

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

ISSUE 32: MARCH 2009

Dear brothers, sisters, and friends of The Carpenter's Kids,

It is great to continue receiving support to The Carpenter's Kids. The kindness and generosity shown by our friends has a great impact within the communities touched by this program. Moreover, when a link parish decides to give supplies like soap, socks, body oil, cows, and other things, this expands the people's understanding of what we mean by the forming of a special relationship between the parish links. The development of this relationship is very important to our partnership, and we are encouraged when we see them grow.

I'm very thankful to those link parishes who have chosen to support church construction, kindergarten classrooms, school desks, and all other special projects. Despite the current difficulty of the world economic situation, our brothers and sisters have continued to offer support to their friends in need in DCT. Thank you all for your kind hearts and generosity.

The Rev. Noah Masima
Program Director



SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITION

In addition to supporting link parishes through the conventional supply of uniforms, school supplies, shoes, socks, and soap, many of our supporting parishes have chosen to assist their link parishes in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika with projects that will benefit the entire community. The Holy Cow project begun by the Episcopal Diocese of New York, several water projects (including well construction and rehabilitation), and the construction of churches and other facilities are a few of the creative ways through which the love and generosity of the members of our supporting parishes are being manifested within DCT. These projects would either take years to complete or would not be possible without the help provided by our friends in the US and elsewhere. The building of churches, school facilities, wells, and fresh nutritious milk provided by the Holy Cows greatly benefit the lives of the Carpenter's Kids, their families, and communities. As parishes in DCT unite with their brothers and sisters from other continents to bring these projects to fruition, the hope for the development of strong relationships and understanding between two very different cultures is realized. This special edition newsletter will highlight several of the special projects currently in progress within our parishes. We sincerely thank everyone who has chosen to provide additional assistance to their link parishes through these projects.

Nhini & St. Andrew's Church, Bronx : Church Construction

The construction of a new church at Nhini parish has been a long and ongoing project. Construction of the new church began on July 7, 2003, and the parish does not expect to finish building for another five or six years. Funds for the building of the church are coming from the parish congregation. The shortage of rain in Dodaoma this year, however, has led to a lack of cash crops and a drop in income for many people in the village, and thus the donations from the congregation have been slow to arrive. Nhini's link parish of St. Andrew's Church has expressed an interest in assisting in the church construction.

The building under construction is not yet in use, and the parish is currently holding worship services in their existing church. The old church is built from mud bricks, and the roof is constructed with sticks, mud, and straw. The building's thatched roof leaks when it rains, and it is very small, dark, and cramped. The building has been in use since 1954, and the parish is looking forward to the day when they'll be able to

hold services and other events in their brand new building!

St. Andrew's Church has also been looking into funding a water project in Nhini, as the village's well is broken and cannot be used. This means that water is only available by digging in the ground to reach the water table, and the water is pulled up by buckets. This water is muddy and cloudy, and without access to clean water the villagers and Carpenter's Kids are forced to use it for cooking, drinking, and bathing. The repair of the parish well would ensure that the village has access to clean, safe water, and illnesses due to water-borne diseases would also be substantially reduced.

St. Andrew's also raised money to provide a cow for Nhini through the Holy Cow project. The cow is healthy and recently gave birth to a calf. The milk is being used to supplement the children's breakfast each morning at school to provide them with a nutritious meal. Nhini is very grateful for all the help that their friends in the US have provided to them!



The former parish church & the construction progress for the new church.

The Holy Cow Project

The Holy Cow project originated in The Episcopal Diocese of New York as a way for supporting parishes to expand the scope of assistance to their DCT links. For \$750, a cow can be provided for a parish in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. The cow's milk is used to supplement the children's breakfast each morning at school, increasing the nutritional benefits of the porridge they are given. The cow manure can also be burned to create a sustainable, inexpensive, and environmentally friendly way for the Mama Lishes to cook the porridge. In order for the cows to be delivered to a parish whose link has purchased one for them, someone must be nominated to be the caretaker for the cow. This person must then undergo training on how to care for the cow, and a suitable shelter must be built. Fifty-one cows have been purchased by parishes in EDNY for their DCT links, and thus far twenty-two of these cows have been delivered. The Holy Cow project provides a great way for supporting parishes to extend additional support to their links, and DCT parishes are always delighted to receive a cow!

The following twenty-two parishes have received cows through the Holy Cow project. Twenty-nine more cows have been purchased and will be on their way to their parishes in the near future! Thank you to everyone who has provided a cow for their Carpenter's Kids!

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| ◊ Nala | ◊ Handali | ◊ Chadulu | ◊ Wilunze | ◊ Ipagala |
| ◊ Ntyuka | ◊ Kikombo | ◊ Chipanga | ◊ Chahwa | ◊ Kigwe |
| ◊ Cathedral (cow died) | ◊ Miita | ◊ Lufuto | ◊ Mbalawala | |

If you would like to purchase a cow for your link parish, contact Lauren Salminen at laurenckny@msn.com



**"Barbara", Nghonghonha's
'Holy Cow'**

Nala & St. John's Episcopal Church, Kingston : Library Construction

In 2006, seven youth and four adults from St. John's went on the first pilgrimage to Tanzania for the Carpenter's Kids. We asked the good people of Nala if there was anything that we could do that would help their lives. We thought about a well for water, but the people of Nala thought a library would be more useful. The Nala Library Project was started when a group of young men were killed while practicing music during a lightning storm. We decided to dedicate the library as a memorial to them. Bishop Mdimi Mhogolo has been behind the project and we give thanks for his leadership.



The foundation of the Nala library.

We have raised 20,000US already and are going to raise additional money to pay for textbooks, computers, furniture and other necessary items for the library. Anita Hutton and Lynn Dennison have worked very hard on raising the money for this project. Our youth and parishioners have wrapped Christmas gifts at the mall, sold Tanzanian jewelry and crafts, held a Cabaret night fundraising event, sold furniture and run booths at our summer fair, sold Mother's Day plants and baked goods, and sold Christmas Cards and Christmas ornaments. The Kiwanis Club raised money with us at a spaghetti dinner last spring and has planned another dinner for this May. Annie Internicola

put together a brochure to parishioners and friends. Mary Bishop, the Hutton Family, and the Kiwanis Club have all donated at our gold level of at least one thousand dollars. I plan to dedicate the library in July during our pilgrimage in Nala.

Many thanks to the Carpenter Kids Staff, Father Noah and Bishop Mdimi Mhogolo for all their help! *Mpatieni Yatima Haki Yaki. Asanteni sana rafiki zetu, The Rev. Duncan A. Burns (St. John's Episcopal Church, Kingston)*

Nghonghonha & St. Mary's Church, Scarborough : Church Construction

The Church of St. John in Nghonghonha is linked with St. Mary's Church in Scarborough, New York, and the relationship between the two parishes is a very strong one. St. Mary's is assisting their link parish with the construction of a new church, and the building is well under way. Construction on the new church began about one and a half years ago, and the congregation hopes the building will be completed in three or four years. In addition to help from St. Mary's, the parish congregation is also contributing money towards the construction. The new building will be quite the site to behold, as the roof will be two stories high and the building will be much larger than their current church. With a village population of around 1600 people and a parish congregation of 200-220 people, the existing church building is a too small. The current building has been in use for 30 years, and after construction of the new church is completed the building will be used as a meeting hall.

Nghonghonha also received a cow through the Holy Cow project, and when St. Mary's rector, The Rev. Patrick Ward, visited his link parish in 2008, the cow was named "Barbara" after his wife as a gift for her birthday. The cow was even adorned with a necklace bearing her name! Barbara is very happy and healthy, and she loves people and attention. Barbara also recently gave birth to a calf, and both mother and baby are doing well. Barbara has free roam of the parish grounds, and a cheerful bell around her neck informs everyone of her whereabouts! The parish is looking forward to welcoming Rev. Ward back to Nghonghonha in April to see the progress they have made on their construction.



**The old parish church & the
progress of the construction.**

Hombolo Makulu & St. Thomas' Church, Mamaroneck : Kindergarten

The idea to help build a new kindergarten for Hombolo Makulu first began when the Rev. Deborah Tammearu of St. Thomas' Church visited her link parish in 2007. While sharing lunch with some of the village leaders, Rev. Tammearu was asked whether it might be possible to help the village build a kindergarten. After telling them she would look into the possibility, Rev. Tammearu returned home and set to work. After lots of communication and an estimate from Hombolo Makulu, it was discovered that the building would take \$25,000 to build. Thanks to a fundraising event at St. Thomas' called "Men Cooking at St. Thomas" along with some generous donations from church parishioners, Rev. Tammearu was able to send the funds for the kindergarten in early 2008.

The kindergarten building is coming along quickly, though the economic situation and the increasing cost of supplies have made completing the finishing touches a bit of a challenge. St. Thomas' recently sent a second contribution to assist in the completion of the building, and if additional funds are necessary the parish has committed to raising the amount needed to finish the job.

Rev. Tammearu returned to Hombolo Makulu in August 2008, at which point she was able to dedicate the new building. This was the highlight of her visit, and no doubt both she and the members of Hombolo Makulu are looking forward to her return in August 2009.



Hombolo Makulu's brand new kindergarten building funded by St. Thomas' Church.

Itiso & The Church of the Holy Communion, Mahopac : Well Project

Not having access to fresh, clean water is a problem that many parishes in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika deal with on a daily basis. Many parishes have wells that do not work, forcing them to use contaminated water or travel miles to neighboring villages for access to clean water. The Church of the Holy Communion in Mahopac, New York is currently assessing the water situation in their link parish of Itiso in hopes of improving their water issues.



One of the water sources in Itiso parish.

Itiso has a population of about 6,000 people living in twelve widespread hamlets. About 1,800 of these people depend on the water within the Itiso township. One hamlet has three covered shallow wells which seem to be working fine, and it is hoped that the number of these wells could be increased. The current source of water in the village is via a shallow open well, and it is here that many people go to collect their water. Several young men also collect the water and take it to the town in carts where it is sold for a high price. Though the water is clear and good to the taste, being an open well means that the water is subject to contamination and disease dissemination.

In addition to this main open well, there are seven water outlets scattered throughout the village, five of which have not worked since 1975. The water tank which was built in 1971 has cracks that could be easily repaired, though the supply line to the well pump is rusted and leaky and would need to be replaced. It is anticipated that the water problems in Itiso may be improved, and many thanks to Holy Communion for their consideration of this project. Thanks also goes to Brian Polkinghorne (DCT/DSC) and Musa Abraham (Chamwino Water Department) for their report and assessment at Itiso parish.

Mwitikira & St. Paul's Church, Richmond VA : Church Construction

Since a parish-to-parish link between St. Paul's Church, Richmond and Mwitikira was first established in 2006, the two parishes have shared a very close relationship. Suzanne Johnson, a member of St. Paul's and the new coordinator for The Carpenter's Kids in the Diocese of Virginia, has visited Mwitikira several times — even spending six weeks living and teaching in the village in the summer of 2008 — and she will be returning to visit again in just a few weeks.



The progress of the Mwitikira church construction.

Suzanne and the other members of St. Paul's have committed to supporting several projects within Mwitikira, one of which is the construction of a new parish church. Though the project has not been underway for very long, the new building is coming along quickly. Construction on the new building just began in 2008, but is coming along quickly. It is clear that from the stage of construction completed thus far, the new church will be a beautiful building and one which Father Erasto (Mwitikira's parish priest) and his parishioners will be proud of.

In addition to funding the church construction, St. Paul's has also been helping to support several schools in Mwitikira. On February 27, a dedication took place in which the primary school was presented with brand new desks and several boxes of new books for each grade. The dedication was attended by hundreds of students, parents, guardians, teachers, and village members, and it was quite the celebration! Several Carpenter's Kids staff members were present at the dedication to present the new supplies on behalf of St. Paul's, and the parish was thrilled to hear that visitors from Virginia would return to Mwitikira in a very short time. It is wonderful to witness the exchange of love and support between link parishes in The Carpenter's Kids program, and the relationship between St. Paul's and Mwitikira is a perfect example of what this friendship can achieve.



Brand new desks at the dedication in February.

First Diocese of Atlanta Parish Links with Chifutuka!

Since The Carpenter's Kids program was opened up to dioceses outside of The Diocese of New York at the end of 2008, many parishes in Atlanta have expressed an interest in joining The Carpenter's Kids family. One such parish was Grace Episcopal Church in Gainesville, Georgia, the home parish of staff member Sarah Dailey. Sarah's father and the pastor of Grace Church, The Rev. Douglas Dailey, came to Tanzania in December and witnessed first-hand the work of the program. He returned to Georgia with hopes of soon establishing a link for his parish, and after speaking with his Outreach Committee the vote was passed to join in the work of The Carpenter's Kids in early 2009. Upon reading the most recent issue of the program newsletter several weeks ago, Rev. Dailey discovered that one parish in the program remained without a link. After a call to Sarah to determine whether the parish was still available, the first Diocese of Atlanta parish-to-parish link was established. Grace Episcopal Church will now be linked with Chifutuka, the last remaining unlinked parish enrolled in the program. Chifutuka received their first distribution of uniforms, school supplies, shoes, and mosquito nets in September 2008, and the parish has remained unsupported until this point. The parish will be delighted to hear of their new friends in the United States, and the staff is thrilled to have found links for all parishes in the program, bringing the current number of linked parishes to 81.



Carpenter's Kids at Chifutuka parish in September.

The Diocese of Atlanta has shown support to The Carpenter's Kids program since it began three years ago. Bishop Mdimi Mhogolo's close relationship with Bishop Neil Alexander of Atlanta has fostered a special relationship between the dioceses, and Atlanta has been waiting to support the program through parish links for quite some time. (Bishop Alexander's daughter, Kelly, worked for the program for several months in 2007.) The Diocese of Atlanta is currently looking for a program coordinator to manage the work of the program within their diocese, and we have hopes that the filling of the position will encourage more parishes to follow Grace Church's lead. We welcome Grace Church to The Carpenter's Kids family and thank them for their generous support of Chifutuka!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Scott Wheeler, our newest staff member!

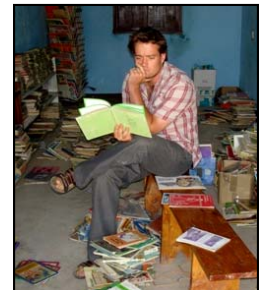
Scott Wheeler began working with The Carpenter's Kids in early March, making him the newest addition to our Dodoma team. He and his wife, Nikki, came to Dodoma in November 2008 at the invitation of Bishop Mhogolo and with support from St. Mary's Anglican Church in Karori, New Zealand. Though they only intended to stay for three months, their visit was extended when Scott was offered a position with The Carpenter's Kids at the beginning of the year. Scott will be taking over Sarah's responsibilities when she leaves Dodoma at the end of the month, serving as the program's International Communications Development & Management Advisor. His position will involve managing the program's communications and publications, including moderating VBulletin, sending parish updates and photo galleries, and creating newsletters and reports. Scott also will be conducting research for his thesis and hopes to work on the issue of sustainability and development within The Carpenter's Kids program, possibly focusing on the quality of education within the villages.



Checking out the parish church with school children at Nhinhi.

Scott was born in Scotland, raised in the US, and moved to New Zealand eleven years ago. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Education in 2007 from Victoria University, Wellington. In 2008 he began studying at Massey University to obtain post-graduate qualification in International Development Studies.

While in school, Scott held positions as a district court security officer, provided surveillance and personal protection services, and served as security on the *King Kong* and *Lord of the Rings* movie sets. Scott was also an active member in his home parish, spending much of his time working with the church's youth. His education and experience with youth make him a great addition to the team, and we are pleased to welcome him to the staff. Though Scott's wife of two years, Nikki, had to return home to New Zealand for a few months, she will be returning to Dodoma in mid-May. Upon her return she will be opening a physiotherapy clinic a few offices away from The Carpenter's Kids, making her only one of two certified physiotherapists in the Dodoma area. Scott and Nikki will be in Dodoma until March of 2010. *Karibu sana, Scott!*



Doing a bit of research!

The coming months...

- The Carpenter's Kids team will be continuing with redistributions and reviews in the coming months.
- The first pilgrims for 2009 will be arriving in Dodoma in mid-April from the U.S.
- Sarah Dailey will be leaving The Carpenter's Kids staff in early April to return to the U.S.
- Staff members Scott Wheeler and Callum Thirkell will be celebrating birthdays in April.
- Willy and his wife will be welcoming a new baby in late March or April.
- We hope to welcome new links to the program!

Prayer points

- Pray that all our Carpenter's Kids and their parishes enjoy a joyous Easter season.
- Pray that more rain comes to Dodoma to increase the supply of food to the region.
- Pray that new friends and links will join The Carpenter's Kids program.
- Pray for safe travels for the many visitors who will be coming to Dodoma beginning in April.
- Pray that new staff member Scott Wheeler easily adjusts to his new position with The Carpenter's Kids team.
- Pray for Sarah's safe return home to Georgia and for her continued work to promote the program.

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