

# Glad Tidings

PO Box 2316, Arusha, Tanzania

<https://acc.or.tz/>

February

2024  
Volume 442

Arusha  
Community  
Church

## Letter From the Council - Neil Miller



***“The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them...They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea (Isaiah 11:6&9).”***

As we approach the end of our time living in Tanzania, numerous people have asked Christy and me “What will you miss about life in Arusha?” Inevitably, one of the first things on our list of what we’ll miss is the church we have called home for the past 10 years.

I tell people that Arusha Community Church has given me a glimpse of the Peaceable Kingdom described in Isaiah 11. In the case of ACC, it is not the wolf and the lamb that live together in peace, but rather, the Lutheran and the Catholic and the Mennonite. Several centuries ago our ancestors were slaughtering each other in Europe, today we are praying and taking communion together, teaching, baptizing, and nurturing each others’ children, and mourning *together* as we lose those we love. Is this any less miraculous than Isaiah’s vision of a leopard lying down with the goat?

We worship in English, but our mother tongues are so numerous that I have lost count. In a world rife with ethnic misunderstanding and violence, we serve as proof that people of different colors and cultures can not only worship together, but can love and care for each other.

These years at ACC have not been all peace, joy, and happiness. We have suffered together through a Covid pandemic that crippled our ability to worship together, depleted our financial resources, and claimed the lives of many whom we loved dearly. Nonetheless, ACC has come through the most difficult period in our history as a strong and Christ-filled people. This morning in worship, our sanctuary was full to capacity. We welcomed new members and visitors from around the world. Last week, we celebrated the baptisms of both infants and adult believers. Over the past year, we have responded to medical needs of individuals in our community, made major improvements in our worship space, and still managed to balance our budget.

God clearly has a plan for this faith community whom we will miss so much. I pray you will continue to celebrate and build on the beauty and strength of ACC’s ethnic and theological diversity. However, I am convinced that the ACC of 10 years from now will look quite different from the ACC of old. In the 10 years we have walked together, I have seen our membership, and our leadership, become much more Tanzanian. As the influence of Europeans and North Americans in our midst diminishes, the way we make decisions, and the patterns that guide our life together as a congregation, will inevitably need to shift. I challenge you to embrace, rather than fear such change, believing that ACC continues to serve as a glimpse of God’s Kingdom here and now. We are a holy mountain, led by Christ and filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea!



Our ACC Ash Wednesday service is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, starting at 6:00 pm  
**All are welcome!**

“Instead, we are God’s accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.”

**EPHESIANS 2:10**

**ACC’s Annual General Meeting**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024

After worship service.

All are welcomed and encouraged to come. A fellowship meal will be provided after the meeting.



**TOYS needed.**

**The ACC Creche** is run so that parents can attend worship service, knowing that their young children are taken care of and playing happily. The toy selection is in need to an upgrade. If you have gently-used, durable and age-appropriate toys or board books (for children under 3) that you no longer need, please consider giving them for Creche. They can be given at any time in to the office at any time. Thank you. Christian Education Committee

**Romans 3: 22-24**

“<sup>22</sup>This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”

# DECEMBER 2023 CHURCH EVENTS

*Malaika Mchomuu*

BAPTISMS

*John Makori*



## CONFIRMATION:

We had a privilege to have 8 Kids professing their faith and be confirmed on 10<sup>th</sup>, December 2023, Their Names are John Makori, Gianelle Minja, Shedson Massawe, Christian Nassary, Ainamensa Mchau, Serian Laiser, Anjela Mwanakatwe and Chipego. We thank their teachers: Erwin Kinsey, Michael Murray and Jeff Hollister for taking their time to serve God! God Bless!

## Proverbs 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”



## 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.

“...and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith’s pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God’s throne.”

**HEBREWS 12:2**

“It was certainly our sickness that he carried, and our sufferings that he bore, but we thought him afflicted, struck down by God and tormented.”

**ISAIAH 53:4**

### **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.

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

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

AA meets at ACC :

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

NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meets:

Tuesday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Thursday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Saturday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm



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!



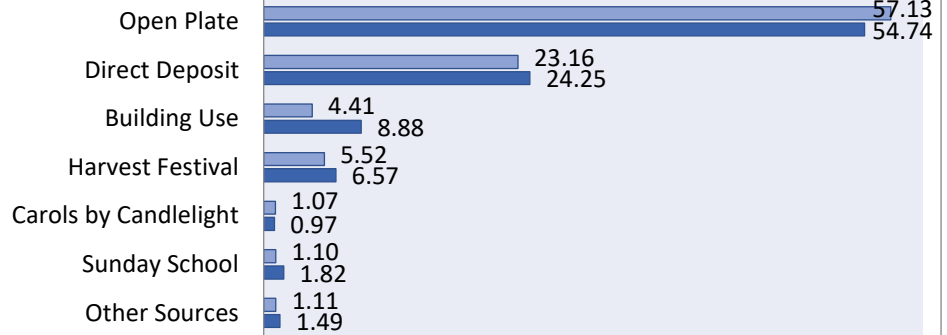
## Arusha Community Church 2023 Revenue through 31 December

(in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 31 Dec: 93.50

■ Actual thru 31 Dec: 98.72

2023 revenue through 31 December was TSh 16.01 million higher than the same period last year, and TSh 5.22 million above this year's 31 December target; please continue to assist as able.



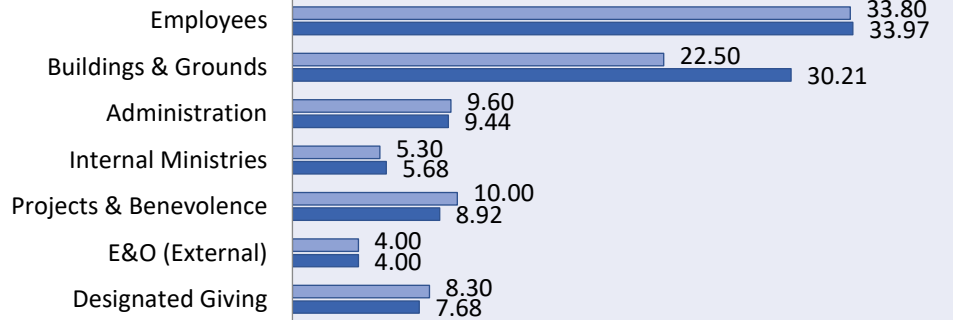
## Arusha Community Church 2023 Expenditure through 31 December

(in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 31 Dec: 93.50

■ Actual thru 31 Dec: 99.90

2023 expenditure through 31 December was TSh 15.49 million higher than the same period last year, and TSh 6.40 million above this year's 31 December target; please continue to assist as able.



## ACC 2023 Year-End Financial Statements

Total church revenue in 2023, TSh 98.72 million, was 19% higher than the previous year. Open plate and direct deposit offerings accounted for 80% of our 2023 income, and those two sources were 11% higher than the same items in 2022. All other 2023 revenue, including building use and Sunday school offerings, accounted for the remaining 20% of income, and those five sources were unexpectedly 69% higher than the same items in 2022.

Total church expenditure in 2023, TSh 99.90 million, was 18% higher than the previous year. Internal spending accounted for 79% of our 2023 costs, and those expenses were 21% higher than the same items in 2022, due to sanctuary, toilet and kitchen renovations undertaken over the past twelve months. External giving accounted for the remaining 21% of 2023 costs, and those expenses were 9% higher than the same items in 2022.

Net ordinary deficit in 2023 – revenue minus expenses – was therefore TSh 1.18 million. However, after adding exchange rate gains realized in our USD account on 31 December, we show a total annual surplus of TSh 5.61 million for the year. So all in all, we can celebrate a very good financial statement. Thanks be to God!

### 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 receiving offerings, please consider making a deposit directly into our bank.

#### ACC BANK DETAILS:

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

##### EXIM BANK

**TSH: ACCOUNT NUMBER 00 300 23 252**  
**USD: ACCOUNT NUMBER 0030035020**

#### ACC MOBILE MONEY ACCOUNT DETAILS:

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 Administrator)**

# February 2024

## Worship Schedule



	Feb 4, 2024	Feb 11, 2024	Feb 14, 2024	Feb 18, 2024	Feb 25, 2024
Church Calendar	Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	Transfiguration Sunday	Ash Wednesday	First Sunday in Lent	Second Sunday in Lent
Type of Service	Morning + AGM	Morning	Special	Communion	Family
Service Leader	Isaak Joseph	Erwin Kinsey	Michael Murray	Susan Simonson	Immaculate Shija
Preacher	Eric Mbelle	Mary- N'gida Severe	Rev Fr Oliver O' Brien	Rev Pastor Lekashu	Rev Pastor Andrew Kajembe
Music Leader	<b>Erwin Kinsey</b>	<b>Sion Miraa</b>	<b>Ruth Bach-Svendsen</b>	<b>Randy Stubbs</b>	<b>Megan Ndale</b>
Duty Elder	Susan Simonson	Jessica Shayo		Andrea Thomas	Wilson Mzirai
Projectionist					
Sound Tech.	Gerald Sebastian	Tumsifu Mushi	Lawrence Menda	Andrea Thomas	Gerard Sebastian
Ushers	Cifa	Lilian	Paul Michael	Cifa	Debbie
Flowers	Rebecca Ndorossy	Irene Mchomu		Doreen Marandu	Gilian
Scriptures	- Isaiah 40:21-31 - Psalm 147:1-11, 20c - 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 - Mark 1:29-39	- 2 Kings 2:1-12 - Psalm 50:1-6 - 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 - Mark 9:2-9	- 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	- Genesis 9:8-17 - Psalm 25:1-10 - 1 Peter 3:18-22 - Mark 1:9-15	- Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 - Psalm 22:23-31 - Romans 4:13-25 - Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

### Joel 2:12

*Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments."*

