

OWENS' NEWS

First Responders Training | Local church networking | Work & Fun Day

Briquettes training

Arusha Vineyard is hosting a training, in partnership with ARocha, for locals to manufacture eco-friendly fuel made from kitchen waste, flour and paper.

Charcoal is one of the main ways of cooking food here in Tanzania. Unfortunately, it is taking a massive toll on forests, with few aware of the correlation between trees, rain, soil erosion only seeing trees for fire wood or charcoal. By providing this training we are not only impacting our environment positively but also providing new business opportunities for the poor.



35 school children were killed in a recent bus crash down a ravine during a school excursion.

First Responders Training ...

May 8th this year, 32 children were killed in a bus crash when their school minibus went out of control due to speed and plunged into a ravine. See the story here: <http://www.smh.com.au/video/video-news/video-world-news/32-children-killed-in-tanzania-bus-crash-20170508-4tqjm.html>

This news devastated the Tanzanian populace and we had people in our church who were some of the first on the scene. One person told terrible stories of how ignorant the rescuers were in their attempts to get the children out of the bus. This set the stage for a recent meeting with local pastors in our area. We hosted a meeting with 18 local pastors/leaders from many different denominations to discuss what the most urgent needs were in each of our communities. A team from the Cleveland Vineyard church and the Strait Foundation came and presented ideas about training the community in how to respond should an accident happen in our local area. The group then split into 3 different groups representing Moivaro, Chekerini and Moshono (all local suburbs) to discuss logistics.

After years of praying for our church to bless our local community in practical ways, something finally gelled. All three suburbs decided to send at least 2 people from each church to be trained in First Aid, thus sharing the load and responsibility of providing care for emergencies in our community.

The training is scheduled for either September or November depending on when the US-based team of doctors and paramedics can get time off from their jobs.

We are so grateful for this opportunity to provide practical training and community empowerment in partnership with local churches and ministries. A big thanks to the Strait Foundation and Cleveland Vineyard Church for their encouragement and supply of personnel.

Water means we can



plant a garden!! Yay!

Now that we have water (thank you God and thank you pray people) we have the opportunity to plants some flowers, shrubs and beautiful foliage. We hope to make our space beautiful. With the help of lots of volunteers we spent a day edging the paths, planting under the trees as well as painting. A quote from Prosper after seeing all the new plants: "this place looks like a "hoteli" now. (I'm sure you can guess what this Kiswahili word means). Thank you for your prayers and support!



Work and Fun Day! After painting all the railings, Nabil and Antonio had fun with some seriously enormous bubbles.

Prayer Needs:

- Judi's NGO Inherit Your Rights needs a volunteer grant writer, Public Relations expert and fund raiser. This is a wonderful cause and they are doing amazing work in Tanzania. Please pray for funds to support the work.
- New 'workers for the harvest' at Arusha Vineyard. Men and women with maturity, compassion and leadership gifts. Special need (!) ... flexible, strategic thinker/leader who enjoys putting

The Church gets a Facelift...

We recently had a Work and Fun Day at church. Over 30 people showed up to paint, strip, plaster, garden and clean the church building. We had a lot of fun and a team of volunteers from the U.S. put together a little promo video which was an amazing recruiting tool. See this link for the video <https://www.facebook.com/arushavineyard/videos/1651476748209317/>

We stopped for a delicious lunch of mutton curry, rice and fruit kebabs amongst other good things, had a brief magic show (as you do) and continued on till the job was finished.

The day brought such a sense of camaraderie and ownership to our church community. Check out all of our lovely photos...

<https://www.facebook.com/arushavineyard/posts/1658570117499980>



VSM: Vineyard School of Ministry (Dip. in Contextualised Theology)

Coming up in August "Community Development and the Kingdom of God" Facilitator - Noah Gitau (National Director, Vineyard Kenya).

A non-syncretistic and radically contextualised curriculum, approaching Scripture through the lens of African culture and rich theological perspectives.

A great resource for new missionaries and cross-cultural students.

www.vsmfrica.org



Inherit Your Rights widows project:

“Should a woman inherit land when her husband dies?” is a common subject for debate here in Tanzania. Recently one of the men in the room became very unpopular when he claimed that women didn’t bring anything of value to property or land, therefore should only be allowed to live there but not own it. *Inherit Your Rights* continues to provide free legal advice, education about the law and practical support for anyone who wants to go to court, procure a title deed, write a will or protect themselves against violence, robbery or loss of property. We are reaching a very real people group who are vulnerable and often left destitute because of local customs and legal ignorance. We would appreciate your financial support if you’d like to partner with us in seeing women empowered, educated and represented.

To give, please go to our Facebook page and click on donate or go to our website and click on “get involved”. <https://sites.google.com/site/inherityourrightsngo/make-donations> .

Additionally, we welcome any lawyers or volunteers interested in human rights to come to Arusha and be involved short term with our programs.

Please contact judi@inherityourrights.org for further details.



Kids Church Farming God’s Way class...

Arusha Vineyard Church Kids FGW class has finished after 2 semesters. We now have kids who are committed to conservation and growing food in sustainable ways. They understand the importance of protecting soil during the dry season with “God’s blanket” of leaves and leftover stalks instead of letting the goats and cows eat them. Amongst other important spiritual principles of sowing and reaping that was the theme for this last year, they learned about faithfulness and care for the environment.

Next semester we’re envisioning a practical/interactive class on worship.

Pray for God to raise up the right teachers, themselves worshippers, who can model and teach these principles and lead our children into the presence of Jesus.

What a crop looks like when you follow the FGW techniques:



Arusha Vineyard FGW class spend the morning putting a blanket of leaves over the newly planted seeds to protect them from the harsh sun and reduce water evaporation.

African Enterprise Update....

As we mentioned last month our partnership with African Enterprise Canada is ending due to changes in their organisation.

As of August, Dothan Vineyard (Alabama) will be covering our US donations also providing tax receipts on request. For Canadian residents and donors, the process is longer and more complicated than we realised and we’ve been working on finding a new agency for donors to give through. We hope that by September we will have this finalized. For the month of August please use either our Paypal account or Vancity account to give. We really appreciate your patience with this and apologise for the delay. We understand that Canada has some pretty stiff requirements in place as a means of protecting donors and making sure funds are not going to terrorists, all of which we applaud. As soon as we have more news, we’ll inform you.

Contact us for further details. Alternatively, you can give via PayPal at paypal.me/DHOwns.

We are SO grateful for...

Church: an unprecedented season of breakthrough in people's lives (marriages; physical and emotional healing; people getting saved), and our amazing leadership team.

Family: This year we've had visits from Zachary, Justine and Skyler which has been so lovely. Celeste continues to have success in the coffee sector in Belfast plus she has had opportunities to travel to Tallin, Germany, and Vienna; Justine begins a new job as a teacher in Phoenix; Zac graduates from Kings College in New York in May next year.

Health: after our time in South Africa where David was treated for his Rickettsial Fever he has returned to Arusha and although not fully back to 100% strength he is mostly feeling much better and is able to manage any symptoms that do arise because of over work or stress with natural remedies which is important after the years of antibiotic usage. He has keeping to a diet that is healing for his gut and full of nutrients and probiotics. We continue to seek God for complete healing and health.

New National Board and renewed vision for **Vineyard Tanzania**. Our national board meeting is this coming week. Pray for the nation to step into its purpose and destiny.

Support: Your support through finances and/or prayer in our most challenging season. We appreciate you.

Vision: We're excited touching our region with practical kingdom help in ways they are asking for.

Water and gardens: the rains have come and we have full tanks and beautiful gardens.

Praise the Lord!!!

Zac's Accommodation in NYC for next year, his final year at college has been answered. He is flatting with 2 other students from The Kings College and his rent is miraculously cheap.

Prayer Points...

- Our ability to attend **Zac's graduation** in May 2018 in New York City. Please pray for funds for tickets and accommodation.
- God to move powerfully in the city of **Arusha** (unity in government and church sectors in particular)
- **financial provision** for this next season ... for us personally, our church and widow's project (Inherit Your Rights).
- vision, wisdom and protection as we navigate towards becoming a "safe community of the broken".

Donations...

If you feel led to support us financially, you may do this directly:

Internationally: paypal.me/DHOwens

Australia: paypal.me/Owens61

or for tax deductibility:

USA - Dothan Vineyard Church, Alabama (details on request)

CANADA - David and Judi Owens Vancity (details on request)

NB Please advise us as to specific designation of funds (e.g. personal, church initiatives, widows etc.)