

Teaming with
TANZANIA

Let's Build
A Church!



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- 1** Discuss your desire to use the Teaming with Tanzania VBS Mission Project with your pastor, missions committee, and VBS planning committee.
- 2** Encourage the missions committee at your church to make a matching donation of the money raised during VBS.
- 3** Use the resource materials available to raise awareness about the Teaming with Tanzania initiative. Customize the project to fit the needs of your local context.
- 4** Set an achievable goal and then encourage everyone to collect donations using the suggested cardboard bricks or some other container. Decorate the "bricks" or download the Teaming with Tanzania brick stickers.
- 5** Have classes or age groups compete to raise the most donations. Keep track of your progress daily. Combine bricks together to build a "church wall" to mark your progress.
- 6** Celebrate your total on the final day. Also make sure to celebrate your VBS mission project total with the congregation or on social media!
- 7** Mail a check for the total collected to:
Alabama-West Florida Conference UMC
Attn: Teaming with Tanzania
4719 Woodmere Boulevard
Montgomery, AL 36106
- 8** The conference will announce a total collected by the end of the summer.



RESOURCES



TeamingWithTanzania.org

All resources are available to view and download at TeamingWithTanzania.org.



Cardboard "Bricks"

A link to purchase 8"x4"x3" cardboard bricks is available on the resource page at TeamingWithTanzania.org. These should be purchased in advance to allow time for delivery and assembly.



Cardboard Brick Accessories

Accessories to outfit your cardboard bricks are available and include custom Teaming with Tanzania brick stickers (download and print) and brick instructional sheets.



Audio and Video Resources

A variety of video resources are available. These include:

- Teaming with Tanzania Promo Video
- Five Character Videos of Individuals Currently Serving in Tanzania
- Video Vignette of a Church in Tanzania
- Hakuna Mungu Kama Wewe (There is No One Like Jesus) Sheet Music Available for purchase



Tanzania Photos

Photos from a Vacation Bible School including the Teaming with Tanzania mission project are available on the resource page online. Photos from the Alabama-West Florida Conference 2018 Exploratory trip to Tanzania are also available to view and download.



More Info about Teaming With Tanzania

More information and handouts, including this document and additional bulletin inserts about the Teaming with Tanzania initiative are available online.



Have Additional Ideas?

Do you have additional ideas for resources that would be useful for the Teaming With Tanzania VBS Mission Project? Contact us and let us know!



Still Need Help?

We'd love to talk to you! Contact us using the information on the back page and we will be happy to help!

ABOUT TANZANIA

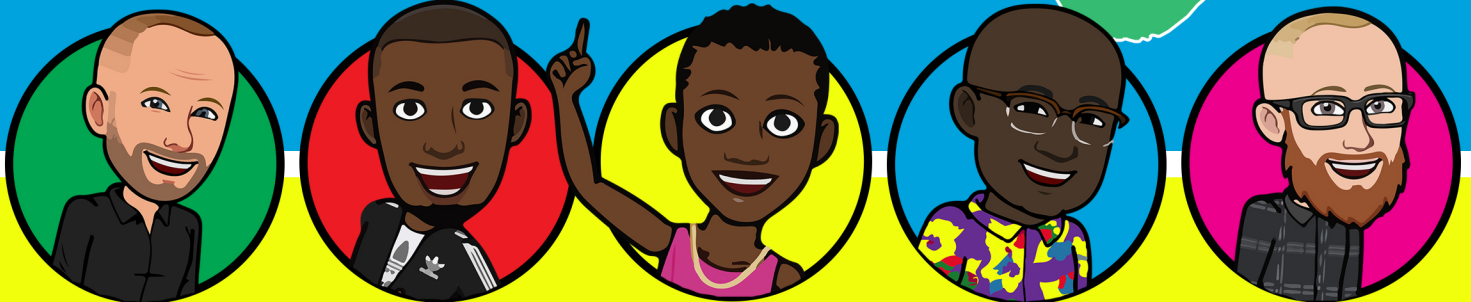
Tanzania is located in eastern Africa within the African Great Lakes region. It is home to Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, and Lake Victoria, Africa's largest lake.

Tanzania has a population of over 55 million composed of several ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups.

Over 100 different languages are spoken in Tanzania, making it the most linguistically diverse country in East Africa. The country does not have an official language, although the national language is Swahili.

The United Methodist Church in Tanzania has expanded rapidly since it was launched by the North Katanga Annual Conference in 1989. Today Tanzania is part of the Tanzania Annual Conference and the Congo Central Conference.

Teaming with Tanzania supports the work of Eric and Liz Soard, United Methodist missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries who have been serving in Tanzania since 2010.



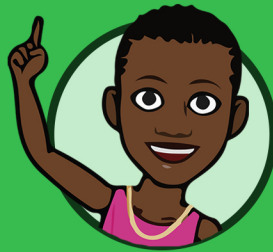
MEET A MISSIONARY | ERIC SOARD

Eric Soard is a United Methodist missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries assigned along with his wife, Elizabeth Soard, as a church planter and discipleship trainer in Tanzania. Eric was born in Arkansas, but now counts Medina, Tennessee, in the Memphis Annual Conference, as home.

"I have spent my whole life in the church...and I remember the first time I accepted God's love for me as one of his children," he says. "However, I think the most important time was when God asked me to share His love with others....Faith for me is something that must have a real impact on the world around me and how I interact with that world." As he matured, Eric felt God's "call for my life, a call to serve others."

He and Elizabeth first volunteered in 2010 for mission service in Tanzania, working at an orphanage and school in northeast Tanzania. The work of helping to plant new churches in Tanzania appeals to Eric.

"I am excited about establishing new, holistic communities of faith that can spread the reality of God's adoption of his children in this world."



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to use a specific VBS curriculum with this mission project?

No! This mission project for children is designed to be used alongside any VBS curriculum, even if the VBS doesn't include a mission element already.

We don't have a Vacation Bible School. Can we still participate?

Of course! This mission project for children can also be used in children's Sunday School classes, children's church or in any other setting which seems appropriate.

Why does this project focus on the construction of church buildings in Tanzania?

God is moving all around the world! Christianity in Africa is growing at a rapid pace and as the Gospel spreads in Tanzania new United Methodist churches are being established. Most of these churches meet outdoors or in temporary, unreliable buildings. As these congregations grow, more permanent church buildings are needed to support these congregations. By supporting the construction of a church building, you are helping provide a place for the people of Tanzania to worship and promoting evangelism around the world.

How much does it cost to build a church building in Tanzania?

The cost of church building projects range from \$25,000 for a smaller village church to \$50,000 for a larger town church. This cost includes the land purchase, church construction, and a parsonage.

What if we do not raise enough to build an entire church?

That is the beauty of the United Methodist connection! Through this VBS project, children all across the Alabama-West Florida Conference are working together to support the building of churches in Tanzania! When we work together we can do great things!

How does this VBS project fit into the larger Teaming with Tanzania conference initiative?

Teaming with Tanzania is a multi-tiered, multi-year missions initiative of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. This VBS mission project is just one way that encourages churches, and especially children, to get involved in the initiative and partner with the people of Tanzania.

Is Teaming with Tanzania only focused on building churches?

No. While this VBS mission project only focuses on the building of churches in Tanzania, the Teaming with Tanzania initiative includes two other mission focuses as well: **Education and Development Through Wesley College** and **Training and Development Opportunities**. You can learn more about Teaming with Tanzania at TeamingWithTanzania.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Susan Hunt | Susan@AWFUMC.org
Director of Mission and Advocacy
Alabama-West Florida Conference UMC

Lisa Bond | LBond@FUMCPensacola.com
Director of Children and Family Ministries
First United Methodist Church of Pensacola