

TIYAMIKE MULUNGU CENTER

Malawi East Africa

What a Wonderful Christmas !!!! Thank you to you all for your help thru 2011 \O/



update : June 2011

24.. few days to 2yrs

(17 of which are with another care center temporarily since Aug 20)

24 3 & 4 yrs old.

26 5 & 6 yrs old

23 7 to 11 yrs old

20 ...12 to 14 yrs old

13 ...15 & 16 yrs old

3 ... 17 & 18 yrs old

Please go to Page Two for Blantyre Baby House update and information:

So what have we been up to ??? We have had great help!!!! Well as many of you know we have had a bit of a challenge or two these past few months but there is also some pretty neat stuff happening for example, Rosie (kneeling) from Scotland teaches Form One Biology and English, Standard eight Science and expressive Arts and Nicola (in red) teaches standard four Math and English and study times. She is from Chesterfield in Central England These young ladies have been amazing and are teaching and lovin the kids much!!! They arrived the first part of September and have been neck deep in TMC ever since. Rosie and Nicola are on "Gap Year" and have been placed with us by "Project Trust" who have placed young people around the world for many years. This may be an ongoing gift to TMC . They will be here until middle of August. Mary Dawrant (with big B-day smile) has been working so hard to pull the school up in many areas along with seamstressing and cooking and Christmas preparations (Pam is so happy for the assistance). You should have



MAJOR PROJECT FINALLY DONE



TMC VILLAGES We have just had rains and it looks good ? for our garden planted on the new Village property.... Our Village Project would seem to be in line with the new policies except that the push is for children to be with relatives not foster care type homes. Please read page 2 & 3.

heard the cheers for Mary from the children when we had term end awards last week. We have Hala (in blue) from Alberta who is joining in helping where she can everything from preparing gifts to cooking to cutting Pam's hair and as with all loving on the children. Pam buying slippers for Christmas gifts in fact the buying team was Pam, Mary, Marie and Don and a very weary team they were after two days of measuring, looking for sizes and colors and quality \O/.... Don and Marie are from Saskatchewan (they live on an island) both helping willingly where ever and skills to make a difference in many ways. Marie in book keeping and cooking, helping much with Christmas and loving the kids doing things a mom would do... it is wonderful to see. Don in mechanical and repairs to anything. Don had a major input to get the septic system finished off. (pics above) The septic soak away is 10 ft deep 30 ft by 30 ft, with 4 ft of big rocks then a layer of clay, then 4 ft of sand The top layer of sand is for a future bath water soak away. This has been a serious need as we have so many people and drop toilets even with composting are



not able to answer the need over time. So what a relief to see it completed !!!



The 2011 Christmas Team



Will and Pam Phillips

Blantyre Baby House Update: Babies moving back to Bangula???? It may be so.... We remain in a state of prepared flux for the time being (Since Aug 20th) Hmmm actually a *bit* restful in some ways.... At least it has allowed us to focus on other areas and "To Do Lists"..... Restful sorry that was not accurate (only in terms of not having the extra responsibility) it has been a very busy time with moving our Baby House equipment back to Bangula, Christmas preparations and finishing off projects and preparing for babies to possibly come home.... Our 17 babies remain "temporarily" placed with another baby care center the other side of Blantyre and we have closed our Blantyre Baby house as the lease was up Nov 30. We could not get clear enough answers from Social Services to justify signing another lease and carrying staff to unknown dates. The babies are safe and well cared for and for the time being are doing well. We personally do not want them moved anywhere until all is settled and they are moved once. It has been traumatic enough for them (with new care takers and new surroundings) to this point. **We were invited to and attended a two day conference with about forty other orphan care center providers this past Dec 12 and 13.** It was sponsored by UNICEF and purposed to expose us all to review existing and be informed of new Govt. regulations. A definite move towards following UNICEF policies was clearly put forth. It turns out there is a (and apparently has been a long standing) push by such donors and government bodies to eliminate orphan care centers on the whole. The story is long and somewhat tedious and in large part unbelievable in the way our Blantyre Baby House was dealt with, but we are moving forward and looking for the best out of it all, in the end we are hopeful some reality will be brought forward (perhaps at least in part thru us) in respect of what to do with the 6300 or so children in orphan care centers in Malawi and overall the 1,400,000 orphans nation wide. For those interested, visit the internet entering "CHILDREN ORPHANED BY AIDS" Author: UNICEF 1999. It shows the thinking permeating the Government here and in many countries as to orphan care centers. Who can disagree with the premise: **orphaned children are better off with relatives in a healthy home environment?** The issue is whether the villagers in our area can care for additional children, when they struggle so just to provide for themselves and their own children. **Great theories but sad results** when baseline information is not accurate or ignored, and so the children suffer. So having said the above, all in all, we have been encouraged, as we had a through investigation here in Bangula TMC before Christmas with seemingly good results. A question left hanging was ... "would we be willing and able to receive our babies back here in Bangula?" (Not an official request ... we will see.) Our purpose in welcoming the babies home to Bangula is to have them available to their fathers as they are to far away to be visited in years ahead. We remain steadfast in our belief our babies are better off in a Blantyre house with access to the Govt hospital and in the different climate with

less malaria exposure. We are not prepared to establish a whole new organization and structure, staff and registration at this point. It seems needlessly redundant and creates a great deal of work and ongoing costs. We use Bangula staff, to care for Bangula (and area) babies and return them to Bangula after a year or so once they have been them well started in Blantyre. In the end no matter what care system, institution, foster or family, it depends on the quality and experience/training and heart of the care givers! **We have seen a miracle as our two teams of baby care ladies have now been on a half month 24 hr a day schedule on and then off the same, since July of 2009. The teams are knitted together in heart and purpose and the children are being welcomed into their hearts more and more just because of the time they now spend with them. If it were not the need for these little ones to see a Mom n Dad with their family we would be so happy to continue with the system we have, however these little ones need (in our view) to be in a family environment where they can see and as much as possible be part of a family with both parents present.**



Pictures showing loading compost at TMC then unloading it at the new Village Project site and some of the children and staff with hoes clearing, planting maize (corn) then peanuts and beans between the maize stations and soon weeding....we hope...!O/

Maize Costs over double please see bottom of page eight

Below are pics of the baby house now prepared in case Social Services chooses to send our babies back to Bangula...



QUOTE BELOW FROM UNICEF DOCUMENT REFERRED TO IT IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET under "CHILDREN ORPHANED BY AIDS" Author: UNICEF 1999.

Strategic action should:

- **Ensure access to basic services.**
- **Provide assistance through specially targeted programmes**
 - **child-care services**
 - **income generation**
 - **credit/loans**
 - **food production**
 - **psychosocial support.**

Families provide the best environment for bringing up children and if adequately supported they will best able to provide the care that children orphaned by AIDS require. **This support must encompass improved access to basic services, including health care, safe water and sanitation, and education, as well as assistance with childcare. Policies need to be designed to prevent families with orphans from sinking into deep poverty. These may entail support for income-generating activities, small business cooperatives, vocational training and micro-credit schemes. Only by investing in poor communities can the AIDS challenge be met, as AIDS disproportionately affects the most poor and disadvantaged in developing countries.** Keeping orphans in school is especially crucial in breaking the poverty cycle.

Also key for families is receiving the emotional support and encouragement that will help them deal with current problems and plan for the future. This psychosocial support can be provided by other family members, friends, community members or organizations and is an essential part of home-based care.

Countries that have relied on institutions to care for their orphans have learned that orphanages are not the answer. Expensive to build and maintain, orphanages remove children from their communities and extended families. These and other institutions set up to care for children can have catastrophic consequences on children's emotional lives and development. And when institutions are no longer able to absorb growing numbers of orphans who have no other support systems, some children end up homeless and hungry on the street.

29

3. Stimulate and strengthen community-based responses

Strategic action should:

- **Support NGOs and community based partners with – technical assistance**
 - **policy and planning guidance training – resources.**
- **Identify and strengthen community-based care and support to – substitute or foster care**

Families – child-headed households – orphanages, which play a transitional role.

- **Make use of the formal welfare system.**
- **Promote exchanges of information about experiences.**
- **Bring small initiatives to larger scale.**

*****END OF QUOTE ****

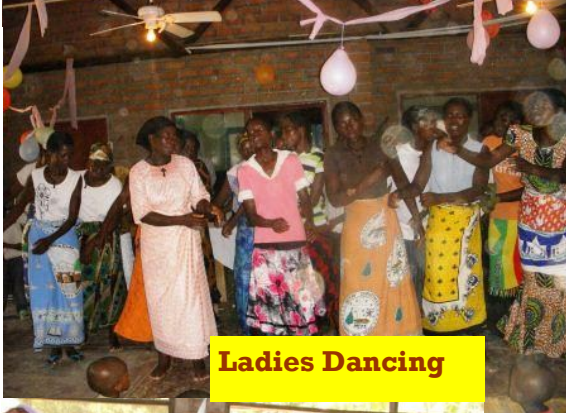
*** Our Comment: While the objectives and goals put forth by the above quoted UNICEF/UNAIDS study paper are definitely good and with funds and training feasible, this is not reality on the ground, at least from our limited point of view. We base this on living in what we understand to be one of the most impoverished areas of Malawi. It would seem that the implementation of those excellent programs is years away, in terms not only of funding but of qualified teachers and equippers. We hope we are incorrect in our observations and gladly welcome correction through seeing action (not words) if we are misinformed. It would seem to birth the question ..."If the above programs are not in place and functioning would it be wisdom to support and encourage the existing orphan care facilities with the goal of transition in the future when the above programs and even better are in place?" As our President has said look at the work of my hands not my words. (paraphrased badly perhaps)

MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU !



Christmas 2011 \O/

What a wonderful Christmas celebrating His B-day the children were so happy and Pam and team so tired!!! Well worth the effort was the consensus !!! Thank you sponsors it was amazing and so much fun for all !!!!!



Ladies Dancing



Watching Fire works



New Years Fire dance



THANK YOU !!!!

The difference in their lives from what would have been to what is ... Thank you !!!



Education as a tool used by people of integrity and character will break the poverty cycle !!!! Teach a man to fish !



Awards Four from each class (two standard one classes) All being awarded for 1) best in Math 2) best in English 3) most helpful 4) most kind



To have our school here at TMC is one of the greatest gifts we can give to the children We believe there are western teachers with a heart to assist, so be free to mention TMC ... maybe you are the link .

BELOW PICS OF SOME OF WHAT YOU HAVE HELPED US TO MAKE HAPPEN !!!

Storm Team from UK fun , games and loving Jesus !!



New Generator and change switch WOW !!



A visit from a mobile library and the volunteers from UK

Another compost four chambered drop toilet almost ready ... not pretty but so important !!!!



Funds for Painting has helped much , baby houses and kitchen and so many places looking much better !!



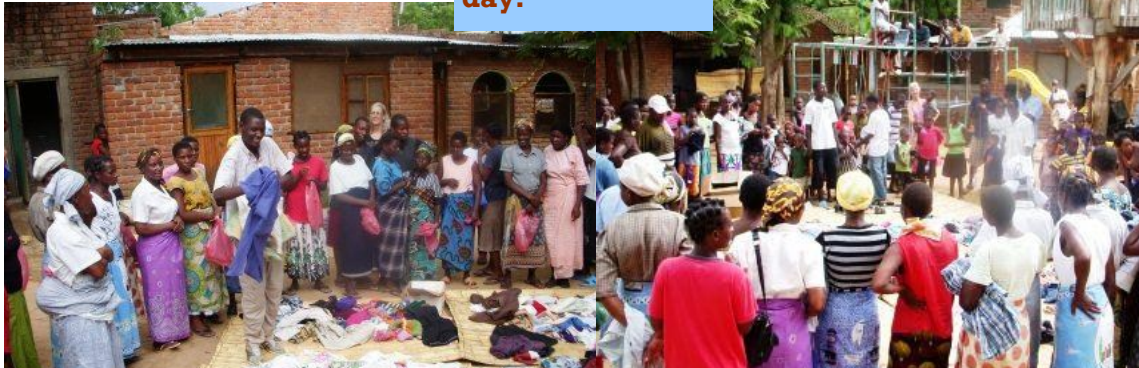
New Hot Water Heater and piping in main Kitchen What a blessing!!!!



Jacque from UK is able to partialy fund Epheson one of our young men, with us 7 yrs and has been doing our payroll. Now enrolled/attending Accountant school. He needs additional sponsors to help \O/ The cost is \$ 2,725 USD each term for 3 terms. Epheson will then work at TMC for at least Five years. He may be one who could in the future take over management of TMC?? Epheson has our full support and we believe he will do well. If you would like to be part of this please email us. \O/



Staff waiting for Awards and gifts for Staff Appreciation day.



Staff clothes grab ...15 seconds to grab 3 items (600 + items)

THANKYOU THANKYOU !!!!

THANK YOU FOR 2011 YOUR HELP, YOUR CARE THANK YOU !!!!



What can a family do for Boxing day in Malawi ??? Thank you for asking !!! Chris and Gina and their sons Josh, Nick and Matt , as well as friends Beth and Joe, came to TMC for the day with games and crafts, dress up clothes and smiles IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL GIFT TO OUR CHILDREN!!!



Where ever we are in this incredible world we can make a difference Chris and Gina from Vernon, British Columbia , Canada brought a days joy and fun , their sons playing football and doing crafts... Through the year so many of you giving finances and prayer caring from afar and some of you coming here ... hopefully you can get a glimpse how your funds to help us have made a difference ... Our children here at TMC have such a different world view , hope for a future so different than what would have been where it not for those of us who have stepped forward people like you.



Notes addressing why we believe it is best for babies/children to stay at TMC

The tragedy of a mother dying during child birth or from complications of child birth, malaria, Aids, pneumonia, or a host of other afflictions.... surely brings tears to the most hardened heart. This would be so without even knowing the ramifications to the surviving family members. Issues such as the loss of a wife and helpmate, a mother to other children, a worker for the garden and whatever piece work that could be found, who will do all that has to be done??? Issues such as the cultural practices and expectations. For example a new born baby requires breast milk from its mother as the best option however second best would be milk from a wet nurse or an auntie, even a grandma who is already nursing one of her own, then after those options are crossed off due to culture, comes the baby milk formulas, these are expensive (monthly costs are several times the rural monthly income if there is the privilege of having a job) and not to forget the required hygienic cares needed. So living in a grass roofed, mud walled hut with a dirt floor and having the life needed duties of carrying water often with a queue an hour or more long to wait if fortunate enough to have a bore hole (drilled water well) in the village, finding and fetching fire wood, cooking, heating bathing water, washing clothes, washing the reed mat used for sleeping at night which is likely urine soaked from nocturnal leakage from children young and older, standing in queue waiting to have maize ground into flour ...don't forget this is all after working in the garden for hours. Please note: the grass roof gives access to rats which not only eat food stored in plastic bags or the like...but also chew on the calloused feet of the children and even adults while they are sleeping. So many issues of life , school fees, medical costs, funerals, visitors to whom they are culture bound to feed and even assist with transport costs.... All this and more... It is little wonder, the rarity of a new wife willing to take on a new born or baby, even a small toddler born from a deceased wife. In fact very few relatives of any relation are willing to take the challenge, in reality it has little to do with love or lack of love... on the other hand a baby or small child may be brought to us, because of love, the father or relative knowing the life ahead for a motherless child chooses the better avenue. It seems often the reason for bringing a little one is more so the practicalities, cultural issues and new wives mindsets in regards to taking the task on.... Right or wrong doesn't matter much. If the baby, toddler is not wanted its life will hardly be good. We are so thankful for the many relatives who take in an orphaned child and treat them as their own... those we almost never hear about but we are sure it happens. We often ask ...”what baby asked to be born or even had a say in it all , there is only one!!!! “ If the child survives to an age to be able to assist they often become the house boy/girl and helper for the new wife's babies as they come. It is not to say the scenario described is the case all the time, however please consider, if a baby is brought to us it is because there is no one else able or willing to take it. That is the bottom line!!! Our goal is not to just provide food and shelter, clothing and medicines. We have to provide a new life, education and a future an equipping to come out of poverty. With your help we are purposed to provide a life ... not just an existence.

So again here in 2012, in all the thoughts about buying this and that and the need to move forward. We remember how graciously many of you have given and continue to give, for the things you cant readily see (operating costs). Pam and I daily see the fruit of your gifts in the growth and joys of our children here at TMC. These ones who were at the bottom of society now moving ahead with a future and hopes to do and be far more than they ever dreamed of. The little ones who have always been here are safe and loved and will take it as their due that they will make a difference in this world. We are humbled and at times in awe of the difference being made here in so many lives, not forgetting staff lives as well. Funds left over from operating costs will be used for...equipping the secondary school. Note our sewer system is done what a blessing!!! We have funds and are waiting for the holiday price of goats to go and we can purchase more reasonably to develop our boys site with goats now that we have built a goat house, we still need a storage system to provide water for irrigating our gardens and and and...solar lights for our 23 boys evening reading.. We have applied for an electrical service before the costs raise in the new year.....there is much happening here, we are glad to have help from those who are willing to join with us. Remember a little from many becomes a lot. (now tax receipts for USA and Canada, and a Society Number in UK) Not to make light of those who give generously, it is often amazing to us. We appreciate so much those of you who give, whether it is time to pray or share, supplies, funds large or small or yourself to come here.. Remember tell your friends, tell everybody \O/ what the Lord is doing here!!!! If you or friends don't know him yet... Hey both Pam and I were there, until we were 26 yrs old... consider ..we are crazy, we are deceived or trying to deceive or.... He is alive and well and lives in ours and so many others lives so much \O/ We know if He can love and forgive us for all we have or haven't done in the years past and present. He can and definitely will do so for anyone.....Do you ever wonder why we have compassion in some circumstances and an urge in our heart to help and in other situations we sense nothing, maybe even a definite No!...maybe that's the start of a nudge towards realizing he really wants you, us, everyone...to get to know Him... just a thought \O/ Thank you to you all for your care and share and especially your prayer. With much love Will n Pam