**From St. Lukes, Boscoppa to Kilimatinde, Tanzania**

It was in 2016 that I found myself being called to go on a joint mission trip with people from other churches across St Austell to St John's School in Kilamatinde, Tanzania. My huge question was "What about my husband and children?" I have never so clearly heard God say "Take them with you".

Mike, Mark and Karen who also felt called to go on mission very graciously (if not with a slightly horrified look on their face!) supported this decision and off we set on a very long journey involving 3 planes and a 12 hour bus ride to Central Tanzania - 4 Christians, a 3, 5 and 7 year old and a slightly reluctant non Christian husband!

Before, during and since our trip to Tanzania we have seen God at work in so many ways.

Karen is a nurse and was really keen to visit the hospital in Kilamatinde. Grace who at the time was a missionary in Tanzania, organised for them both to visit. It was obviously very different to what she is used to!

They were visiting the maternity ward when they encountered a Mother who'd had a c-section 48hrs previously, but had never awoken from the anaesthetic. The Grandmother was holding the baby who was not expected to survive the night as he was unable to breastfeed and there wasn't the provision to meet his nutritional needs in any other way. Karen was obviously distraught by this story and asked the Grandmother if they could pray for the Mother. They did and Praise the Lord the Mother literally woke up right there and then! She sat straight up in bed, asked for her baby, which fed and survived.

At the time Karen was obviously ecstatic to see healing but the joy is that this one story of how we can heal in Jesus name has been told time and time again. It has been shared in collective worship at BB, Karen's testimony was shared at her own Grandaughter's baptism when we prayed for healing for her prior to her having life saving surgery at Bristol Children's Hospital. Praying for healing in Jesus' name is now part of our normal everyday ministry for those of us who worship at St Luke's and we have been more recently supported with this by the Callington Cluster who kindly delivered a Healing On The Streets session for us.

And as for the rest of us we have learnt that trusting and obeying God is what we are called to do. It was an absolute blessing having little people on a mission trip as it opened doors we would never otherwise have had. It has built connections with children in two different nations - every year BB school partake in Thy Kingdom Come and Experience Pentecost where we spend part of our time praying specifically for the children and teachers at St John's School in Kilamatinde. We may have gone to Tanzania with practical plans to help finish building a primary school, but God's plans were so much bigger than this...instead two primary schools have been connected in prayer and as we all know #prayerchangesthings.

Emma Antoniou

St Luke’s, Boscppa