

Glad Tidings

P.O Box 2316, Arusha, Tanzania
www.acc.or.tz

October

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Volume 450

Arusha
Community
Church

LETTER FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Let's come before him with thanks! Let's shout songs of joy to him! The Lord is a great God, the great king over all other gods." - Psalm 95:2-3

Happy Thanksgiving season to all of you. Thanksgiving is a tradition for many cultures in the world and it is celebrated in different parts of the world either in September, October or November. People celebrate this season in different ways;

- Some prepare a feast and eat together with family members and friends;
- Some use these moments to feed the hungry.
- Some take these moments for prayers,
- Some for sharing with the community by volunteering in communities in need.
- Some choose to spend it with those who are suffering with illness or loss, etc.

It is the time for us Christian when we are reminded that at the core of everything it is important to practise gratitude. Often, we are too distracted in life chasing material things and most of the time when we pray we ask for new things and often complain for not receiving or achieving what we planned for. Let our worship be not only in asking for things but also noticing the blessings that we have already received in our lives. We have many blessings we receive each day: the gift of life, food at our table, roofs over our heads, family, friends, people who look up to us, neighbours, church community, work, finances, clothing, good health, children, education, opportunities to serve, and many more. I encourage all of us to practice gratitude and offer a gesture of thanksgiving this month of October even if it just a phone call to someone who has an important role in your life, or even if it's just smiling and stop complaining for not having something, or just visiting someone who has lost hope and pray with them.

~ Jessica P. Shayo - Council Elder

A letter from ENEMaa

Reaching the unreachable Maasai people with the Gospel

Dear Members of the Arusha Community Church,

It is no wonder that ACC is located at the heart of Arusha serving largely the international and local affluent community. Ilboru parish of the ELCT located about 2 km from ACC happens to be the first place where the first missionaries settled to evangelize the Maasai people. However, I am not sure if the right gospel message has reached a large section of the Maasai people! What the missionaries found when they first came was a people who cherish their cultural norms and values and would not easily yield to foreign culture and values. So, the Maasai people rejected outright foreign culture and values and unfortunately Christianity until late 1970's.

In order to evangelize the Maasai people the German missionaries took time to learn Maasai culture including their language – “Maa”. These missionaries took time to produce Christianity church service books and other important learning materials in Maa language. Something they did very well and it made their evangelism mission to bear fruits though marginally. After independence of Tanganyika from the British and adoption of Swahili as a national language evangelism went on well and the number of Maasai Christians grew though still a large section stuck to their culture and beliefs. However, those who accepted Christianity are mainly those who got formal education. Therefore, there is still a large section of the Maasai people who are unreached by the Gospel. What the earlier missionaries experienced when they first came is still valid to date! ENEMaa a group of Maasai elders who are trying to re-vitalize Maa language since 2020 have come up with the idea of running church service in Maa language at the heart of Arusha. The group led by Pastor Kimirei requested ACC to allow ENEMaa to run church service in Maa language last year. ACC agreed and hence the first service took place second week of March 2023. This has been going on every month to date! ENEMaa values greatly the decision to allow Maa church service at the heart of Arusha because it will pave a way to reach the unreached Maasai people who have not got formal education. It is a known fact that any serious message including the Gospel will achieve desired results if it is delivered to indigenous people in their native language. ENEMaa wishes to learn from ACC how to run multi-denominational church services because to date the ACC Maa church service congregation comprises predominantly of elderly ELCT members. Maa church services have either been abandoned or curtailed overtime mostly in towns and their environs. However, they do still exist in remote places where the Maasai live. Even usage of materials developed by the missionaries including church service books is on a decline and for a long time now have not been revised to make them useable in the time and space! A number of denominational churches are mushrooming where the Maasai live but they mostly use Swahili without interpretation and it is hard for the Maasai who have not gotten formal education to grasp the gospel message. I wonder what language did Saint Paul a Jew use to reach gentiles during the earlier church! I believe he used their native language. Use of language other than the native language for delivery of gospel message will definitely not achieve desired results.

ENEMaa believe that ACC has a role to play in reaching the unreached Maasai people with the gospel as well said in its mission statement “...Recognizing the close link between worship and culture...” and affirming what is written in the book of Mathew 28:18-20. Let's embrace this opportunity with enthusiasm and spirit of service to reach the unreachable Maasai people and other indigenous communities in Tanzania. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to serving the Maasai people and other indigenous communities.

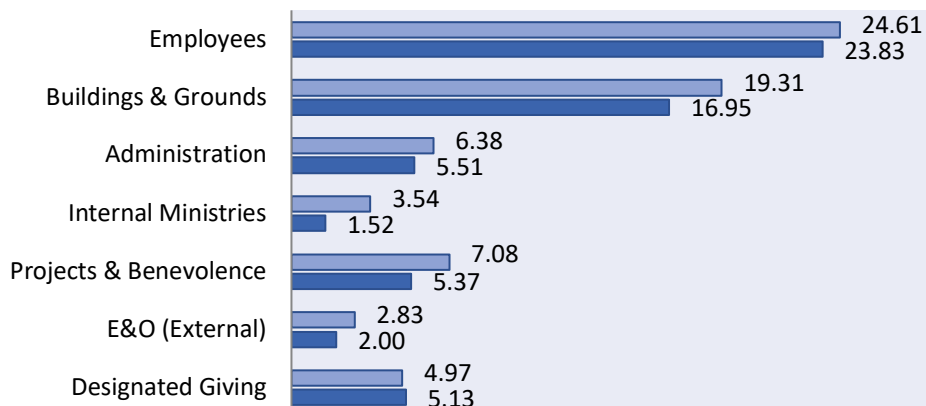
Arusha Community Church 2024 Expenditure through 15 September

(in TSh millions)

■ Projected thru 15 Sep: 68.72

■ Actual thru 15 Sep: 60.31

2024 expenditure through 15 September was TSh 2.86 million lower than the same period last year, and 8.41 million lower than this year's 15 September target; internal spending will increase soon.



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)

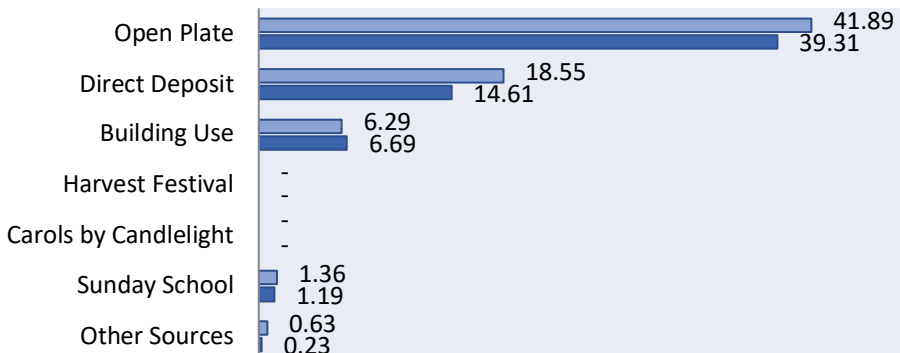
Arusha Community Church 2024 Revenue through 15 September

(in TSh millions)


■ Projected thru 15 Sep: 68.72

■ Actual thru 15 Sep: 62.03

2024 revenue through 15 September was TSh 1.29 million lower than the same period last year, and 6.69 million lower than this year's 15 September target; please continue to assist as able.



October 2024

	October 6, 2024	October 13, 2024	October 20, 2024	October 27, 2024
Church Calendar	<i>Proper 22</i>	<i>Proper 23</i>	<i>Proper 24</i>	<i>Proper 25</i>
Type of Service	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Family</i>
Service Leader	John Kraft	Immaculate Shija	Susan Simonson	Isaac Joseph
Preacher	Eric Mbelle	Pat Patton	Fr Oliver O' Brien	Angelika Kinsey
Music Leader	Megan Ndale	Erwin Kinsey	Sion Miraa	Ndale Family
Duty Elder	Andrea Thomas	Isaka Joseph	Irene Mchomvu	Wilson Mzirai
Prayer Duty	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Projectionist	John Makori	Emmanuel Nicholas	TBD	Tracy Wargiku
Sound Tech.	Gerard Sebastian	Andrea Thomas	Lawrence Menda	Tumsifu Mushi
Ushers	Cifachalo Cifa	Esuvat Lobulu	Thomas Desta	Chiepego & Nashpai Laiser
Flowers	Irene Mchomvu	Yoka Bruins	Erwin Kinsey	Immaculate Shija
Scriptures	- Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26 - Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 - Mark 10:2-16	- Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Psalm 22:1-15 - Hebrews 4:12-16 - Mark 10:17-31	- Isaiah 53:4-12 and Psalm 91:9-16 - Hebrews 5:1-10 - Mark 10:35-45	- Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Psalm 126 - Hebrews 7:23-28 - Mark 10:46-52

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits — who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

- Psalm 103:1-4