

# Glad Tidings



PO Box 2316  
Arusha, Tanzania  
[www.acc.habari.co.tz](http://www.acc.habari.co.tz)

**JANUARY 2017: Vol 361**

Arusha  
Community  
Church

## Pastoral Care is a Ministry We All Share

Two years ago at the ACC Kesho strategic planning workshop, the congregation indicated that pastoral care is a key need, and at last year's Annual General Meeting it was further desired that Pastoral Care options be developed at ACC.

James 5:13-16 stresses the importance of prayer in pastoral care, and the responsibility of church elders. At our 2016 Council Retreat, pastoral care remained the emphasis of our lay-led effort in a church without a pastor: caring for others in physical, medical, emotional and spiritual needs in the name of Jesus. It was agreed important to have people in ACC visiting those who are ill (physically or mentally) to pray with them. Important in pastoral care is to be present, but not get in the way; to recognize that in the end God is the One who provides healing, sometimes using us as instruments, with words, with prayer, and sometimes even only with our presence.

It should be realized that ACC has several elements in place like the Projects & Benevolence, Evangelism & Outreach, and Worship Committees, Prayer Ministry, Council, and the church office staff, that all play a role in pastoral care. These will continue. We are also blessed with good health facilities in Arusha which can be of assistance in providing pastoral care, even for mental health care as provided free through the Arusha Mental Health Trust at Mt. Meru Hospital.

Further, the Council has collected a list of available pastors, counselors, and others with specific gifts who are available to the ACC Community for pastoral care as needed. This list is confidential, requests for assistance are coordinated through a central point person, who for the time being is Brenda Kimaro, the ACC Facilitator. Brenda can be reached at [acc.facilitator@gmail.com](mailto:acc.facilitator@gmail.com), or by phone at 0782397708. ACC's Administrator, Neema Swai, may also be contacted for assistance: [acc.neema@gmail.com](mailto:acc.neema@gmail.com), 0685345429.

As in case of churches with paid positions, the care is not necessarily better nor available at all times, nor always able to match specific needs. We must seek to do the best we can as church members to sustain very good existing examples of pastoral care in ACC, and to help people that are not (yet) well-connected within ACC find their way to people providing pastoral care.

To further equip our members to serve one another through pastoral care, Rev. Tim Sonnenberg and Diane Sonnenberg, who is a mental health care professional, will be

leading a 2-hour training on pastoral care for all interested ACC members. This will be an introductory session to help members understand what pastoral care is (and isn't), and to open their hearts to sense if God is calling them to serve in this way. The training begins at 10 am and will finish by about 12 noon. Register online at the workshop here: <https://goo.gl/forms/8CHCTUHUnQBbRpXm1>

**By training members on how to provide pastoral care – recognizing that this also includes practical matters such as grocery shopping, cleaning, etc. – our hope and intention is that a core group can become trainers internally as well, to stimulate people to connect with other people, also recognizing the cultural diversity we have in ACC.**

## Confirmation Class starts January 22



The new confirmation class starts 22 January for youth age 12 and older. The class will meet Sunday mornings at the church at 9 am, except during school holidays. Pastor Deborah Troester and Jana Kinsey will teach the class.

Please stop in the church office to register your child for the class, or register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/oQiDmkigWAbpH1xD3>

Exact start date and meeting times are yet to be determined.

**Youth and/or their parents do not need to be members of ACC to join the class. *All are welcome!***

## Crèche Kids Need Your Help!

Please consider spending one Sunday every 6-8 weeks volunteering in the Crèche. Every week we offer a safe place for little ones (newborn up to age 3) to play so their parents can enjoy a restorative time in church.

If you are a parent who is often in the crèche anyway, or just someone who likes kids, regardless of your gender, age or stage in life, PLEASE consider helping out.

**Contact:** Lindsay Hoover

**Text or WhatsApp:** 0765454608

**Email:** [LindsayJoyH@gmail.com](mailto:LindsayJoyH@gmail.com)



### AA and NA Meetings at ACC

#### Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday 1 pm – 2 pm

Tuesday 1 pm – 2 pm

Thursday 1 pm – 2 pm

Friday 5 pm – 6 pm

Saturday 10 am – 11 am

#### Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday 5 pm – 6 pm

Thursday 5 pm – 6 pm

Saturday 5 pm – 6 pm

# Save the Dates for These Upcoming ACC Events:

**15 January:** Sunday school resumes for children ages 3-11 during Sunday services.

**22 January:** Confirmation Class begins for church youth ages 12 and older. Register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/oQiDmkigWAbpH1xD3>

**29 January:** Annual General Meeting following the service; lunch will be served. All are welcome, but only Registered Voting Members will be able to cast votes. (If you are a Registered Voting Member, check the list on the notice board in the church hall to confirm you are listed.)

**4 February:** Pastoral Care Training for ACC Members, 10 am to 12 noon. Register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/8CHCTUHUnQBbRpXm1>

**12 and 19 February:** Time & Ability Fair following services.

**20-24 February:** Vineyard School of Ministry Diploma in African Theology Course: Understanding Missions, Christianity & Islam in Africa (see next page for details)



If you have a prayer request and would like our members to support you in prayer, contact the four key people—if possible by SMS—and they will inform the others in the prayer chain.

Erwin Kinsey: 0754 480 184

Margaret Kenyi: 0754 090 078

Susan Simonson: 0754 266 559

Stella Karamuna: 0754 281 337

## Excerpt from Reaching Out by Henri Nouwen

“As healers we have to receive the story of our fellow human beings with a compassionate heart...that does not judge or condemn but recognizes how the stranger’s story connects with our own. We have to offer safe boundaries within which the often painful past can be revealed and the search for a new life can find a start. Our most important question as healers is not, “What to say or do?” but “how to develop enough inner space where the story can be received?” Healing is the humble but also very demanding task of creating and offering a friendly empty space where strangers can reflect on their pain and suffering without fear, and find the confidence that makes them look for new ways right in the center of their confusion. This in no way means that professionally trained healers are less important. The opposite is true. A good host, a careful listener, is the first to recognize when professional help is needed. The many specialists will, in fact, be very grateful to those who have given a compassionate ear to their suffering neighbors, recognized that special care was needed and referred them before their pains grew worse. On the other hand, a general atmosphere of careful attention by all the members of the Christian community can sometimes heal wounds before special care is demanded.”



## VINEYARD SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

***PRESENTS***

**DIPLOMA IN AFRICAN THEOLOGY**  
(accredited by DAYSTAR UNIVERSITY, Nairobi)

One week course  
**20<sup>TH</sup> Feb – 24<sup>TH</sup> Feb**

PM202: Understanding Missions  
Christianity & Islam in Africa

**Venue:** Arusha Community Church (ACC) near Selian Hospital  
**Course fee & Meals:** 80,000Tsh  
**Time:** 8:30am to 4:30pm daily

For more information – [www.vsm africa.org](http://www.vsm africa.org)  
Contact: **0687716658/0744719296**  
Email: **arushavineyard@gmail.com**



# Advent & Christmas in Pictures



**Thanks to the Sunday school children who led the service on the First Sunday of Advent!**





**This year's Carols by Candlelight Service was in memory of Pastor Dean Peterson, who passed away on 20 December. Dean served in missions in Tanzania from 1952-1988.**

## JANUARY 2017 Service Schedule

	1 January	8 January	15 January	22 January	29 January
<b>Church Calendar</b>	<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>1st Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<i>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<i>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<i>4th Sunday after Epiphany</i>
<b>Service Type</b>	Communion	Morning Worship	Communion	Morning Worship	Family Service
<b>Leader</b>	Penina Makubi	Jimmy Ebong	Marilyn Simonson	Martijn Veen	Linda Jacobson
<b>Preacher</b>	Johan Sundqvist	Rev. Deborah Troester	Rev. Tim Sonnenberg	Rev. Mike Taylor	Christine Ebong
<b>Musician(s)</b>	Linda Jacobson	Neil Miller	Jimmy Ebong/ Christine Ebong	Angela Schramm	Daniel Kalule
<b>Duty Elder</b>	Irene Joel	Narola Mollel	Jimmy Ebong	TBD	Moira Brehony
<b>Sound</b>	Gabriel Francis	Goodluck Kaaya	Edmund Kisombe	Travis Silveus	Daniel Charles
<b>Ushers</b>	Henrique Christopher Martin Matthews	Irene Kiria Rogers Eliau	Obeid Nickodemasy Peter Feer	Olivier Muhoza Godlisten Solomon	Rogers Eliau Irene Kiria
<b>Flowers</b>	Irene Joel	Helena Koster	Christy Miller	Helena Koster	Helena Koster
<b>Library</b>	Library is Closed	Narola Mollel	Fitsmit Dejene	Eliel Gideon	Sion Miraa
<b>Books</b>		Rogers Eliau	Betty Magaya	Fredy David	Leon Veen
<b>DVDs</b>		Peter Feer	Nancy Kimaro	Parul Bhatti	Raymond Lema
<b>Scripture Readings</b>	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Psalm 8 Revelation 21:1-6a Matthew 25:31-46	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12



**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.

**Arusha Community Church (ACC)** is an international, interdenominational, lay-led congregation. We are united in faith in Christ and worship in the English language. Services are at 10:30 am every Sunday morning, as well as on other special days of the Church Year. **Sunday school** for children is during church through the school year. **Adult Education** is usually held before the service at 9:15 am. For more information, please visit our **website** at [www.acc.habari.co.tz](http://www.acc.habari.co.tz).

*Glad Tidings submissions are due 15 January 2017 to [acc.facilitator@gmail.com](mailto:acc.facilitator@gmail.com)*