



Letter from the Council:



“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the forces of Hades will not overpower it.” – Matthew 16:18

In February this year, Arusha Community Church held its 36th Annual General Meeting (AGM). In spite of the challenges of the last couple of years, this year's AGM was a relatively sedate affair, with little controversy and a fairly quick run-through. A model AGM in fact. Committees gave their reports, new Council members were elected, and members were able to ask questions about all aspects of the church. The financial reporting was rock solid (if a little underwhelming in terms of actual numbers) and everyone left happy, at least from the church perspective.

In earlier days, however, the church made some pretty hefty decisions at some of its AGMs. Decisions which required serious commitment of time, money and prayer. Take the 1994 AGM, where the idea of erecting a new multi-purpose worship facility (the current church buildings) was first approved. And in 1995 the AGM approved discussions to be held with the Lutheran diocese about constructing the facility on the land where the church now sits. The hard work began after the AGM, with fund raising being right at the core of the issue; the Christian responsibility which our then Chair Dr Mark Jacobson, alongside 1994 Council Members Robin Peterson and Steve Simonson and AGM attendees Dave, Trude, Mike, Lisa and Thad Peterson, Marilyn Simonson, Erwin Kinsey, Linda Jacobson, John Kraft and Sjouke Bruinsma took onto their shoulders was truly huge! For as is made clear in Matthew 16:18, the church is more than a building. The church is built on solid people. Believers who can stand firm against the perils of the world.

The most recent council meeting, held on 16th February, was ACC Council Meeting number 403, with us having reached the 400 mark back in November 2021. This is a significant milestone for a church community which has been run almost entirely by volunteers since its inception and, more significantly, for a community whose population has been so transient. And while the future is certainly bright, we must acknowledge two key challenges which lie ahead this year – safely exiting the Covid-19 pandemic, and generating enough income to allow our Projects and Benevolence (PBC) and Evangelism & Outreach (E&O) committees to continue helping “the poorest of the poor” and bringing “Christian praise and witness to God through worship, service and study”.

Whilst those of us who have followed on from ACC's early pioneers are continuing to reap the rewards of their hard work, this current need to generate income means there are some similarities in terms of the challenges we now face.

And this is where I reach out to the ACC congregation, both current and former, near and far. Yes, we need to dig deeper into our pockets, but we also need ideas. Ideas for church fundraising activities.

Ideas for creative ways to save money and make money. Council took a leap of faith this year in pledging to support external giving whatever the income, but we do need to be proactive in making this happen. It will not happen by magic. God expects us to *work* at this, not just to declare that it is in his hands and then sit back and wait. Please do present your ideas to the duty elder (or any Council member) on a Sunday if you have any.

I am honoured to have taken on the role of Chair of ACC Council for 2022, alongside Susan Simonson (Treasurer), Neil Rowe Miller (Secretary), Irene Joel, Dr Eric Mbelle, Wilson Mziray, Sion Miraa, Moira Brehony and Erwin Kinsey. Please pray for us as we continue to grapple with the modern challenges of running ACC, and especially as we elect a Vice-chair at our meeting in March. And please allow me to extend my sincere thanks to Susan Simonson for all her incredible hard work during her two diligent years as Chair.

Today, all of us pay tribute to the determination, dedication, foresight and sound financial management of those who came before us. What they took upon their shoulders and executed in giving glory to God via the establishment of the current ACC sanctuary should never be forgotten. These rocks of the church worked under God's guidance, but they worked with incredible earthly fortitude too. Let the 2022 Council learn from their example. And let us all recommit ACC into God's hands as we forge forward into 2022 and beyond.

Michael Murray

ACC Council Chair



ACC Council for 2022

From Left to right:

Erwin Kinsey, Moira Brehony, Susan Simonson (Treasurer), Michael Murray (Council Chair), Sion Miraa, Wilson Mziray, Eric Mbele, Neil Rowe Miller (Secretary)

Irene Joel (Missing on the Photo)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Is Back at ACC but Still In Need of Volunteer Teachers and Assistants!



After shutting down almost two years ago, Sunday School is back at ACC. The first class for 6-to-11-year olds was January 16, 2022. After starting with about 25 students per week, the Feb 20th class saw 35 students. When SCIS returns from break we could easily have over 40 students! In an ideal world we would split this class into two and also allow the 3,4- and 5- year olds to join a class as well. The bottom line to what is holding us back? We need more committed SS teachers and teacher assistants. With the right number of teachers, teaching is not a weekly commitment. It can be a once or twice a month. If you are hesitant because you don't think you know "how" to teach, we will help you learn.



**Our ACC Ash
Wednesday service is
on Wednesday, the 2nd
of March starting at 6
pm.**

All are welcome!

USHERS NEEDED

We have some very committed men and women who volunteer their time Sunday after Sunday as an usher, however we would like some more people to give their time to this very important task maybe once in a month. Please contact **Jacky** or the **Duty Elder** and let us know if you can volunteer your time as a usher too.

**“Lent comes providentially to
reawaken us, to shake us from our
lethargy.”**

- Pope Francis

EXODUS 23:25

***"But you shall serve the Lord
your God, and He will bless
your bread and your water; and
I will remove sickness from
your midst."***



Mission Statement:

Arusha Community Church seeks to bring Christian praise and witness to God through worship, service and study. The congregation provides opportunity for Christian fellowship, service and witness, community outreach, personal growth and family growth. Recognizing the close link between worship and culture, Arusha Community Church has an inter-denominational ministry to the international community in Arusha.

DR. MARK L. JACOBSON'S

OBITUARY



Dr Mark Jacobson went to be with the Lord on 11th February, surrounded by his family. Mark was a man of strong faith who combined great ideas with decisive action. Amongst many other things, he was Chair of the ACC Council at the time when the approval was given for construction of the current sanctuary, and he was the Founder and first Executive Director of our neighbours, Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Linda, and his three daughters at this time.

Job 1:21b

“The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.”

LIBRARY COORDINATOR

The Church is looking for a committed person who loves to serve God and love to read to Volunteer as a Library Coordinator . If you are interested or need more information, please give your name and contact information to **Vivi** in the church office (in person or by email)

ACC PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request and would like members of our community to support you in prayer, contact the four key persons – if possible by SMS- and they will inform the others from the prayer chain.

Erwin Kinsey	0754 480 184
Margaret Kenyi	0754 090 078
Susan Simonson	0754 266 559
Stella Karumuna	0754 281 337



Check out our Facebook page: **“Arusha Community Church”** for updates and news. You can add your words of encouragement in the comments section.
Tupo Pamoja!



Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets at ACC :

NA (Narcotics

Anonymous) meets:

Monday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Tuesday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tuesday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Thursday 5:00 pm – 6:00pm
Thursday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Saturday 5:00 pm–6:00 pm
Friday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	
Saturday 10:00am -11:00am	

TITHES AND OFFERINGS AT ACC:

Your OFFERINGS are important. It is easier for accounting purposes, and without charges, if offerings are deposited directly into our Exim Bank Account (please see details below). While the MPESA number remains available for

ACC BANK

For anyone who wishes or needs to transfer funds via bank deposit to ACC please find the following details here:

**TSH: ACCOUNT NUMBER 00 300
23 252**

ACC MOBILE MONEY ACCOUNT

For anyone who wishes or needs to transfer funds via mobile money to ACC please find the following details here:

M-PESA DEPOSIT NUMBER: +255755992394

NAME: NASIEKU MOLLEL (Church



Eric Mbele and Michael Murray with the TCA students last Sunday.



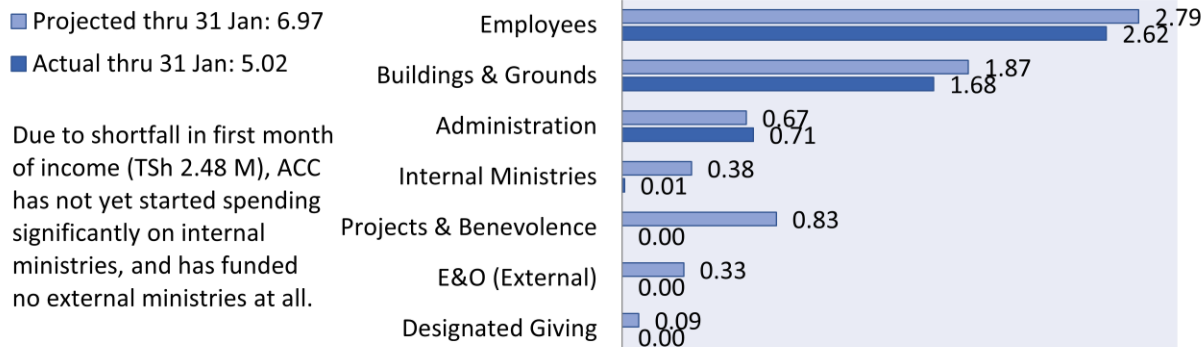
Michael Murray with the St Joseph's Primary students last Sunday.

Arusha Community Church 2022 Income through 31 January (in TSh millions)



Due to shortfall in first month of income (TSh 2.48 M), ACC has not yet started spending significantly on internal ministries, and has funded no external ministries at all.

Arusha Community Church 2022 Expenditure through 31 January (in TSh millions)



Due to shortfall in first month of income (TSh 2.48 M), ACC has not yet started spending significantly on internal ministries, and has funded no external ministries at all.

March 2022 Worship Schedule

	March 2, 2022	March 6, 2022	March 13, 2022	March 20, 2022	March 27, 2022
Church Calendar	Ash Wednesday	1st Sunday in Lent	2nd Sunday in Lent	3rd Sunday in Lent	4th Sunday in Lent
Service Type	Special	Communion	Morning Service	Communion	Family Service
Service Leader	Michael Murray	Penina Oredsson	Susan Simonson	Moirra Brehony	Daudi Msseemmaa
Preacher	Eamonn Brehony	Eamonn Brehony	Pastor Herman Kweka	Pastor Israel Meitamei	Mary Ng'ida Severe
Musician(s)	Mary Ng'ida Severe	Mary Ng'ida Severe	Erwin Kinsey	Sion Miraa	Randy Stubbs
Duty Elder	Moirra Brehony	Michael Murray	Wilson Mziray	Sion Miraa	Neil Miller
Zoom Host Projector	Sion Miraa	TBC	Sion Miraa	Jessica Shayo	Sion Miraa
Sound	Andrea Thomas	Tumsifu Mushi	Andrea Thomas	Goodluck Kaaya	Tumsifu Mushi & Andrea Thomas
Ushers	TBC	Innocent Masawe Jacqueline Njau	Jacqueline Njau Jacqueline Njama	Innocent Masawe Jacqueline Njau	Jacqueline Njau Jacqueline Njama
Flowers	Irene Mchomvu	Nancy Maksud	Doreen Marandu	Christy Miller	Jane Mashingia
Scripture Readings	<i>Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13</i>	<i>Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35</i>	<i>Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9</i>	<i>Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32</i>

1 Peter 5:6

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time”.