

URGENT NEED: PARTNERS IN HOPE TANZANIA

Allow us to share with you the story of Pastor Titus Mashalla and his church in Mwalwigi, Tanzania. We have worked with Titus for 5 years now, as he has worked in his community to build a church. The Church is alive and well, and growing, with over 250 people now in attendance, however, the actual building has now been condemned due to structural damage.

At first the church met under some tarps held up by sticks (this is where we worshipped when we were there in 2018) which didn't protect from wind or rain, etc. The next church he built was of corn stalks with a thatched roof, but the wind blew it down. Then he had a structure made of sub-quality bricks that consisted of a half wall with a basic roof on top. This too was blown down. The last church was made of mud bricks which can last some time; however, the heavy rains came and some of the mud bricks fell down and then a large crack formed and the building was deemed unsafe. *Remind you of a popular kid's story?*



So there they are, a church body of 250 people, with nowhere to worship. The tenacity of constantly trying to build a structure without any money is something to be admired. Titus informed us of the church collapsing on January 19th 2023. He reached out and asked if he could request some funds to build a more substantial temporary church. After much prayer and deliberation, and discussions with Titus, it was agreed that it would be a very poor use of the Lord's money to build a fifth *temporary* structure.

Since then, Titus has been in contact with a local construction company. This is the same company that installed the well and security fencing, so they have proven themselves to be reputable. The plan is to build a structurally sound church building that is 12 meters by 15 meters (39' x 48'). Official architectural drawings have now been completed, and a firm quote from the contractor has been accepted.

This building would be phase 1, with construction done in such a way to add another 15 meters in the future as the need arises, and funds become available.

The need is \$18,700. It sounds like a lot of money, but when you think of being able to build a structurally sound cement block building with a solid roof, with windows and doors, 39ft x 48ft, it is amazing that it can be done for this amount of money.

God has allowed us to partner in this ministry in Tanzania, and He has amazed us with what He has accomplished through a small group of believers, *and* all of this during a pandemic!!

Would you help to build a church?

As advisors to, and together with Titus, we have decided to step out in faith and trust that God will work in the hearts of those who He has called to give generously towards this amazing opportunity. This is an urgent need as this congregation has nowhere to gather for church services. The contract that was negotiated states that 50% of the funds are needed to start the project, with the balance paid when Pastor Titus deems the project complete to his satisfaction.

The construction company can commence the work at any time, with the goal of completion in 30 days.

If this is something you feel you would like to contribute to, could you please send your donation to **The Great Commission** by **March 20th**. If you'd like to give, but this timeline is too short, maybe your gift could help with the 50% balance due a few weeks later.

If you don't feel that you can help at this time but know of someone else who is passionate about seeing the kingdom grow, please pass this info along to them.

For a tax receipted donation please go to The Great Commission – Canada
website: <https://gcfcanda.com/partners-in-hope-tanzania/>

Please be sure to mark "church build" in the comment section

You can also donate by sending a cheque made out to "The Great Commission Foundation", and mail it to:

The Great Commission Foundation
P.O. Box 14006
Abbotsford, B.C.
Canada V2T 0B4

Please mark Partners in Hope Tanzania and church build on the cheque

May The Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Sincerely,

Dianne and Bob Elliott, Advisors to Titus/PIH through The Great Commission Foundation, and
Roland and Theresa Poirier, YouFeedThem