

December 2025

JOANNE MOYER

life and ministry in Tanzania

Dear friends,

As I was walking home after dark with my flashlight recently, I was reminded that I live in Africa! A 6-foot snake crossed the path just in front of me, and for the first time in a long time, I didn't have a stick with me to dispatch the snake. Before I could find a stone to throw at it, he disappeared into my vegetable garden. I was not too happy to see the snake in the path that night, as I thought it was probably a cobra like the one Juma killed behind my toilet a few months ago. Fortunately, my son David told me that it wasn't a cobra, but a harmless mole snake that likes to eat rodents!! I'm sure glad I didn't have a stick that night after all!

Over the past few months, my daughter-in-law Tina has been working on compiling a history of our family's 100 years in missions, and I was reminded of the leper village Carl and I administered for more than 30 families. Working with leprosy reminds me that pain can actually be a gift! Without the warning of pain, many lepers injured themselves, even losing fingers and toes, since their bodies' pain receptors were not working and therefore couldn't respond appropriately to protect themselves. As I sit here in the comfort of my porch in Tanzania, I'm reminded of the importance of trials and pain in our own lives, and how God uses both physical and spiritual pain and difficult situations to teach us to trust Him more.

I was up late the other night, sending off the team of missionaries that had been using our campus for the past week. They were here receiving encouragement and training for the difficult task of reaching unreached people groups with the gospel of Jesus Christ. As we said goodbye to them, it struck me that this is at least the fifth generation that we've trained over my many years in Tanzania that have been equipped for ministry, not as pastors but as missionaries to their own people who are without a gospel witness.

My role during their training is to serve them through prayer, hospitality, and mentorship. This is a role that is so important within this context, where no one wants to work alone, and in this culture, where older people are seen as a source of inspiration and wisdom. Pray for me as opportunities arise, that I will, with God's help, be wise and provide good counsel.

Well, we know here in our region of Tanzania that it's almost Christmas because it's getting hotter and we are getting rain. These are exciting times for us as we are "dreaming of a WET Christmas", which will enable the people to plant their crops and provide food for their families when the harvest comes!

I hope you enjoy a blessed Christmas season with your family and friends!

Thanks for praying for us,

Joanne Moyer

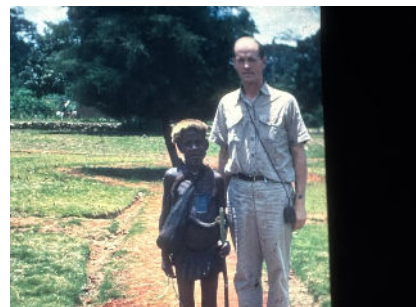
* See reverse side for a pictorial update!



Our family when the children were young



Me with my parents



My father, Otto Deming and a pygmy chief who has a flying squirrel skin as his crown



Carl pulling teeth



Two pastors Carl worked closely with



Kasanga project and Tanzanian missionaries



Missionaries on lake Tanganyika



Rain flowers



Sports ministry



Flamboyant tree



My son, Dan, and his wife Tina. Dan is a third generation missionary in Tanzania!



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