

“A Mission to Tanzania”

Andy Russell

Two weeks have passed since I graduated from William & Mary. Less than two months to go until my mission to Tanzania.

You read correctly! The Young Adult Service Corps has placed me in Dodoma, Tanzania starting next August. The Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) is an Episcopal Church program that sends young adults into relational mission elsewhere in the Anglican Communion. Each missionary is placed abroad at a different placement, ranging from Haiti to Hong Kong. And I will be in Tanzania.

Mt. Kilimanjaro, the Serengeti, Zanzibar: all incredible features of Tanzania. But hardship and suffering are realities in Tanzania as well. During my time there, I will be serving with The Carpenter's Kids, a program run by the Anglican Diocese of Central Tanganyika that provides education to children who have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS. So far, the program is supporting at least 6,625 orphans across 116 of the 200 parishes. But with an estimated 40,000 such orphans in the Central Tanganyika diocese alone, the need for this program very real.

In 1 Corinthians 12 verse 12 Paul writes that “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.” Mission seeks to bring us Christians, the body of Christ, together, regardless of where we might be in the world. Christ's love supersedes all borders, and we too are called to join into loving relationship with Christians no matter their geographical location.

As such, I invite you to make this YASC mission our mission. There are two pieces to it. YASC missionaries are called to raise \$10,000 to help cover the costs of mission. This includes transportation, insurance, and a modest stipend. It's a lot of money, for sure. And I understand that not everyone might be able to contribute financially.

And that is A-OK! Because what I need even more than financial contributions are contributions of community and spirit. Even or especially when times get rough, your prayers

and encouragement will sustain me. With all of the unfamiliarity that will inevitably come with being abroad, you all will be my familiar rock. Simply put, I need your support.

You can support our mission financially via cash, credit, or check made out to Good Shepherd, memo line "YASC". To prayerfully support our mission and to receive updates, please sign up on the Prayer Sponsor List by emailing asrussell21@gmail.com. To learn more, visit asrussell-yasc.blogspot.com.

Thank you for your support!