

WHAT CAN YOU BRING?

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Note to Speaker: Please feel free to adapt these notes to your own style. There are three versions of the PowerPoint: 1) Change image on mouse-click; 2) Looped with text; 3) Looped without text.

What can you bring?

The work of the Anglican Church in Tanzania

SLIDE 1

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SLIDE 2

Tanzania is famed for the Serengeti National Park and Mount Kilimanjaro.

What is less well known is that 40 per cent of the country's rural population is living in poverty, eking out a living through subsistence fishing and farming.

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The Anglican Church is growing. In summer 2010 there were 21 dioceses, all of them tackling poverty and building strong worshipping communities. And new dioceses are being created.

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This is John Simalenga, Bishop of South West Tanganyika.

Bishop John oversees a wide range of programmes, including church growth, healthcare, education and development programmes.

This is a huge portfolio of work: imagine if your local bishop had to manage the finances of the local hospital, secondary schools and numerous clinics, as well as churches.

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Bishop John said: 'We wish we could do more to alleviate poverty, but we are constrained by resources.'



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The Anglican Sisters of St Mary are based in the Diocese of South West Tanganyika.



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The Sisters are virtually self-sufficient. They run a farm and can provide for most of their own needs.



SLIDE 8

To help generate income, the Sisters make communion wafers for the Anglican Church. Each wafer is prepared and cut by hand.



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In addition, the Sisters are busy reaching out to their local communities.

They run a kindergarten, which is attended by over 60 children: some of whom walk for two miles over rough terrain to get there.



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They teach in schools. And they also run a clinic, providing healthcare for mothers and babies.

These weekly mother and child clinics are held in four villages and are attended by up to 200 mothers at a time.



SLIDE 11

This is Sister Lucy, who has been a nun for 12 years.

She teaches in churches, provides counselling, and offers training in agricultural methods.

She was trained in these skills at the USPG-funded Milo Bible School.

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Sister Lucy is hoping to pass on these skills to young people, who are shunning rural ways of life and taking low-paid jobs in the cities. By giving young people practical skills, Sister Lucy hopes they will remain to support rural communities.



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Milo Bible School not only teaching theology and pastoral care. The students are also taught about gardening, farming, carpentry and tailoring.

Sister Lucy said: 'I am thankful I was able to train at Milo. The courses gave me the courage to teach the word of God.'



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Christina Mng'ong'o, a teacher, also trained at Milo Bible School. She is now a lay preacher and has started a church youth choir.



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Christina promotes a cow-breeding project. Villagers are each given a cow. Female calves are given to neighbours, and so the chain continues.



SLIDE 16

Cow manure powers biogas units for cooking and lighting, and the fertilizer boosts yields for crops of maize, beans and vegetables. The cow project is an example of the outreach work of the students trained at the USPG-supported Milo Bible School.



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Close to Milo Bible School is the diocesan-run St Luke's Hospital, which also receives support from USPG. Alongside in- and out-patient services, the hospital is running an immunisation programme and a nutrition awareness programme.

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Patients pay for treatment, but the charge is small, and those who cannot afford to pay are treated for free.

A visitor from England reported: 'Some people would not comprehend how a hospital can operate under the conditions they have at Milo: one doctor, a single car, no electricity, no telephone, no public transport and a return journey of 80 miles to the nearest town to collect or send mail.'



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There are plans to expand the hospital and build a nursing school.

A local youth group has already made bricks in preparation for construction to begin.



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The outreach of the Sisters of St Mary, Milo Bible School and St Luke's Hospital are all examples of how the Anglican Church of Tanzania is committed to sharing God's love, providing hope through practical care.



SLIDE 21

Bishop John Simalenga said: 'We would like to thank USPG. They have been our partners in our mission work for many, many years.'

In conclusion: We hope you have been inspired by this PowerPoint. Please consider supporting USPG and help the church to grow in South West Tanganyika and around the world.

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