



Priority Projects for 2008-9

Bob and Jackie Braswell, Assemblies of God Missionaries to Tanzania, East Africa

Missionary Contact: Bob Braswell, email: bob.braswell@agmd.org

All projects are under TZ Bible School Development Account #8910432 Project 4512.

Project 1: Internet on campus at AGBC-Dodoma

The Dream: We would like every student to be able to have access to the Internet through computer labs at the Assemblies of God Bible College, so that we can teach students how to use internet-accessible Bible versions, commentaries, and sermon-preparation resources to help make up for their lack of personal libraries.

The Reach: Pastors who have access to Bible study materials are better prepared to disciple believers.

The Reality: Every major city and many smaller towns in Tanzania have one or more "cafes" where patrons can use an internet-connected computer at an affordable price (usually \$1-2 per hour). However, our students don't know how to use computers. We want to teach this skill but we don't have adequate facilities on campus to serve the need. Currently we have Internet connections for 6 computers on campus, some in the Administration offices and the balance in the MA computer lab. We need to add Internet access to the rest of the MA lab and set up a second lab to serve 150 residential BA and Advanced Diploma students.

The Commitment: It costs \$50 per month per computer for Internet connectivity in our context (\$600 per year per connection). We would like to add 25 additional connections at a total cost of \$15,000 per year. We want to be prepared to underwrite this for 4 years hoping that after 4 years, the price will come down and the National Church's ability to afford it on their own will come up. Total project: \$60,000 over 4 years.

Project 2: Scholarships for BA Students

The Dream: We want to have a "where most needed" scholarship fund so that students who have begun the BA program and are progressing well won't have to drop out for financial reasons.

The Reach: The purpose of AGBC is to impact all of Tanzania through training servant-leaders. Some of the best and brightest young pastors in the Tanzania Assemblies of God are studying at AGBC.

The Reality: Usually, our students are sponsored through a church where they have served as pastor or associate before coming to school. Sometimes these churches are unable to bear the whole cost of a degree, and promising students have to drop out before the end because they don't have money for tuition.

The Commitment: For \$300 you can provide a full trimester for a BA student at AGBC, including room, board, tuition for up to 15 credit hours, and printed study guides for 4 subjects. The cost for a full year is \$900 per student.

Project 3: Campus Generator for AGBC-Dodoma

The Dream: We would like to be able to continue to function as normally as possible with classes, chapel, evening services, campus life, and even computer labs operating during the frequent periods when electricity is not available from the grid.

The Reach: All personnel and programs of the school would benefit. Most of the faculty and all students live on-campus so it extends to their personal lives as well.

The Reality: Tanzania has inadequate power generation facilities to meet the growing demand, and much of their capacity depends on hydroelectric plants that slow down or shut down during the dry season. It is not uncommon to have 8-12 hour blackouts daily for a month or more at a time.

The Commitment: A high capacity generator is available from Mission Aviation Fellowship at a used price of \$6,000 (new cost is \$30,000). It will cost an additional \$5,000 (estimated) to install the generator, build a small protective enclosure for it, move transmission lines, and wire the switching mechanism to the grid. Total project: \$11,000.00

Project 4: Library Development

The Dream: We would like to add books and periodicals to the school library every year until it meets and eventually surpasses the accreditation guidelines for an MA-level study center.

The Reach: All students and faculty would have access to the library resources we are hoping to provide.

The Reality: AGBC Library has recently had help from BGMC and Africa's Hope to bring in books to support the new MA program. From our missionary budget, we have also bought the necessary computer hardware and software to computerize the card catalog and collection management. However, even with these improvements, the library does not yet meet standards for MA-level study centers. Since help from the above sources is shared with many other schools, our part has been used up until our school comes back to the front of the line again. In the meantime we need to seek help from other sources.

The Commitment: The full cost of meeting all requirements is probably in excess of \$120,000. However, we don't have to meet them all at once. If we can move forward at the rate of \$10,000.00 per year investment, we can keep adding most-needed resources and can demonstrate to accreditors that we are making continual progress toward meeting the standard.

