Christmas 2021

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson

ELCA Global Personnel





Wishing you a Wondrous Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

Our family is together for Christmas and we are so thankful! It is so good to be all together! We have looked back on this past year with its many challenges, and found even greater moments to treasure, and reasons to be thankful. We can attest to the presence of Christ in the midst of the messy stables where we have found ourselves. God's presence in our lives and work gives us the hope to move forward into each day. It reminds us of why we are here.

We have been in Tanzania for more than 8 years now, which is hard to believe! We recently had Steve's sister, Julie, visiting us, and it was such a joy to share our lives here with her. We were able to see our work and surroundings through her eyes-- her excitement was refreshing and brought us a new awareness and appreciation for the gift we have been given to live and serve the families of this beautifulcountry. (Last week we sent out an update on our work entitled, "*Of Book Launches and Stables*", in case you missed it).

When we first came to Tanzania, the kids "bargained" with us, telling us they would only come to Africa *if they could each have their own dog*. As you see below, they got more than they bargained for! We made many attempts to get a great photo with the dogs in our arms or facing the camera, but to no avail! This is as good as it gets!

May you find peace and joy unexpected around each turn in your path,

Steve & Jodi, Hannah, Caedmon and Indya



We are supported through the gifts of churches with the ELCA. Churches and individuals can donate to our support through the ELCA: <u>elca.org/missionarygiving</u> find our names under the drop down tab, Designation: ELCA Missionary Sponsorship

Information regarding tax-deductible contributions for pediatric work can be found at:

www.tanzanianchildren.org

All funds are received through Global Health Ministries (GHM), and directed in entirety towards clinical pediatric training of doctors and nurses in Tanzania, care of babies in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), medications, bed fees and food for malnourished children.

Donations inside and outside USA can also be received

through: www.tanzanianchildren.com

Your support makes this work possible! GHM will send you a tax deductible receipt.

Our mailing address is:

Steve and Jodi Swanson c/o Michael Swanson 16608 Early Dawn Trail Lakeville, MN 55044