

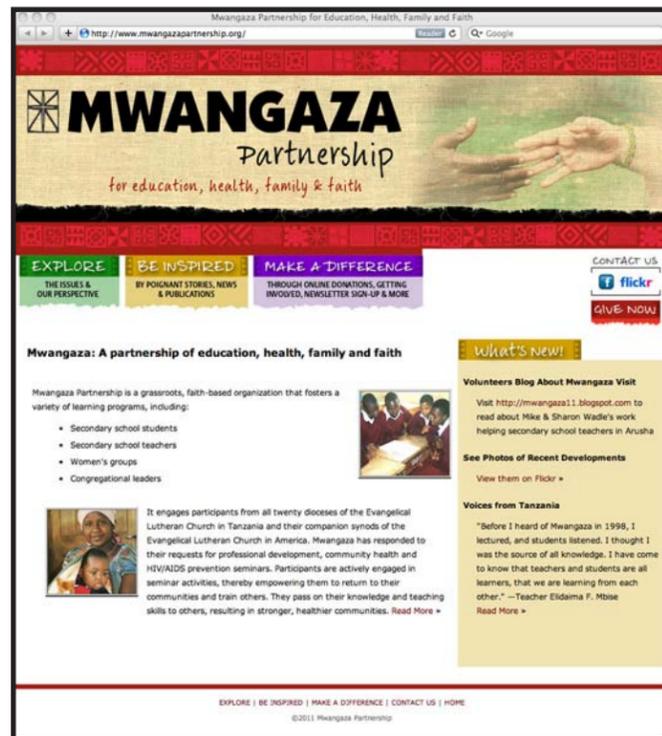


## Mwangaza's New Website Debuts; "Like" Us on Facebook!

Mwangaza's digital presence has been further heightened, thanks to the creation and completion of its **all-new website**. The work of many volunteers along with Kris Meyer of orangeflux.com, the site's digital-creator, the site is informative, inspirational, and colorful. We hope you make time to check it out with some frequency and/or forward it to others interested in our unique American-Tanzanian partnership. Our address is [www.mwangazapartnership.org](http://www.mwangazapartnership.org).

We continue our online **Facebook presence** with occasional postings. Check us out and "like" us at Mwangaza Education for Partnership. Most postings include a photograph. When you "like" us, you receive notice of new postings, enabling you to remain up-to-date with Mwangaza's active schedule. The increasing numbers of people who "like" us likewise help to motivate the hard-working Mwangaza staff, creating another level of partnership.

To take a **photographic "safari"** of Mwangaza's work, check us out online at Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mwangazaeducation/>. While individual photos are displayed on the left, they are grouped into "sets" on the right. Informative captions are on display in both places. New pictures are frequently being added to keep everyone abreast of our latest activities.



[www.mwangazapartnership.org](http://www.mwangazapartnership.org)



## Mwangaza Invited into New Partnerships and Possibilities

Mwangaza is now fifteen years old, a healthy, vibrant teenager, still evolving and working continually to build relationships all around us. Structurally, we are built on partnered relationships within the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. As our programs have evolved, so too, has our understanding of partner possibilities. It is exciting to receive invitations that demonstrate not only a desire to join our educational efforts but also a trust and respect for the way we implement our programs.

### ELCT Heads of Schools

Case in point: William Kivuyo, former Mwangaza Program Coordinator, now heads ELCT's Education Desk. In early February 2011, Shoonie Hartwig, Mary Jo Huelle, and the Mwangaza Management Team met with William, Rachel Ramadthani of ELCT's Women's Desk, and Pastor Sabina Lumwe, who coordinates ELCT's Education, Women and Health desks. Annually, the Mwangaza Team provides these offices with the Form IV Secondary School National Examination Results/Analysis and our program updates.

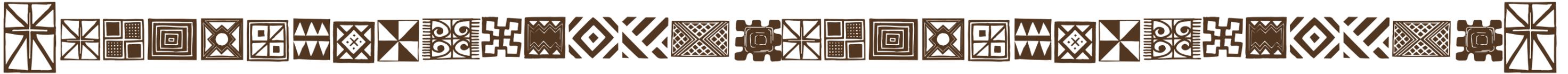
We were delighted when William asked whether we'd consider partnering with them in a joint



*U.S. volunteer Sharon Wadle leads ELCT secondary school teachers through the intricacies of new teaching methods. Sharon and husband Mike, along with Mwangaza Program Coordinators John Kavishe and Salome Lally, traveled to Kisarawe near Dar es Salaam, responding to the school's plea for teaching-strategy help. This seminar represented one of a growing number of three-way partnerships, with this one being a blend of resources from Kisarawe, Mwangaza, and ELCA's Northern Great Lakes Synod, the companion synod of Tanzania's Eastern Coastal diocese.*

meeting for all ELCT Heads of Schools. It would be for two days and held at our Centre, with Mwangaza providing food and housing. The Management Team would have one day to present the latest updates on our Literacy Immersion program currently in place at targeted ELCT secondary schools. William would use the second day to focus on advocacy and leadership issues.

The response was extraordinary. Fifty of the sixty-three Heads of Schools attended, coming from all parts of the country, representing all twenty ELCT dioceses. Due to economic constraints, William's ELCT Education Desk could not offer to cover the traditional transport costs or per diems to participants. They came anyway! Several school leaders delivered stirring testimonials regarding Mwangaza's work.



## Partnerships blossom, cont.

The fruits of this event are not over: Pastor Lumwe has asked us to partner with them next year. The Mwangaza Management Team agreed. Stay tuned!

Other three-way partnerships have formed as well.

When the Form IV (high school senior) national secondary school final examination results were announced throughout Tanzania in mid-January 2011, cries of despair could be heard from every corner of the country. Only 33% of those who sat for the examination scored high enough to continue their studies. Although nationwide scores have been declining, this year's performance represented an all-time low.

### Kisarawe Lutheran Junior Seminary

Soon after, Mwangaza received an urgent call from Kisarawe Lutheran Junior Seminary, an ELCT secondary school near Dar es Salaam. Their question: Might there be a possibility that the Mwangaza Educational Team could spend a week of teacher-training at their school? Further, Kisarawe would contribute noon meals and per diems for all participants.

Because this event was neither in the Mwangaza schedule nor in its budget, how might the



Mwangaza Program Coordinator Salome Lally leads teachers from St. Margaret's Primary School at their recent two-week teaching-methods seminar held at the Mwangaza Centre. That Mwangaza has become a known and trusted body which works to improve education nationwide is becoming clearer to us all the time.

significant petrol and housing costs incurred by Mwangaza staff members be covered? An inquiry email was sent to Northern Great Lakes, the Eastern Coastal Diocese's companion synod, asking whether they might consider joining a three-way partnership, made up of Kisarawe – Mwangaza – Northern Great Lakes. The immediate positive response made it possible in late May for John, Salome, and Mike and Sharon Wadle to spend a week on-site.

### Lwandai and Bangala Secondary Schools

In early February, another call came to Mwangaza. This time it was from Lushoto, North East Diocese. Would it be possible for the Mwangaza Educational Team to come there for six days, dividing their time between Lwandai and Bangala ELCT Secondary Schools? Queries were made to ELCA's Southeast Pennsylvania synod, which quickly agreed to become the third party in the Mwangaza-Lwandai/Bangala partnership.

Due to the very full program calendar at Mwangaza and a carefully planned budget, these requests could not have been honored without the ELCA synod support, to say nothing of the energy given by John and Salome to this effort.

### St. Margaret's English Medium Primary School

And there's more: Located about 12 kilometers outside of Arusha, St. Margaret's English Medium Primary School began as a vision of Mama Tesha for orphaned children. In the course of seeking financial support, she visited Minnesota and met with Friends of African Education committee. Over the next few years, she came to Mwangaza in Arusha, having heard of our seminars, later meeting with Dr. Shoonie Hartwig, the first director of Mwangaza and currently a consultant to it. The result was another three-way partnership between Friends of African Education, St. Margaret's, and Mwangaza. Teachers from St. Margaret's journeyed to Mwangaza to attend a two-week training in teaching methodologies and computer skills. They were joined by teachers from the newly opened Ilboru Academy located near Mwangaza Centre.

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## Windows to the Words of Life!

"Computers and Projectors: New Windows to the Words of Life, Communication, and Content." This was the subject line in a recent email from Mike and Sharon Wadle, Mwangaza's Teachers-in-Residence for the second year. Currently, they can be found at Mwangaza, leading seminars with John Kavishe and Salome Lally for secondary school teachers.

When the Wadles returned home to Illinois a year ago, they had a fundraiser goal in mind: replacement of Mwangaza's virus-ridden and worn out computers that comprised our Computer Lab. Mwangaza staff members John and Salome did investigative work in Arusha and Moshi, concluding that a Dutch non-governmental organization named VIA AFRICA was the best organization with which to work.

As a result of the Wadles' fundraising and John and Salome's sleuthing, fifteen reconditioned computers are proudly dusted off daily at our Centre's Computer Lab. In addition, each of the targeted schools in our Literacy Immersion program received five computers.

Further, our Seminar Hall now has Internet access; and thanks to its LCD projector hooked up to a laptop, Mwangaza staff members can present lively and up-to-date presentations, using the PowerPoint format and staff-developed thought-provoking questions.

More than fifty PowerPoint lessons in seven different subject areas have been gathered, categorized, and saved on each of fifteen flash

St. Margaret's represents an important link for Mwangaza, helping us to better understand the teaching challenges at the primary level.

Finally, we are very pleased to announce a new partnership with Mennonite Central Committee. Mike and Maguy Solomons, MCC representatives living in Arusha, expressed interest in Mwangaza's Binti/Mama program. They suggested we submit a



The Via Africa staff instructs Mwangaza Program Coordinators Salome Lally and John Kavishe as new computers are installed and checked at Mwangaza Centre. Participants in Mwangaza Centre's seminars are taught the many uses of this technology in addition to the "major content" of their seminars, bringing their skills into the 21st century.

drives which were donated by the technology department of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. The lessons will be installed on computers at the seventeen schools which sent teachers to attend our Summer Seminars.

Because of this incredibly important effort spurred on by Mike, Sharon and the Mwangaza Management Team, Mwangaza further launches teachers into the use and benefits of 21st century computer technologies, expanding the methodological arsenals of Mwangaza-trained teachers. To all our heartfelt thanks!

three-year proposal which would be a joint effort, funded between MCC and Mwangaza. In addition, they supported a pilot seminar in December of 2010. Based on the post-seminar evaluation report, our intergenerational team approach to this training program will now be possible. We are grateful and honored to be supported by the MCC. Additional seminars begin this December.