



## LETTER FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Every month, someone on Council has an opportunity to write this “Letter from Council”. Normally, I have no problem doing this when it is my time. I think and wait; and something comes to mind. Some memory, devotion or happening triggers a thought of what I could write about. Not this time. The deadline to submit is today and still I have no idea of what to write about. I am stuck; despite multiple conversations with God over the past two weeks asking for inspiration. Nope. Nothing. No clue. The hours pass, morning turns to noon, and noon turns to evening, still with a blank page in front of me.

So maybe this ‘blank page’ is the inspiration from God? What lesson is in this? What does this have to teach me of God and faith and living with Christ?

What do you do when you feel you are stuck? When life seems to be a never-ending cycle, and it has been spinning long enough that you are dizzy and unsure where the right direction is any more. Of course, not being able to write a short letter is nothing like a serious life issue, but can be used as an example, a taster, for more somber situations. Platitudes such as “look on the bright side” and “look for the silver lining” somehow can diminish the genuine feelings of sadness that anyone can experience in life. Even wholesome advice such as “count your blessings” can feel unwelcome. A teacher of mine many years ago once offered this advice: “when you feel a deep emotion, really feel it. Allow it to become who you are, if even for a short while.” That is easier to do when the emotion is joy, delight, pleasure. What about sadness, sorrow, despondency? Sinking into these rough feelings is difficult. Allowing them to become who are you, even for a moment, can be frightening. And yet, somehow necessary, if one is to then be able to move on, and get beyond them. Avoiding the feeling of ‘loss’ that comes with deep sadness and sorrow is like denying half of who we are.

The world seems to be a lot more frightening, uncertain place than it was when I was young. I did not live through a depression, world war, or other traumatic era, and I grew up with the assumption that major issues such as hunger, communicable diseases, short life expectancies etc. would all improve with modern technology and greater awareness of preventative techniques. Somehow that has not happened. Global warming, food insecurity, civil and international wars in multiple places, all seem to have crept up on silent wheels and now appear right in front of us.

*Continued on Page 2 below*

And what does this have to teach me of God and faith and living with and in Christ? Knowing that there is always a firm foundation underneath, a rock on which to stand, even in the dark moments, is such an immense assurance. Knowing that God is always there, no matter what, does not make the sad times any less sad; but definitely more bearable. Understanding that following Christ's footsteps means that Christ is not just in front of us, but also behind us and all around us, and always with a steady, comforting hand reached out to us, gives light to our path. All I can say is "Thank God for God."

May you feel God's comforting presence in all the moments of your life.

- Susan Simonson  
ACC Council Member

### **GOD MY PRAISE**

God, my Praise,  
My Hope, my Song  
in my weakness  
You make me strong.

Though I'm surrounded,  
by earthly care  
them onto Yourself  
are willing to bear.

God, my Praise,  
my Salvation, my Pardon  
may to You my heart  
never become harden.

Mercy You send me,  
each day to renew  
so I may worship  
the goodness of You.

God, my Praise,  
my Trust, my Confidence  
thank You for blessing me  
with Your providence!

- Deborah Ann Belka

## 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)

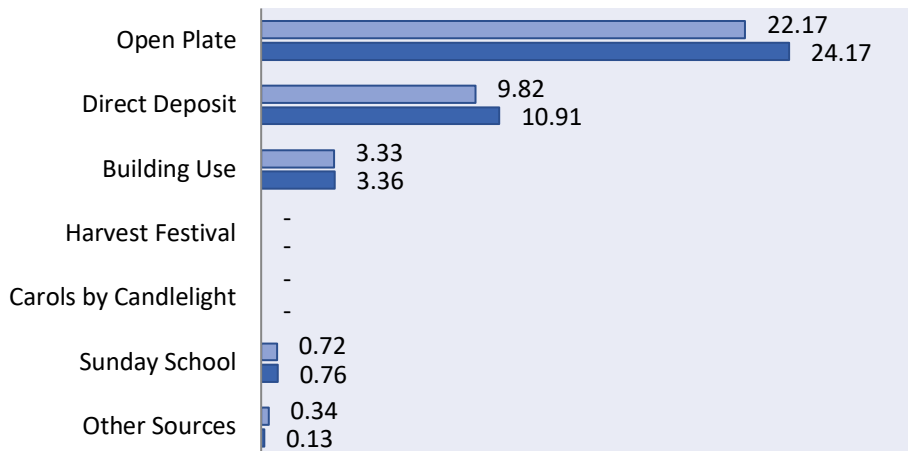
### Arusha Community Church 2024 Revenue through 15 May

(in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 15 May: 36.38

■ Actual thru 15 May: 39.33

2024 revenue through 15 May was TSh 11.76 million higher than the same period last year, and 2.95 million higher than this year's 15 May target; please continue to assist as able.



### 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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We will also celebrate the confirmation of several of our younger members on the 16th June as they give their testimonies...always a great occasion to celebrate!
- We are glad to promote the weekly Sunday afternoon Bible study for youth...stay tuned for the announcement regarding times...probably 2-5pm.

## A PRAYER FOR *Father's* DAY

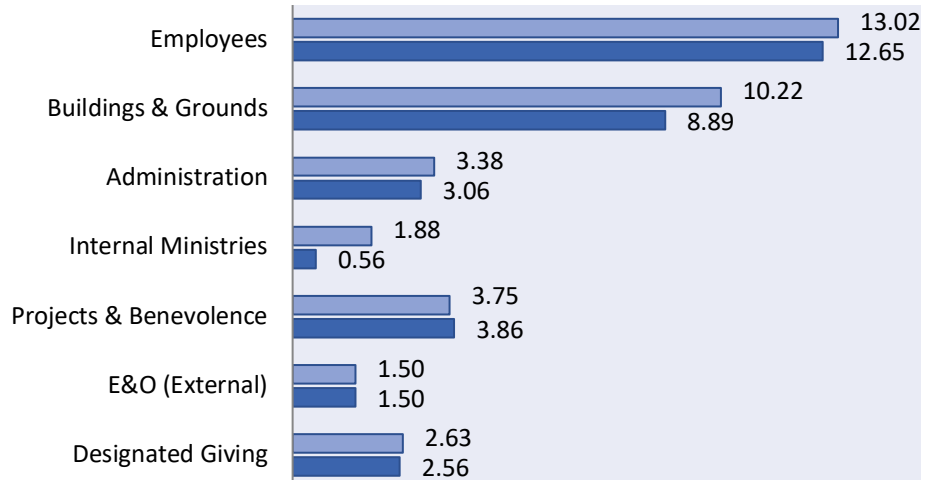
Gracious God,  
bless fathers and all father  
figures with such love and  
faithfulness that children  
flourish and grow in  
uprightness and joy.  
Bless those who long to be  
fathers and those for whom  
this day is difficult.  
Amen.

### Arusha Community Church 2024 Expenditure through 15 May (in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 15 May: 36.38

■ Actual thru 15 May: 33.08

2024 expenditure through  
15 May was TSh 6.18 million  
lower than the same period  
last year, and 3.30 million  
lower than this year's  
15 May target; internal  
spending will increase soon.



Yes, my soul, find rest in God;  
my hope comes from him.  
**Psalms 62:5**

But the wisdom that comes from heaven  
is first of all pure; then peace-loving,  
considerate, submissive, full of mercy  
and good fruit, impartial and sincere.  
**James 3:17**

## June 2024

	June 2, 2024	June 9, 2024	June 16, 2024	June 23, 2024	June 30, 2024
<b>Type of Service</b>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Communion Confirmation</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Family</i>
<b>Service Leader</b>	Daudi Msemaa	Eric Mbelle	Michael Murray	Monica John	Sion Miraa
<b>Preacher</b>	Mary Ng'ida Severene	Pastor Israel Meitamei	Pastor Lekashu	Dr. Elieshi Mungure	Michael Murray/Debbie Laiser
<b>Music Leader</b>	Selina Laiser	Jessica Shayo	Randy Stubbs	Mary Ng'ida Severe	Megan Ndale
<b>Prayer Duty</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Duty Elder</b>	Susan Simonson	Isaka Joseph	Wilson Mzirai	Jessica Shayo	Andries van Ekeveld
<b>Projectionist</b>	Sion Miraa	Matthayo Sandamu	Sion Miraa	Matthayo Sandamu	TBD
<b>Sound Tech.</b>	Gerard Sebastian	Andrea Thomas	Lawrence Menda	Tumsifu Mushi	Andrea Thomas
<b>Ushers</b>	Cifachalo Cifa	Esuvat Lobulu	Thomas Desta	Chiepego & Nashpai Laiser	Debbie Laiser
<b>Flowers</b>	Doreen Marandu	Rebecca Ndorosey	Irene Joel	Gillian	Immaculate Shija
<b>Scriptures</b>	- 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) - Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 - 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 - Mark 2:23-3:6	- 1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) - Psalm 138 - 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 - Mark 3:20-35	- 1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 - Psalm 20 - 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17 - Mark 4:26-34	- Job 38:1-11 - Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 - 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 - Mark 4:35-41	- 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 - Psalm 130 - 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 - Mark 5:21-43

The righteous man who walks in integrity and lives life in accord with his (godly) beliefs – how blessed (happy and spiritually secure) are his children after him (who have his example to follow).

- Proverbs 20:7 (AMP – Amplified Bible Translation)