



Joanne Moyer

Life and Ministry in Tanzania

December 2020

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Merry, joyful, blessed Christmas to you all! What an eventful year this has been—especially with Covid-19!! There were a lot of changes, but some events were positive!

Many years ago I delivered a very small pre-mature baby boy. We kept him in the kitchen since the wood stove kept the room hot. At night he slept in a picnic cold box with hot water bottles. Carl made a plastic sliding lid so we could read the thermometer in case it got too hot or cold. He needed tube feeding every three hours. The baby, Frank, is the son of Kennedy Simtowe. Some of you may know Pearson, Kennedy's father, who worked with Carl. The Moyers and Simtowes are considered one family as Carl and Pearson are both buried at Tatanda in the same plot.



You can then imagine how exciting it was to go to Frank's wedding! There were so many friends that we hadn't seen in years, and there was NO social distancing. We gave and received hugs!! It was wonderful!!

The next big event involved traveling to the States! David accompanied me and we traveled on Qatar airline. They required a shield AND mask.



My first grandchild to have a wedding was getting married in October—Aimee (Deb and Scott's daughter) was to be married to Noah Dirig. Deb and I had such fun helping with flowers and decorations! There WAS social distancing, but a very special time! I was so happy I could be there and see their love for each other and their desire to honor God in their relationship.



Dave and I spent some time with Deb and Scott. I enjoyed watching my kids interact, and I heard some childhood stories—which I'm not sure were always accurate!!?



This time we voted in person— very different from absentee voting! Again an interesting event, and trying to get used to wearing a mask.

So now we're back home in Tanzania. We celebrated thanksgiving with friends and had a great time.



I'm so thankful for God's goodness towards us and Tanzania as Covid-19 didn't hit here as hard as we thought it might.

At this point we're having church services and gatherings at Masumbo, and the Advent service was especially good.

Please keep us in your prayers as we want to be a blessing to folks who come by, and point them to Christ who is the reason we're here!

So in a few short months, I gained a grandson and a new granddaughter, as Deb and Scott's son Brian married Emily in Hawaii! I also said good bye to two of our close friends— Jerry and Anna Dunlap. That's been hard, but I know they're happy and well in the presence of God and I like to think of them visiting with Carl!

God bless you in this coming year and be a blessing to people who are struggling. Be encouraged that God loves you. Ephesians 3:19 says, "may you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life."

Would love to hear from you too—my email is —Joanne.moyer@gmail. com. Just before they closed, a group of 12 HOPEC (Seth's school) students came here to do a week of ministry—painting and fixing up some school buildings. Those plans were cut short as the coronavirus suddenly became an issue, but the last day the students spoke, sang, and encouraged a local church here. Then they had a meal in the pastor's home! I enjoyed watching Seth give his first sermon in Swahili!

Most of us are used to having a bit more control over our lives than we have right now! I pray we will all have peace in the circumstances we find ourselves in and continue to learn how to be a blessing to those around us.

Thank you all for your prayers and support!

For His glory,

Bibi (Joanne Moyer)