



March 2010 Newsletter

Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.
James 1:27

CLEAN DRINKING WATER NEEDED

Clean and safe drinking water is rare in Malawi. As a result, water-related diseases, including cholera and typhoid, are common; a problem exacerbated by the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS which has affected a large part of the population. Almost half of the population is under 15 years old and many of these are orphans. The GCM feeding centers are in need of deep, clean water wells. It is expensive to provide new wells, but it is important to the well-being of more than 800 children who are served at the feeding centers.

BUILDINGS NEEDED

Since the chiefs in Mfelakake and Kasipa have given land to GCM, we need to proceed with erecting buildings to house the centers. We need a place for the children to eat when it's 120 degrees and during rainy season. It will also be used as a teaching area where they will receive Bible teaching every day. We need room for storing food and supplies. We also need a cooking area out of the weather for the ladies to prepare the meals every day.

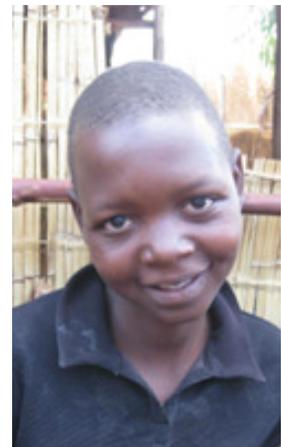
There are always needs in Malawi. It is often overwhelming trying to decide which need is greatest. After much prayer and discussion, these are two projects we believe God is leading us to begin. We cannot move forward without a lot of financial help. Would you consider helping GCM with these projects? No donation is too small or too large, and every one will be greatly appreciated by GCM, the children and workers in Malawi.

MORE *HEALTHY* GRANDMOTHERS NEEDED



Precious and Gloria Kachala (left) are 6 and 3. Earlier this year their mom died and one week later their father died - both from complications with Malaria. They now live with their grandparents.

Lyodia Katema is an orphan who lives in Misi village with her two sisters and two brothers. She is ten years old. She lost her mom to Malaria in 2005 and her father abandoned her and her siblings in 2006. Lyodia and her siblings live with their grandmother who is very ill. She is in the third grade and her favorite verse is Romans 3:23. She was very excited to receive a new school uniform.



NEW SCHOOL UNIFORMS FURNISHED



New school uniforms provided by Kindling Community Church in Oklahoma City made joy and happiness a real occurrence for over 500 children at three different locations in Malawi. These children either did not go to school or had quit school due to having no uniforms.

To attend school, children must wear uniforms and most children in Malawi just simply cannot afford them. After all, these children still live in a world of thatch roofed houses made of mud brick

and dirt floors which do not have individual bedrooms, electricity or indoor plumbing! In addition, these kids have no parents or their parents are so ill their extended family, usually a grandmother sometimes an aunt, must take care of them.

When these children wake up every morning they often get up from the dirt floor wearing the same clothes they went to sleep in. And even with the new uniforms they may begin their day without breakfast unless the school has been funded and is able to provide them a meal – which is not usually the case.

When they get out of school they come to the centers for Bible stories, songs, games and a very nourishing meal. Then some may go to work in the fields, fetch firewood or fetch water while others will hang around and entertain themselves with the simplest of self-made toys. They have learned to do whatever they need to do to live.



But these children are happy because now they have uniforms, can go to school and know they will have a good meal when they leave school each day. Not all kids are this fortunate.

FEEDING 800 TAKES A BIG BUDGET

The budget grows every month as the number of children increases. It is a lot cheaper to feed 800 in Malawi than in America, but it still adds up. We try to provide plenty of protein and vegetables which is missing from most diets in Malawi. We rarely feed meat because it is too costly, but they eat much healthier than most around them.

We are always in need of monthly donors to help provide the food and supplies needed to keep the centers in operation.