual learning, discussions and future plans of their community. We already have 15 who have registered and still many wish to join. We started on the 8/11/2014 and have had three seminars up to now. Our retired Bishop Dr. E.N. Kweka is their House Father and our Ushirika wa Neema Director. When they get to be many, they will choose their leadership. Please pray for this good work. We need a home or house for their business meetings.

**CONSECRATION OF SISTERS:** On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 we had a consecration of 7 sisters who dedicated their lives as lifetime deaconesses.

**ORPHANAGE CENTER:** At the moment we have 41 orphans. We take orphans of 1 day to 3 years after which they can join relatives, be adopted or sent to other institutions for long stay and education.

**PROJECTS**

It had been our longtime dream to start a Montessori English Medium Primary School. Our dream came true when we opened the School on 19/1/2015 with 30 pupils. Our aim is to make this primary school a model of learning for our other church schools and those of the government.

**SUN SECONDARY SCHOOL:** The sisters of Ushirika wa Neema (SUN) Secondary School was started on 19/1/2014 in Mpanda Katavi, West of Tanzania near lake Tanganyika with 26 students. The lead of the school and her assistant are sisters from Ushirika wa Neema. We thank God for this step and for this gift. The school started as a response to a call from the Hon. Prime minister to our diocese and he entrusted the work to Ushirika wa Neema.

## **SILVER JUBILEE OF OUR SISTERS**

On the 1/2/2015 will be a Silver Jubilee for those 9 sisters who joined and were consecrated in 1990 March as 1<sup>st</sup> as lifetime sisters. We invite you to celebrate with us as well as to pray for us.

## **USHIRIKA WA DIAKONIA FARAJA**

BROTHERS OF UDF in Sanyajuu is an institution of Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Northern Diocese Deacon Armin Raunigk from ELCB Germany is the Director and his wife Deacon Gabi is head of Deacon Training.

## **BROTHERHOOD**

In May 2014 two brothers were ordained by Hon. Bishop Dr. Martin F. Shao. At the moment there are 26 ordained deacons who live in a community of duty, in a community of life and in a community of sending.

## **UDF TRAINING**

The brothers are trained for a period of six years with field work inclusive. Students from other dioceses of the ELCT are also welcomed.

**SUMMARY:** We see all the blessings of our brotherhood. In 2015 we will start a second farm project and a Deaconic centre in Miono Magamoyo. For this we are preparing ourselves spiritually structurally and financially. In the year 2016 God willing we shall celebrate 20 years jubilee of IDF. Pray for us!

## **NEWS OF 2014 TUMUSHUBIRE**

Tumushubire community of sisters would like to thank you all brothers and sisters for supporting us by prayers, advices, finance and visitation.

## **PROJECTS**

We have different projects like – Kindergarten Education Primary School – new, deaconess education,. Building sisters' houses – new, and projects for self reliance.

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT**

We have completed the following:

Three classrooms, staff offices, boys' dormitory, water tank 3,000 liters, and staff and children toilets.

## **TUMUSHUMBIRE – (Sister Community)**

We have an argent program of building three houses in the motherhouse.

One house for two sisters in the compound. This has started already.

Secondly, is a house for sisters who go out and come back to the motherhouse during holidays.

Thirdly, is a recreation house and retreat.

## **SELF RELIANCE**

This is a big part of our life in Tumushumbire community. We plant banana, maize, beans, cassava, soya beans, groundnuts and small vegetable gardens as well as fruit gardens.

## **OUR NEEDS IN 2015**

For the primary school we need:

Kitchen and Dinning hall, three classrooms, library, administration block, Girls dormitory, teachers house and furniture. In case you feel like supporting us our Bank A/C NO. 31902300083, UMOJA WA MADIKONIA WAKIKE KARAGWE DIOCESE KKKT:

Thank you for listening to our Tanzania report.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Sr. Elly Z. Urio