

# Glad Tidings

P.O Box 2316, Arusha, Tanzania  
[www.acc.or.tz](http://www.acc.or.tz)



Arusha  
Community  
Church



2023  
Volume 440



## LETTER FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL



Remembering that our church year concludes at the end of November, it is with great joy and gratitude that we reflect on the blessings we have received as a congregation and as individuals during 2023. With the closing of one chapter comes the anticipation of a new one. December marks the beginning of our church new year, a time for fresh beginnings, renewed commitments, and a deeper connection with our Lord. Let us enter this new season with hearts open to the possibilities that God has in store for us as individuals and as a church family.

Reflecting on this year, our church community has come together in prayer, fellowship, and service in a wide variety of ways. And we have, once again, witnessed the power of inter-denominational collective faith and the impact of our shared commitment to living out Christ's teachings. Together, we have embraced challenges, celebrated victories, and supported one another on our spiritual journeys, even as we have acknowledged our different backgrounds and milestones in our individual journeys of faith.

A major recent development has been Council's November 2023 decision to recommend that ACC supports two missions to 'unreached' groups in Tanzania. If approved by our congregation at the forthcoming AGM in February 2024, this will involve ACC contributing to the support of a Tanzanian missionary in Kilwa Masoko (in collaboration with Avant Ministries) and to supporting a Tanzanian missionary couple in Kondoa Rural (in conjunction with AIM). Through your generous contributions and unwavering prayers, we hope to be able to extend a helping hand to those who may not yet have heard the message of hope and salvation.

The work of such missionaries has long intrigued me. From meeting a young missionary lady in Nairobi airport who was en route to Mogadishu a few years back, to a childhood friend moving to spread the word in the Middle East, these people are the heartbeat of our Christian faith. And this is just the beginning of what could be an incredibly exciting opportunity for us as a church. There is little more thrilling in life than having an opportunity to spread the Word to those who have not had the opportunity to hear it. And I can foresee ACC embracing this over the coming years. There will surely be opportunities for members of our church communities to visit these missionaries at work, to spend time with them, perhaps to live alongside them for short (or longer) periods; our mission can be a beacon of light, spreading the love of Christ to the farthest corners. May the seeds we plant grow into flourishing gardens of faith, bringing about transformative change in the lives of those yet to be reached.

Of course, there is a fair degree of difficulty in finding a consensus on all issues, particularly where different Christian denominations are involved. But the beauty of ACC is that we *are* inter-denominational, and we already host a wide range of different perspectives on our Christian faith, each being challenged in different ways every week. As such, we will never find a church which is entirely in line with *all* of our views, but we have tried hard to find like-minded inter-denominational organisations which are as close as possible to our vision, with little room for controversy.

*(continued on page 2 below)*

(Continued from page 1 above)

As we enter the Advent season, a period of anticipation and preparation, let us draw parallels between the themes of Advent and our mission in Tanzania. Advent is a time of waiting, of hopeful expectation for the arrival of Christ. Similarly, our efforts in Tanzania echo this sense of anticipation, as we work to bring the message of hope and salvation to those who have yet to encounter the transformative love of Christ.

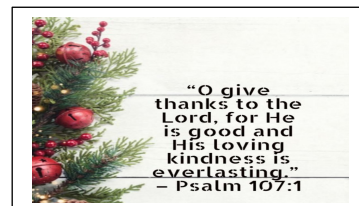
In the midst of our own Advent preparations, may we keep in our hearts the image of families in Tanzania eagerly awaiting the Good News. Let us reflect on the joy and hope we can share with them, symbolising the true essence of Advent – the coming of the Light into the world.

As we conclude this year, let us carry the spirit of love, compassion, and hope into the days ahead. May the light of Christ guide us in the coming year, and may our collective efforts continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those we touch.

Thank you for being an integral part of our church family. May God's grace be with you as we embark on a new chapter together.

In His Service,

Michael Murray - ACC Council Chair



# 25 Days of Christmas Bible Verses

[www.homeschoolencouragement.com](http://www.homeschoolencouragement.com)

 <p>1 JOHN 3:16</p>	<p>2 Phillipians 2:8-10</p>	<p>3 ISAIAH 7:14</p> 	<p>4 Zechariah 9:9</p>	 <p>5 Isaiah 9:6-7</p>
<p>6 Acts 5:31</p> 	<p>7 Romans 5:1</p>	<p>8 ISAIAH 40:1-11</p>	<p>9 Luke 1:1-17</p>	 <p>10 Luke 1:18-25</p>
<p>11 Luke 1:26-38</p>	<p>12 Luke 1:39-45</p>	<p>13 merry Luke 1:46-56</p>	 <p>14 LUKE 1:57-66</p>	<p>15 Luke 1:67-80</p>
<p>16 Luke 2:1-12</p>	 <p>17 LUKE 2:13-21</p>	<p>18 Luke 2:22-35</p>	<p>19 LUKE 2:36-40</p>	<p>20 Luke 2:41-51</p> 
<p>21 Matthew 1:78-25</p>	<p>22 Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>23 Matthew 2:13-18</p> 	<p>24 MATTHEW 2:19-23</p>	<p>25 Isaiah 53:5</p>



## Announcements



- ⇒ 22 December 2023 – Carols by Candlelight
- ⇒ 20 January 2024 – New Members' Class

# New Member Class



There will be a New Members' Class on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024. This class will provide individuals with the chance to get to know more about Arusha Community Church and to register as a voting member of the church. To sign up for the class, please fill out the signup sheet located on the church noticeboard or contact the duty elder of the day or a member of the church council for more information.



**Carols by Candlelight Service will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 on ACC Church grounds. Come at 6:30 p.m. for a 7 p.m. start. Bring a Friend.**

*This year, all proceeds from the Carols by Candlelight Service will go to Peacemakers for Albinism and Community, an organization dedicated to reducing stigma and discrimination against and improving the health, education, and livelihoods of people with albinism in Tanzania. (For more Information on PAC see: <https://www.albinism-tz.org/>)*

**Donations of Hats and sunglasses are welcome. KARIBUNI WOTE!**



For unto you is born  
this day in the city of  
David a Savior, who is  
Christ the Lord.

LUKE 2:11

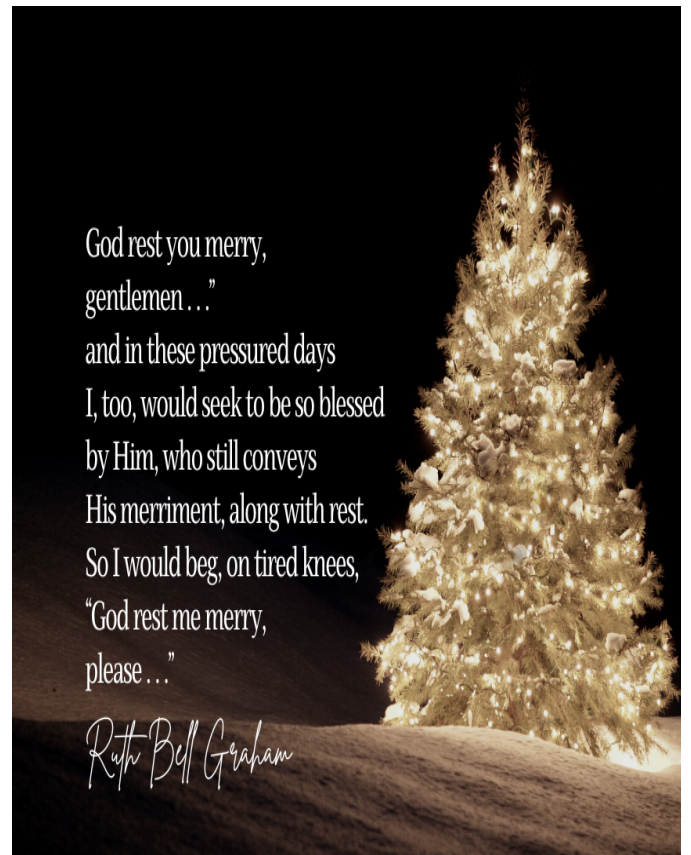
### Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meets at ACC:

**Monday:** 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm  
**Tuesday:** 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm  
**Wednesday:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Thursday:** 1:00 – 2:00 pm  
**Friday:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Saturday:** 9:00am – 10:00am (newcomers meeting)  
**Sunday:** 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm



### Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meets at ACC:

**Tuesday:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Thursday:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Friday:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm



God rest you merry,  
gentlemen ..."  
and in these pressured days  
I, too, would seek to be so blessed  
by Him, who still conveys  
His merriment, along with rest.  
So I would beg, on tired knees,  
"God rest me merry,  
please ..."

*Ruth Bell Graham*

# Magnificat

My soul proclaims  
the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
he has looked with favour  
on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations  
will call me blessed;  
the Almighty has done great things  
for me and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.

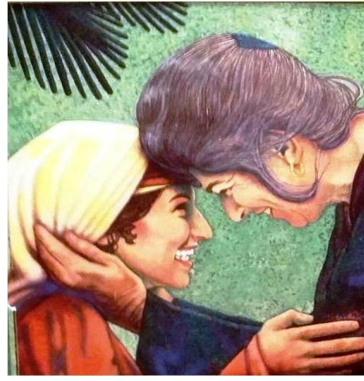
He has shown strength with his arm and has  
scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their  
thrones and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,  
to remember his promise of mercy,

The promise made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
-Luke 1:46-55



**“BLESSED IS SHE WHO  
HAS BELIEVED THAT  
THE LORD WOULD  
FULFIL HIS PROMISES  
TO HER!” – LUKE 1:45**

*“Here am I,  
the servant  
of the Lord;  
let it be  
with me  
according to  
your word.”*

LUKE 1:58, NRSV



## ACC 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.

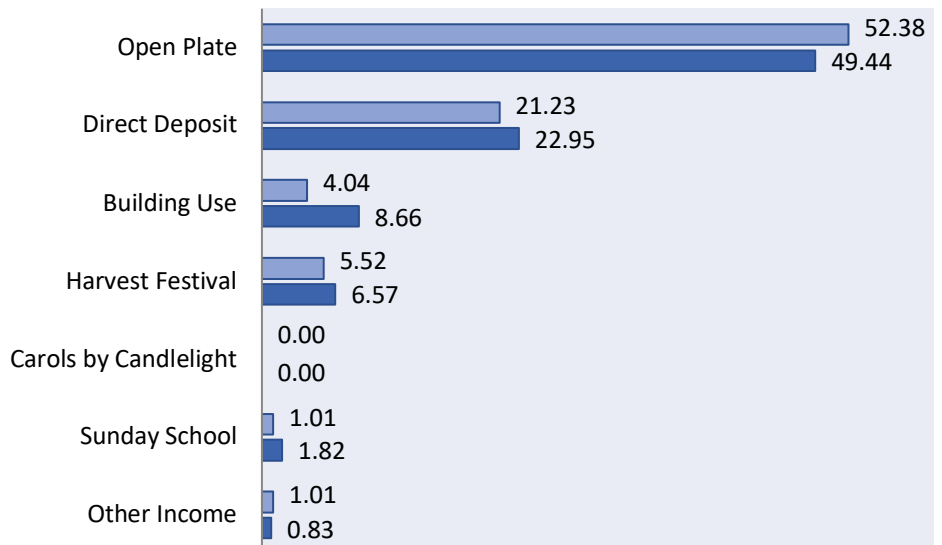
## Arusha Community Church 2023 Income through 30 November

(in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 30 Nov: 85.19

■ Actual thru 30 Nov: 90.27

2023 income through 30 November was TSh 14.84 million higher than the same period last year, and TSh 5.08 million above this year's 30 November target; please continue to assist as able.



**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 00 300 35 020

**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:

**MPESA**

**M-PESA DEPOSIT NUMBER:** +255755992394

**NAME:** NASIEKU MOLLEL (Church Administrator)

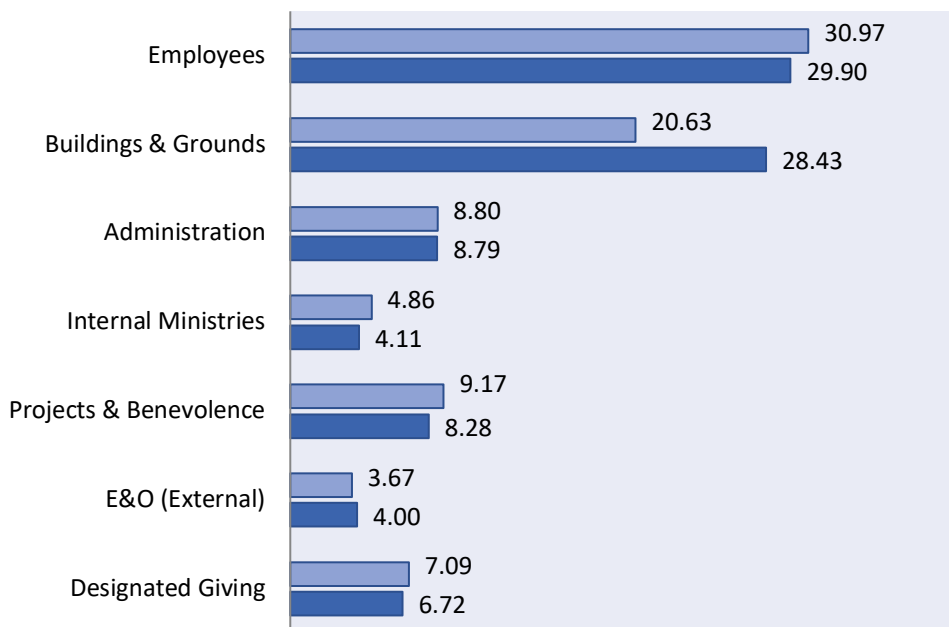
**Arusha Community Church 2023 Expenditure through 30 November**

(in TSh millions)

Projected thru 30 Nov: 85.19

Actual thru 30 Nov: 90.23

2023 expenditure through 30 November was TSh 21.09 million higher than the same period last year, and TSh 5.04 million above this year's 30 November target; please continue to assist as able.



**TIME and ABILITY form (TAA)**

*How can you serve the congregation?*

There is a TAA form available to fill in (you can ask the Duty Elder or get one from the church office). This lets you know what are the activities and programs of the church that you can be involved with, and where your service can be used.

It also helps the church office be updated on any contact information changes; and you can sign up to receive Glad Tidings, our monthly newsletter, on the same form.

## The Prophecy

- Day 1: Isaiah 9:2-7
- Day 2: Isaiah 11:1-5
- Day 3: Isaiah 7:10-14
- Day 4: Micah 5:1-5
- Day 5: 2 Samuel 7:12-16

## The Messiah is Born

- Day 6: Luke 1:26-33
- Day 7: Luke 1:34-38
- Day 8: Luke 1:46-55
- Day 9: Matthew 1:18-25
- Day 10: Luke 2:1-7
- Day 11: Luke 2:8-12
- Day 12: Luke 2:13-20
- Day 13: Matthew 1:1-17

# A Season of *Advent* Reading Plan

## The Gift of Salvation

- Day 14: Romans 6:20-23
- Day 15: Galatians 4:1-7
- Day 16: 1 Timothy 1:15-17
- Day 17: Titus 3:3-7
- Day 18: Philippians 2:6-8

## The Messiah Will Return

- Day 19: John 14:1-6
- Day 20: Daniel 7:13-14
- Day 21: Revelation 1:4-7
- Day 22: Revelation 3:20-22
- Day 23: Revelation 22:12-13
- Day 24: Revelation 22:16-17
- Day 25: Revelation 22:20



## DECEMBER 2023

	December 3, 2023	December 10, 2023	December 17, 2023	December 22,2023	December 24, 2023	December 25, 2023	December 31, 2023
<b>Church Calendar</b>	<i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>2nd Sunday of Advent Confirmation ceremony</i>	<i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Carols By Candlelight (Friday)</i>	<i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Christmas Day (Monday)</i>	<i>1st Sunday after Christmas</i>
<b>Service Type</b>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Special Service</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Special Service</i>	<i>Family Service</i>
<b>Service Leader</b>	John Kraft	Susan Simonson	Megan Ndale	Moira Brehony	Christy Rowe-Miller	Isaac Joseph	Jessica Shayo
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Canon Andrew Kajembe	Pastor Lekashu	Pastor Israel Meitamei	Rev Pat Patton	Fr. Oliver O'Brien	Mary Ng'ida Severe	Rev. Kimirei
<b>Musician(s)</b>	Erwin Kinsey	Jessica Shayo	Mary Ng'ida Severe	Randy Stubbs +Choir	Neil Miller	The Leakeys	JD Parks
<b>Duty Elder</b>	Susan Simonson	Andrea Thomas	Wilson Mziray	Erwin Kinsey	Neil Miller	Sion Miraa	Irene Mchomvu
<b>Projectionist</b>	Sion Miraa	Lawrence Menda	Sion Miraa	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Sound Projector</b>	Gerald Sebastian	Tumsifu Mushi	Goodluck Kaaya	Andrea Thomas	Gerald Sebastian	Lawrence Menda	Goodluck Kaaya
<b>Ushers</b>	Cifachalo Cifa	Lillian Amedeus	Paul Michael	Debbie Laiser	Cifachalo Cifa	Lillian Amedeus	Paul Michael
<b>Flowers</b>	Rebecca Ndorosi	Gillian	Christy Miller	Irene Joel	Yoka Bruinsma	TBA	Irene Joel
<b>Scripture Readings</b>	<u>Isaiah 64:1-9</u> <u>Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19</u> <u>1 Corinthians 1:3-9</u> <u>Mark 13:24-37</u>	<u>Isaiah 40:1-11</u> <u>Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13</u> <u>2 Peter 3:8-15a</u> <u>Mark 1:1-8</u>	<u>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</u> <u>Psalms 126</u> <u>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24</u> <u>John 1:6-8, 19-28</u>	<u>Isaiah 52:7-10</u> <u>Psalms 98</u> <u>Hebrews 1; 1-12</u> <u>John 1; 1-14</u>	<u>2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</u> <u>Luke 1:46b-55</u> <u>Romans 16:25-27</u> <u>Luke 1:26-38</u>	<u>Isaiah 9:2-7</u> <u>Psalms 96</u> <u>Titus 2:11-14</u> <u>Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)</u>	<u>Isaiah 61:10-62:3</u> <u>Psalms 148</u> <u>Galatians 4:4-7</u> <u>Luke 2:22-40</u>

