

# OWENS NEWS

*August 2018 Newsletter*

*God's extraordinary adventure...*



## CAUSE FOR PAUSE...

Reflection of our last season and Summary of God's ministry is captured in our short video. See the link on p. 2

## FAMILY UPDATE...

After being in Africa for 10 years without taking a furlough we decided to make time to see our families. pp. 2-3

## BACK IN THE SADDLE...

Arriving back home to Arusha has been exciting and rewarding. See our news p. 3

## WORLD TRIP....

*by Judi Owens*

What do you do when your family lives on 4 different continents and friends live in 8 different destinations?? Visit them all, of course!!!  
It was truly wonderful to see our children Celeste and her partner John, Zac in NYC, Justine and Skyler in Phoenix, David's siblings Ruth and Bryan and Joanne & children in Guernsey, Ron & Pat, Jeff & Jessica & their boys in Dallas, Judi's parents and siblings and nieces and nephews in Australia: Kris, Bonnie & Paul, Sonia & Jeremy, Mark, Joel & Kim, Tom, Bill & Katie, Angus & Amy, Matilda and many more.... We have a big tribe!!!  
And this doesn't even begin to cover the friends we visited and their incredible hospitality. Sorry to have missed some.





## BABU AND BIBI: congratulations Juss & Skyler!!

Imagine our delight..... we are invited into a clinic appointment with our pregnant daughter Justine and her husband Skyler. The doctor is conducting an ultrasound and reveals the gender of the baby.

"Its a boy!!" was the announcement by the doctor. "Of course it is" said Babu (grandpa in Swahili).

Bibi (grandma) is very excited & can't wait to hold her little grandson.

## VIDEO CLIP

Reflecting on God's goodness is always a good thing. When preparing to report on what God's been doing in your life and ministry its always a challenge to keep it succinct.

The thing is, that unless you are forced to slow down, take stock, assess your track record, you don't get to appreciate the amount God has done in your life.

Business as usual, often means that you don't evaluate or appreciate. After putting this video clip together, we sat back in sheer gratitude for all the great things God is doing.

We realised that after the pruning, is when the fruit comes and it's been prolific. Thank You Jesus!

<https://quik.gopro.com/v/d6RTj2UZx2/>



## Family Fun Day

Arriving back in Arusha and at our church was very rewarding. The third Sunday back we sat on our balcony and watched the fun and games, face painting, egg and spoon race, sack race, fire pit, bible verses shoot out, after a community lunch of pilau, and salad, fruit and soft drinks. There was a jumping castle, a trampoline, and competitions. Kids and adults alike had so much fun. We enjoyed watching our church family laugh, run and compete. Such a celebration of being back, and of family being together!



**29<sup>th</sup> July @Arusha Vineyard Church**

**Fun Games & Activities,  
Barbecue, Fire pit,  
Refreshments, Food etc.**



## ZAC'S GRAD

After 4 years of college in NYC Zachary finished his course at The Kings College and he graduated with a degree in Media Culture and The Arts!. Well done, Zac. He is currently working at a Theatre in NYC as a Assistant Stage Manager and Dramaturgical researcher!!



## UPCOMING PLANS

After our fabulous trip and time with family we've returned full of vision and feeling very much refreshed.

Our one challenge is fitting all that we want to do into the next few months.... wait.... maybe we don't have to fit it all into the next few months! If there is one thing we've learnt, it's that God isn't in a hurry and He wants us to enjoy the ride... that the journey is as important as the results and it's important to enjoy the people around you, and be flexible...

Some important events coming up:

- Vineyard Tanzania Board meeting
- Engaging the Tz vineyard pastors in academic study
- Women's retreat
- Men's retreat
- Newcomer's lunch and home group
- Baptisms
- Baby Dedications
- Baby preparations.

## CELESTE & COFFEE

Celeste & John live in a light-filled sunny flat in Belfast. Celeste has a passion for good coffee and bringing people together. She delights in artisan bread, doing pottery, 'avant-garde' vegetarian restaurants and John's interactive artworks. It was truly a joy to experience all of these things in their company during our time in Belfast.

Thanks Celeste and John for the fun and warm hospitality!

## IYR: WOMEN'S NGO



This NGO has had amazing results and in their recent Annual report were able to celebrate the following results:

For 2017 we conducted 125 trainings with 546 participants.

We also assisted 12 Legal Aid Cases; We broadcast 94 Radio Shows and 12 TV Shows.

We worked with 10 Partner Organisations and we had 58 women who became paralegals after scoring over 75% in their 16 subject curriculum exam.

We also have a new website and 2 wonderful volunteers from Australia working with us.

There's lots to celebrate!! 2Q2018