



Carpenter's Kids

St. Paul's, Ivy – St. Paul's, Nzali

What is the Carpenter's Kids Program all about?

Our ongoing and rewarding mission partnership with the parish of St. Paul's Nzali, Tanzania supports many of the most vulnerable children in the village through the Diocese of Central Tanganyika's (DCT) Carpenter's Kids (CK) program.

Although primary school through grade seven is tuition-free in Tanzania, children require uniforms and basic supplies to attend classes. Many poor families are unable to provide these necessities so their children remain uneducated. The CK program distributes these items, plus shoes, a large bar of soap, a treated mosquito net and a solar lamp (exclusive to SPI) to each student. SPI parishioners continue to support these children with an annual donation of only \$100 per child.

For the past eight years, missionaries from St. Paul's Ivy have travelled to the village of Nzali. Each year we learn more and strengthen our relationship with the villagers and parishioners through a variety of projects above and beyond our primary mission work of teaching English to primary school children. As partners, we have installed gutters and cisterns as a source of clean water, educated villagers on water purification practices including the use of MadiDrops, improved the bored well, constructed a latrine at the school, built a new rectory for the parish priest, and in 2017 worshiped in the beautiful new church which was constructed through the generosity of SPI and sweat equity of SPN parishioners.

Each year it becomes more evident that the spirituality of our

pilgrims and the bonds between our two communities increases.

Many adults and three of our youth have returned to Nzali multiple times; all express recognition of how these experiences have changed their lives in so many dimensions.

We look forward to continuing and further strengthening our relationship with the people of Nzali by participating in critical joint projects and supporting their children's educational goals, as well as providing opportunities for spiritual nourishment and fulfillment for our own parishioners.



Importance of Education

Teaching has been, and will always remain, the bedrock of our mission work in Nzali. We are privileged to spend time helping the many hard-working students, not only the Carpenter's Kids, enhance their English skills, which is a requirement to pass their national exams after Standard 7 and succeed in Secondary school.



The dedicated teachers in the Village often serve as our translators, and our relationship and love for each other has flourished over the last seven years as a result. The students love to sing and draw, so we teach songs in English and use the art supplies we bring with us to Tanzania to help with their writing skills.



Importance of Relationship



There is nothing that makes the great, big Earth seem more village-like than knowing you have a kind and supportive friend halfway around the globe. The ability to share experiences, hear each other's voices, and feel a handshake or a hug, are invaluable in the journey of building a relationship. We are often reminded of the sweet people whom we have met on our trips to Tanzania, and the trusting friendships that have ensued.



We've developed a particular closeness with our translators as we bonded over laughs and frustrations at teaching young people and engaged in candid

exchanges of information about our respective countries.

Perceived barriers become non-existent when you hold hands and



sing together, which we regularly do in Nzali. The relationships we have forged is a piece of the puzzle toward a better world.

Building the Church



A place to worship, to sing and dance and praise God, to come together; to be the center.



Kedimon

During St. Paul's Ivy's first trip to Nzali in 2010, we learned of the plight of one of our CK students, Kedimon Denis Gazo. As a young child, Kedimon lost both of his legs below the knee. Determined to attend school, he "walked" several kilometers to school daily, with rubber sandals lashed to his knees. After conversation with, and approval by, his mother we were able to facilitate complicated surgeries to allow his legs to accept prostheses.



Kedimon has ultimately been able to gain entrance to boarding school, where he has thrived and been able to continue his education. As a result of our community's generosity, Kedimon underwent further surgery this past year, and was refitted for appropriate prostheses necessary due to his growth.

Kedimon (pictured above) continues to work towards a successful future, which we believe would not have been possible without assistance from St. Paul's Ivy.

Famine relief



Our friends in Nzali have been direly affected by the drought that hit East Africa beginning last year. The rains on which they rely simply did not come. As a result, people we love, with whom we have broken bread and laughed and worshipped, considered themselves fortunate to eat one small meal a day.



Severe malnutrition and even starvation have been a daily reality, with children and the elderly suffering the strongest blows. Fortunately, with generous gifts from St. Paul's Ivy, the Blue Ridge Mountain Rotary Club and our friends at St. Luke's, and others, grain was purchased and distributed to families in Nzali.

How grateful we are to be faithful stewards of our great bounty, allowing our brothers and sisters in a dry and thirsty land to feed

their children, their elders and themselves.



Conservation Agriculture

Recent quote from Pastor Noah Massima about the drought in Tanzania:

"The rain status is so so bad, no rain, we had small small rain two days ago we can say they were just showers, nothing can grow from the soil. It is surprising every one. The old people are telling us that it happened alike sixty years ago. It is seriously a huge disaster, the food cost has doubled, no body can farm and sell labor as most of the farmers do in the villages"



Conservation Agriculture is a system that maximizes crop yield by taking full advantage of rainwater. The Diocese of Central Tanganyika is developing a program, with six Demonstration Villages from which to teach. With our help, Nzali has been selected as one of them. The area has been ravaged by drought and only smart, sustainable farming techniques will feed its people.

Providing Clean Water

To help provide clean drinking water for the villagers, during our trip to Nzali in 2014, we installed gutters and large cisterns at the school, clinic and rector's house to catch rain water. Prior to this, many women and children would regularly walk several kilometers to the nearest watering hole to collect horribly contaminated water often resulting in severe gastrointestinal disease.



Although the rain water collected in the cisterns would only last for 3-4 months, it provided a source of clean water for many villagers during the rainy season. The following year, a group of SPI parishioners and UVA students constructed new compostable toilets at the school and educated villagers on water sanitation techniques and the use of MadiDrops to disinfect unclean water.

How can *YOU* participate in this global ministry?

Pray for our relationship with the people of Nzali and the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. The Anglican Communion becomes real when we pray for these brothers and sisters in Christ.



Consider your own gifts and talents, and consider what God might be calling you to do. Teachers have given us teaching materials and ordered oversize children's books that they know the students will love. Knitters have contributed baby hats and blankets and adult scarves.



A student who loves geography created a world map poster to use in the Nzali classroom. Our Sunday school students created a colorful banner to hang in the church. A quilter co-created a quilt for the Pastor in Nzali with the Sunday school.

For seven years, missionaries have traveled to Nzali to teach in the classroom, to do building projects and water projects.



Join us! Bring your love, your talent, your desire to know and work with our brothers and sisters in Nzali. Bring your children.

Generously give to the mission as part of your stewardship plan. Opportunities include supporting a secondary student in vocational school, supporting primary and secondary Carpenter's Kids students, University students, supporting famine relief or a particular water or building project, or donating needed school supplies. Contact Carpenter's Kids committee treasurer Sarah Dandridge about how you might financially help support the global outreach work of St. Paul's Ivy.

