

OWENS' NEWS

Thankfulness | New Life | Young Vines

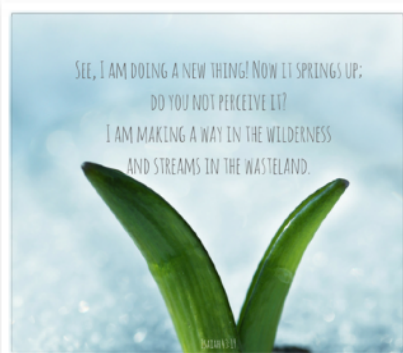
New Life!

During our prayer meetings at Arusha Vineyard we've consistently sensed God saying "NEW LIFE!" giving us the prayer/declaration

"Let there be LIGHT!" *

After a season of warfare and opposition, we've experienced unprecedented new life and growth at Arusha Vineyard. PRAISE GOD!!

What does that look like?? 4 new journey groups to join the 2 existing. A women's group, a men's group, a youth ministry, new Sunday School classes, prayer ministry training and an enthusiastic 'welcome team' ministry.



Thankfulness Sunday!

We recently celebrated a Thankfulness Sunday service and lunch at Arusha Vineyard. We explored the power of thanksgiving and spent time appreciating God's goodness. We were specifically appreciating and farewelling a young lawyer in our church, who received a scholarship to further her studies in Switzerland. Besides looking at thankfulness in Scripture, we gave room for everyone to recall the great things that had happened this year both in our individual lives and community. Many shared with tears and heartfelt sincerity about the amazing things God had done. We cried, laughed and feasted to our hearts' content! Gratitude makes such a difference .. we have SO much to be thankful for!



Young Vines!!

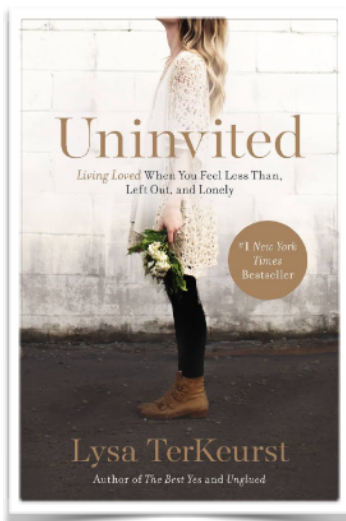
A few weeks ago, our young people asked if they could take a Sunday service. They organized the advertising video, flyer, worship, a flash mob, shared a dramatic sermon about how God

UNINVITED: a six week, online bible study for women.

Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely) is a 6 week small group Bible Study for women based on the book by Lysa Terkeurst.

This course is an online course set in the Holy Land. The beautiful backdrop is the setting for some of the most insightful teaching around the heart issues of rejection and how to live in the fullness of Christ's love.

Our ladies have been healed, blessed and encouraged. I highly recommend it. These are new biblical strategies to deal with rejection for men as well as women.



Live from the abundant place that you are loved, and you won't find yourself begging others for scraps of love.

has used young people in history, organized lunch, games and a dance competition. No small feat!! (well ... some small feet). It was wildly successful - they did us proud! It was so inspiring to see how these young people took ownership of their church, expressing passion and creativity. See promo: [FB promo video for Young Vines](#)



More great pictures of the dance competition can be found here: [Young Vines Dance Competition photos](#)

Journey Groups...

What are journey groups?? They are small groups that use a method of bible study that has been having phenomenal success in closed countries where resources are non-existent. This has seen amazing results among Muslims in particular. Young Christians, mature Christians and pre-believers are all encouraged to dig into God's word and discover for themselves what it says about God and people, with a focus on obedient response and sharing our love and faith. Our theme for this quarter is "From Isolation to Community" with 8 small groups for people to join, where they can share life, receive love, support and prayer.

Thanking God for new life and new lives!



Kids Superheroes class...

Arusha Vineyard Kids' 6-9 years old class is called "Superheroes". It studies Jesus, *our* Superhero and His powers, His Arch Enemy and Super Villain, and how we can overcome evil. The kids have colorful capes, awesome team names and lots of fun every Sunday.

Our Sprouts (3 to 5 yrs) and our "10,000" class (10 to 14 yrs) are all learning about God's love and His amazing Book.



Giving away what we've learned: While working with limited resources and challenging financial commitments, Arusha Vineyard is learning the value of giving away what it has, recently having the pleasure of training two other groups in the community in the art of making cheap, long-burning (5-8hrs), eco-friendly charcoal. See following...

'Inherit Your Rights' widows project partners with Arusha Vineyard charcoal training: *Human Rights Training* in the morning and *Charcoal Training* in the afternoon, makes for a perfect match for widows and young adult orphans in our village. [Inherit Your Rights](#) and [Arusha Vineyard](#) partnered to improve the lives of these widows and orphans at our local legal rights training. Improving lives and saving the environment sounds like Kingdom to me!!



A Tragic Story....

We get to hear some tragic stories at our trainings. Here's a recent story from the [Inherit Your Rights FB page](#). "We cried some more! Today we heard of a 10 year old girl who was forced to marry a much older and bigger man. She was so injured by their forced union that she was unable to urinate or defecate, and was returned to her parents who made a hole in her stomach to eliminate waste. They kept her in the toilet because she disgusted everyone. Unfortunately, she became pregnant and died during childbirth. The woman telling the story covered her face and wept. 'Things are going to change in Tanzania', she declared and we agreed."

Click [here](#) to donate to Inherit Your Rights to help our lawyers continue their good work.

We're so grateful for all your prayers, support and encouragement.

Update on David's health...

David continues to struggle with Rickettsial fever in times of stress and is diligently consuming natural supplements and healthy foods that will heal his gut and boost his immune system. Thankfully we've been seeing progress in his energy levels! Please continue to pray for complete healing and opportunities to rest in this incredibly busy and exciting season.

As mentioned last Newsletter, we've been so blessed to have had two of our kids make it back to visit this year. This last quarter **Kris, Judi's sister came all the way from Australia to spend 10 days with us.** She is a bundle of fun .. not a day going by without us all being in tears with laughter! She also got to attend the widows training and hear some of the stories from our amazing ladies.



The Tanzania Vineyard Board met in Dar Es Salaam, with Zac and David going 'along for the ride'. We stayed with the lovely Doug and Lyndi and their great boys, then found very cheap fares across to Zanzibar where we joined up with fellow missionaries and former classmate of Zac's for three days RnR. An unexpected treat for us before seeing Zac off for his last year at college.

We're gearing up for an intensive First Aid training for our First Responders initiative. A team of 10 medics is coming from the States to conduct the seminar, with 20 nationals joining us from around the country for a refresher and up-skilling. We appreciate prayer for the associated administrative challenge!

Disciple Nations Alliance are conducting an African Forum in Nairobi in November. Arusha Vineyard and World Vision, have partnered with this excellent ministry for the past 6 years in running Biblical Worldview seminars for church and community leaders around the country. The perplexing question of why the Gospel seems to be having so little effect on poverty and corruption in Africa in particular, is powerfully addressed in the training. To download free eBook on the subject:

[DNA free booklet Poverty and Corruption](#)

Please join us in praying for provision to send three trainers to the Forum.

How to Support Us...

USA: Dothan Vineyard (Alabama) will be covering our US donations also providing tax receipts on request. Click [here](#) to give via their online page and remember to indicate it's for D&J Owens (or other designated [Arusha Vineyard](#) giving) in the memo.

Canada: Xtreme Mercy Canada will be administering our Canadian donations and providing tax receipts. To give, click [here](#) to email them about how to set up an automatic payment plan or [here](#) to make a one off donation. Alternatively, you can give via PayPal at paypal.me/DHOwens.

Australia: You can give to our [PayPal](#) account or send us an [email](#) to get our credit union details for giving. Contact us for further details.

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

Specific needs:

1. Personal provision ..

bridging an increasing 'faith gap' every month that God keeps coming through on (living expenses, college fees, car maintenance etc). We're so grateful to those of you who support and pray for us. Thank you!!

A 'new' computer for David - its been 10 years since he has had a new one, followed by a decade of quality 'hand-me-downs'. His present device seems to be tiring of the band-aids and now dying unpredictably even when plugged in. Please consider giving towards this.

Furlough 2018 - we are planning our second furlough for next Spring (May-June), to visit family (incl. Zac's grad), meet with supporters, as well as further treatment/tests for David.

2. Corporate provision ..

Disciple Nations Forum attendance costs for three trainers.

Inherit Your Rights widows legal advocacy and training.

Eco-compliance - while we practice and train people up in Conservation Agriculture (Farming God's Way system), we want our church to be eco-sustainable in all areas (solar, grey water etc..), and helping our community toward the same end.

Specific Prayer:

Prayer for vision, wisdom and protection as we navigate as a church towards becoming a "*safe community of the broken*". Your insights and counsel would also be greatly appreciated.

Prayer for new core leadership - we're farewelling 3 more core leaders and are prayerfully considering who God is raising up

Epilogue

* As mentioned above... "[Let there be Light](#)" has become our seasonal anthem and prayer declaration here at Vineyard. The clip is from Hillsong Australia. Enjoy!

* See also Patsy Clairmont "[Let there be Light](#)" where the prayer became even more inspiring in the watching.