

## Barbara and the “Garage Boys”

An ELCA missionary in Morogoro, Tanzania, Barbara Robertson serves as part of a team establishing a Primary Health Care program in the local diocese. Barbara shares how her ministry touches the lives of young men.

“It was my great privilege to spend a morning with a group of young men I fondly refer to as my garage boys. Over the years, I have come to know quite a few of these young men and have watched them grow and mature. Because I had done a HIV and AIDS seminar before, the older fellows have hounded me to have another session for the new boys who have joined the garage. Seventy young men attended the session!



*Barbara Robertson, ELCA missionary in Tanzania, meets with the “garage boys.”*

“The main themes were ‘have long-term life goals, be responsible, and get tested.’ Joseph, the owner of the garage, told me, ‘It matters that you come. They have changed because of you.’ And, I’ve changed because of them. How honored I am that they should listen to what I have to say.”

ELCA missionaries change lives! ELCA missionaries, alongside our global neighbors, strengthen medical ministries, preach the gospel, train pastors, teach, help build churches, advocate for the poor, help develop communities, and—through word and service—share the good news of Christ to restore people’s lives.

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*The Rev. Twila Schock is director for Global Mission Support.*



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