

2021 Annual Report



Supporting Families • Growing Futures • Changing Lives.

The Mt. Meru Coffee Project has served the Meru Region and Greater Milwaukee Synod for over 22 years. With a keen and constant focus on supporting the farmers of Meru, Tanzania, we have weathered the pandemic and remain strong and robust. Just like our premium coffee.

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Years of training provided to the small, rural, family farmers is clearly paying off as improved crops are yielding higher quality of "cherry" (the coffee bean surrounded by pulp and husk; as it is when picked from the tree) resulting in a higher price per pound and a better quality of life for our Tanzanian partners. It is our volunteers and donors who made this possible. With the help of our congregation volunteers and a successful advertising campaign, online orders were instrumental in keeping the project steady these past 18 months. New, and longtime volunteers have been processing orders like a well-oiled machine throughout these uncertain times and met the challenge of the much welcomed increase in fall and holiday sales volume. We are deeply grateful for our loyal and generous donors – our consistent partners that sustain us now and as we look to the future.



Asante sana (Thank you very much)

Walt Chossek, President

2021 Board of Directors

Walt Chossek
President

Janet McMahon
V.P. Development

Rev. Paul Erickson
Bishop, GMS ELCA

Marilyn Heyde

Rick Frowein
V.P. Operations

Tori Mallak
Treasurer

Rev. Kevin Beebe
Synod Council Rep.

Fred Meyer

Ron Bohrer
V.P. Sales/Mktg

Patti Nelson
Secretary

Andy Petersen

Mission Impact: Farmer Training and Income

100 New
Farmers

Our key program in Tanzania is farmer training. Each year new farmers participate in training; both classroom and in the field, to learn better planting, growing and cultivating techniques to enhance crop quality. An additional **\$5,500** was invested in training in 2021. As a result, the coffee cupping scores (the rating of quality) has continued to increase each year.



\$57,856
Invested

Over **700+** small, rural, family farms enjoyed increased annual income as a direct result of our fair trade importing of **26,294** pounds of their premium coffee.



Messages from Tanzania

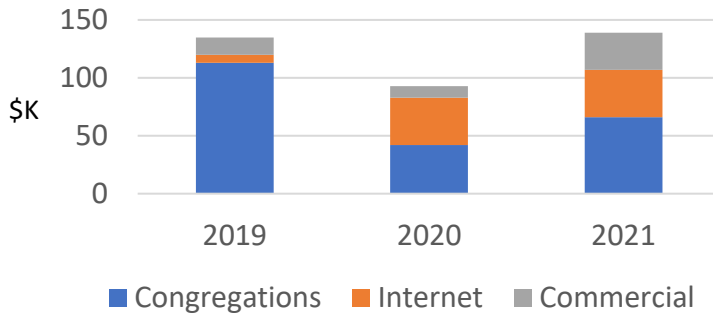
Our coffee farmers take great care to prune and tend their trees as they have learned that these practices produce better quality coffee. Quality coffee receives the highest prices from the Mt Meru Coffee Project. The farmers are thankful, for these higher prices provide the extra income needed for school fees, hospital bills and home improvements.

Bishop Elias Kitoi Nasari, Diocese of Meru, ELCT

The Mt Meru Coffee Project has allowed our cooperative to become one of the best coffee projects in Tanzania.

The Board Members, Mt Meru Specialty Coffee Growers AMCOS

Mission Enterprises: Coffee Sales



What began as a Milwaukee area initiative has expanded to include patrons across the USA, as well as several commercial customers who have discovered the quality and value our coffee brings to their customers.

Servanthood



Volunteers committed to serving through leadership

- 120 Mission and Marketing Volunteers
- 11 Coffee Order Processing & Fulfillment Volunteers (630 hrs. in 2021)
- 11 Directors on the Governing Board

Condensed Statement of Activity (cash basis):

For fiscal year ending January 31, 2022

Operating Revenue

Consumer Sales	\$107,240
Commercial Sales	28,910
General Contributions	26,520
Farmer Training	<u>5,940</u>
Total	\$168,610

Operating Expense

Cherries & Export Prep	\$61,270
Farmer Training	5,500
Meru Operations	19,000
Import/Shipping	12,500
Storage & Roasting	15,870
Getting Coffee to Customer	39,400
General Admin	2,885
Debt Service	<u>22,165</u>
Total	\$178,590

Condensed Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Cash on Hand	\$ 30,430
Investment in Coffee	178,562
Accounts Receivable and	
Other Assets	<u>21,506</u>
Total Assets	\$230,498

Liabilities and Net Assets

Line of Credit	\$30,000
Vehicle Loans	4,750
Accounts Payable	<u>1,576</u>
Total Liabilities	\$36,326
Net Assets	<u>194,172</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$230,498

Grateful for our Donors

Generous contributions from both long established and first time donors were instrumental in supporting the Mt Meru Coffee Project, and the farmers in Tanzania, through the turbulent environment of the recent years. We are deeply grateful for the openhearted global spirit of stewardship from individuals, congregations, and our broader community.

\$1,000+

Aleta and Walt Chossek
 Jeanne and Robert Dries
 Dianne and Rick Frowein
 Galilee Lutheran Church, Pewaukee WI
 Grand Foundation
 Kathy and Randy Hoth
 Martin Luther Church, Milwaukee WI
 Janet McMahon
 Larry Prochnow
 Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church,
 Hubertus WI

\$500-\$999

Faith Lutheran Church, Cedarburg WI
 Margaret and Timothy Schoewe

\$100-\$499

Kathi Behm
 Helen And William Buckler
 Ingrid Burbey
 Christ the Victor, New Berlin WI
 Dottie and Joe Dorr
 Lynn and Paul Erickson
 Peggy Groth
 Sue and Tom Johnson
 Patricia Nelson
 Joanne Peterson
 Kristine Reilly
 Ruthann and Bruce Rhode
 St Paul's Catholic Church,
 Genesee Depot WI
 Pamela and Neal Zimmerman

\$1-\$99

Susan Bowen
 Bruce Brown
 Lorraine Buehler
 Allen Frey
 Michelle Gregoire
 Elizabeth Hoffman
 Jeanne Larsen
 Karen and Richard Merklein
 Diana Moran
 Victoria Olsen
 Peggy Otto
 Carol Peterson
 Shelly Rosenstock
 Melissa Steinhaus
 Judy Whalen
 Mary Lou Zuege

