



## **March 2012 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

Hope all is going well in this new year.

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and financial support for the outreach and the feeding of our children in Malawi. I realize this has been a difficult economic season here in America and because of difficult times your gift to Great Commission Missions becomes a greater personal sacrifice. Don't ever think your participation on any level is not appreciated and we look forward to your continued partnership in this work God has put before us.

Malawi for several years has been listed as the poorest country in the world but they have also been known as the "WARM HEART OF AFRICA". Malawi has been a peaceful country despite its massive day to day obstacles. In 2011, the Malawi government became more intolerant of its people and business. Riots against the government are becoming more common. There are now tremendous fuel shortages and the price of fuel is at least three to four times higher than what we pay. This has always been an issue but now much worse. The value of the Malawi Kwacha (currency) is, well it takes a whole lot of Kwacha to purchase very little in return. These are just a few of the issues that make life in Malawi a little more difficult. Saying that - God Is Good and we continue to feed the children.

Great Commission does not feed the children just for the sake of Feeding Kids. We feed the kids in the name of Jesus. We feed the kids with the hope of Salvation and an eternal relationship with Jesus.

Not only are these difficult economic days in Malawi - they are also difficult spiritual days. There is always the battle with witchcraft, ancestry worship, voodoo, animal worship and everyday indifference. The Muslim growth in Malawi over the past few years is amazing. It is growing by leaps and bounds. Madonna took advantage of the Malawi people with the promise of opening a state of the art school only to back out with investor money and Malawi dreams stolen. Just this past week Madonna has announced she will open 10 new schools with new partners to fulfill her initial promise.

This sounds good but her school is not based on sound educational principals but on the principals of the Kabala religion, a perverted form of Judaism and universal thought. There is no salvation in Madonna, Mohammed or any long standing Malawi satanic beliefs.

This is why Great Commission Missions, Inc. does what it does. In John 14:6 Jesus said : " I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me." Thank you again for being a part of feeding children and sharing Jesus in a very difficult part of the world.

God Bless You  
Donnie

## **Statistics**

The latest Worldwide Press Freedom ranking for 2011-2012 has listed Malawi as one of the worst countries in the world in promoting freedom of the press. Malawi plunged 67 places from 79 in 2010 to 146 in 2011-12 and now ranks 146 out of 225 countries analyzed.

Malawi's fall has been described as the worst for any country and attributed to 'totalitarian' tendencies of President Bingu Wa Mutharika, threats against journalists, and also arrests of journalists during the July 2011 anti-government demonstrations which left 18 people dead and scores of others including journalists injured.

Another factor for Malawi's drop was adoption of new, tough media legislation - criticized internationally and which caused some European countries to suspend aid to Malawi. One such law is the amendment of Section 46 of the Penal Code which gives the Minister of Information the power to ban or close publications deemed "not in the public interest."

Malawi has cut its national budget by K16.5 billion (~99.3 million USD) because it cannot collect the money due to reduced economic activities brought in by fuel and foreign exchange scarcity.

The budget was passed last year and was branded a zero-deficit budget as it was supposed to run on locally generated resources mainly from many taxes introduced last year.

This was after donors held back over \$500 million, that is 40 percent of budgetary support because of disagreements on macro-economic management.

However this has backfired on Malawi as it cannot collect projected taxes and revenues as economic activities dropped by 60 percent meaning people cannot get more tax paying avenues.

So the economy, free press and life in general has taken a nose-dive. This is why now more than ever we need your prayers and support, whatever amount you can give. No amount is too small.

## **CHIKONDI AND PHILLIP MWAPASA'S WEDDING**



Chikondi was 12 years old when we first met her. Now she is a teacher at GCM's Misi Feeding Center and a married woman now. We are so thankful for God's work in her life. We did not have a GCM Oklahoma presence at the wedding which was disappointing. Due to health issues, Harvey and Waynetta were unable to attend. Please continue to pray for Chikondi and Phillip as they begin their marriage and walk with God as a married couple.

## **PRAYER IS THE CORNERSTONE OF GCM'S MINISTRY**



We started Great Commission Missions, Inc. after spending a lot of time in prayer to determine what the Lord was asking of us as we started feeding children in Malawi. We spent much time in prayer as Harvey and Donnie went to Malawi to begin the first feeding center, and continue to pray for the Lord's wisdom and guidance as this ministry moves forward. We pray daily for the children, workers and volunteers who deal with tough living conditions. We hope you are praying with us. We often say "what can we do besides pray". Prayer is the cornerstone of all we do as Jesus followers. It is not an afterthought – it is the foundation of living loved and walking out our relationship with our Lord. We are the hands and feet of Jesus as we serve others.

1. Each hug we give a child brings a smile.
2. Each plate of food brings a smile and physical strength.
3. Each blanket brings a smile and a warm night's sleep.
4. Each uniform brings a smile and entry into school.
5. Each song or game brings a smile and teaches them about the character of God.
6. Each Bible story or verse brings a smile and teaches them about the love of God.