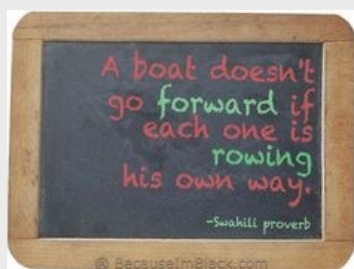


OWENS' NEWS

Celebrating .. Christmas | "Bulldozer" President | Vineyard School of Ministry

Swahili Sayings:



A boat doesn't go forward if each one is rowing his own way.

IF YOU THINK YOU'RE TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE YOU HAVEN'T SPENT A NIGHT WITH A MOSQUITO.
- AFRICAN PROVERB

Prayer, healing and salvation...

As we were praying for a young woman the other day, she exclaimed "Black liquid is oozing out of me." It was incredible to witness God cleaning her out and filling her with the light of His Spirit. She cried out "There is a river flowing out of me .. I belong for the first time in my life, I belong...!" Such a privilege to watch God at work and witness new birth!



Nakutakia Krismas Njema

Merry Christmas: As Christmas approaches there are very few signs here in Arusha that the season is almost upon us... blessing? or not? After all of our kids have flown the nest... we face Christmas, alone, for the first time... and we just couldn't do it. When Justine suggested going to U.S to see them all, we impulsively said "yes"... and there was enough money left due to amazing deals we managed to get for the wedding.

Empty Nest: Without children and young adults to fuss over, Judi has been putting her maternal attention toward the guinea fowl and /or David. :D

Post Elections.....

Prayer was undoubtedly the reason Tanzania had such a peaceful election. Everyone's amazed and very, very grateful.

Though there was no change in the governing party, we have a new president, John Pombe Magafuli ('the Bulldozer'). He's taken everyone by surprise in just his





King Prawns in Swahili Sauce

Ingredients: 400g Basmati rice, 6 limes (juice of), 3 tbs coriander or cilantro, 600ml coconut milk, salt & pepper, 8 large peeled king prawns, 1 tbs vegetable oil, 1 stalk lemongrass, 2.5 cm ginger root, 2 cloves garlic, 2 shallots chopped, 2 red chillies, chopped, 1 teas garam masala, 1 teas tumeric, 2 plum tomatoes finely chopped.

Directions: Place the washed basmati in a heavy-based medium saucepan. Add the juice of 3 limes, the chopped coriander stalks, 400ml coconut milk and salt to taste. Add just enough water to make the liquid in the pan come level with the rice. Bring the rice to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes. Cover tightly, remove from direct heat and set aside for 15 minutes by which time the liquid will be absorbed and the rice cooked through. Toss the prawns with the remaining lime juice and set aside to marinate briefly. Heat the oil in a heavy-based saucepan. Add the lemon grass, ginger, garlic, shallot, chillies, garam masala and turmeric and fry, stirring often, until the shallot has softened. Add the remaining coconut milk and the plum tomatoes. Season with salt and freshly ground pepper. Simmer for 5 minutes. Serve the prawns with the coriander rice, garnished with the coriander leaves

Guinea Fowl news

Sadly, Mr Guinea Fowl ended up as lunch for our workers after he was attacked by a mongoose. We replaced him with a young male in the hope of fostering love ..so far, he has jumped the fence, almost dislocated his leg and totally ignored Mama Guinea fowl....

first 3 weeks of leadership... conducting a thorough overhaul of his party, firing key leaders left right and centre and bringing in well thought-through policies. There's already a social media initiative of, not WWJD but "What Would Magafuli Do"! (<http://www.sapeople.com/2015/11/29/10-ways-tanzanias-awesome-new-president-shows-how-to-lead-an-african-country/>)

Please pray for his protection .. change-agents tend to have short life-spans in this country!

Vineyard School of Ministry (VSM).....

The founder of VSM is Doug Brown, pastor of Karen Vineyard Nairobi, who spent the first 12 years of his life in DRC, then moved to Israel where he completed all his studies through post-grad at Jerusalem University. His course of African Theology is, as far as we know, unique in Protestant circles, drawing almost exclusively possible from African material, mode of teaching and terminology. He asserts, "African culture and worldview is much closer to Biblical culture than the West. Why do we take people out of their African context to educate them in a Western?"

This year saw both the first class of graduates for the school and the launch of VSM Arusha.

Local pastors, leaders and western missionaries studied together here on our campus, fascinated by the fresh perspectives being gleaned in this inductive



environment.

The course is taught in two-week intensives, three times a year, making the course a 3 year process. We are praying for partners to enable us to run this as a residential school (as is the case in Kenya), enabling out-of-town students to attend.

In the meantime, why not plan a trip to coincide with a course and/or sponsor a student for \$75 a subject? Pray about it! <http://vsmafrica.org/home>

David's Health...

David's health continues to be a challenge with his tick fever being recently identified as Rickettsial Disease which is a rare form of tick fever or Lyme disease. We value your prayers as we seek to deal with this naturally however, whenever symptoms hit, using simultaneous antibiotics seems to be working for now. We need to get to the bottom of this!

Other news and prayer points.....

Here are some prayer needs we are currently facing:

- Roof replacement for the church before the rains come to "catch" the water run-off. Blessed by the results of our fundraising 'Rain-Harvest Festival' that has got us well on the way.
- Partners and Sponsors for our [African Theology course](#) (\$75 pp x 20 pastors x 2 weeks)
- Internships for Communications/ Media, counsellors, sound engineers, worship mentors to come for 3-6 months to assist the church and youth initiatives. Retirees very welcome!

Praise and Thanksgiving.....

- So many opportunities to pray for people and see deliverance, salvation and healing
- Thanks for the **Church Camp** that bonded lives together and established a firm foundation.
- Thanks for the African Theological course which started in September. <http://vsmafrica.org/home>
- Christmas with friends and family!!! ... will miss Celeste :(

