

Malawi East Africa



SOME GOOD THINGS HAPPENING AT TMC (and food for thought)...UPDATE March 5, 2010

update : Feb 26, 2010

1...10 months old

5.. 1 yr old

17..2 yrs old

13...3 yrs old

14...4 yrs old

7... 5 n 6 yr olds

59...7 to 18 yrs old

(of the 59 average age about 12 to 14)

1 secondary student

117 children in total

For those who are not familiar with what we do, for others a reminder..... Our present task here is to provide a home for the orphaned, and or abandoned babies and children in distress. We live in the Lower Shire Valley located in the south part of Malawi, a place (we are told) was once used as a disciplinary posting for out of favor Government officials...the heat, the housing, the remoteness, the roads and the high rate of Malaria, provided the disciplining. The further south you were sent may have been the gauge for the disfavor incurred . We are about 3/4 the way down Hmmm.....Our babies come after mom has died and sometimes these little ones do not survive due to sepsis, malaria, pneumonia and other issues. Upon receiving them, we immediately take them to the local clinic for a check-up and if they become ill we again, take them to the local medical people and then often to Blantyre Hospital but it is sometimes too late by then. Thanks to those responding to the call for help in Nov, we have now occupied the house in Blantyre, which is within walking distance to the Gov't hospital (which has a well equipped Peds unit and excellent Pediatricians) for our new babies and children in need of more specialized care. The house grounds are large and we anticipate many good times of having the older children and staff come to Blantyre stay in our tents and have a memory builder. We will bring the children and staff in our four ton "run about" (as we sold our mini-bus) as we pick up supplies and such, so the costs will be minimal for the returns of experience and joy they all will reap.



So down from 153 children in Dec with some going to relatives, some to secondary school supported by relatives, the transferred babies... we have a breather ... and time to get ready for more coming so soon.

It has always been our hope to keep a maximum of 100 children at our main home and that was without a full primary school operating at that site.. IO/

When we sent out our Nov. letter re **the Blantyre house** we were bulging at the seams with small hope of getting relief . The only avenue we could see possible was another children's home (Kondanai , see their web) who were in the long process of building a baby house, but they had a strong policy of only under 6 months for admission. They then raise them, educate and prepare the children for life, most everyone in uniforms along a UK style of presentation. They now have come up to about 150 children with our added group. Well established and very well funded and many exceptional buildings much due, to the capable efforts of the Director Annie Chikwaza (a dutch lady). Grace prevailed and they offered to take those up to 2 yrs old which **allowed us to send not 5 babies but 20** plus 3 more under 3 months, who came in the new year. What a relief ! We just transferred the last 9 this Feb 24.

We received word that they would take the under two year old little ones shortly after signing our two year lease on the Blantyre house . We then delayed transferring the smallest to the Blantyre house as we felt it disruptive enough to move them once to Kondanai rather than to our house in Blantyre and then a month or so later move again to another strange place as well as strange caretakers. We have been able to reduce our staff by 24 putting us at 101 and maybe more to be let go. So a breather as we prepare for the future influx of little ones as their moms pass away and Dad's have no recourse. It is not just the high cost of formulae but the sanitation, the preparation and even if the father remarries quickly, culture prevents the breast feeding and it is very unlikely she will even accept another's baby let alone become a good mother to the child. It is a hard life and sometimes so unfair

especially to the babies , they had no choice as to where, when or to whom they were born... did you or I ? I am so glad I came where and when I did and to whom I didbut I had no choice....Thanks Mom for that hard work 59 yrs ago yesterday!!!! It was a cold, cold day in southern Alberta...1951.



Will and Pam Phillips

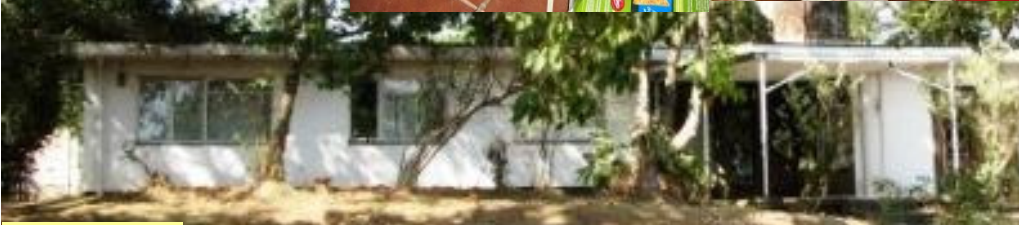
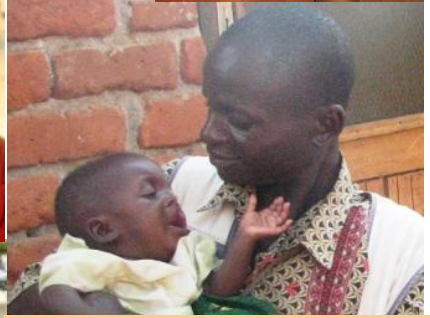
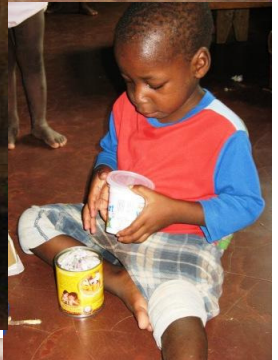


Expert inviting u in

Still so many to love and raise what a family we have!!! All except one is over 2 yrs old for the time being....



Mary a teacher from UK did wonders in 3 weeks, she is returning. :)



A Dad saying "I have to leave you". His wife has just died and there is no recourse. Then after the baby is here and he has built a new life with a new family, will the child fit into that new family??? Not likely here in Malawi...

FACTS, FACTS, FACTS, FACTS



Classroom in one end of our Dining Hall

Open air classrooms for our Primary students



Fact: Education beginning with the English language, will be the most beneficial tool we can equip our children with . We need teachers from overseas with at least, Grade 12 education and a heart to teach , hopefully some ability as well:) It does not take a degree , it takes willingness and patience.

Above: Our partially built “Interim” Secondary School ... as we have another 10 acre site for a complete school system, that is waiting for development. We have had it for 5 yrs, it seems now is the time. What do you think?

Fact: If we do not develop our secondary school the following will be true...our children will move into 4 yrs of Co-ed Gov't boarding schools with dorm supervision by other students a grade or so ahead of them. Schools may or may not have teachers for subjects needed, labs may or may not have supplies, teachers who, may or may not show up to teach, tutoring will be very rare, if at all available, likely from fellow students. The above and much more is considered normal and unavoidable.... therefore acceptable. The Gov't is working hard to make improvements however they are overhauling a system that has been dysfunctional for a long while. We desire to equip them as well as rescue them.

Fact: There are many needs all over the world.... Chile, Haiti, Romania, slums and street people in every nation and so many others ...we all need to hear Holy Spirit as to how to help and where..... it does not seem “if “ is in the equation..... Hmm or is it ? I think it really is..... as obedience is the issue not the need..... There were many Jesus did not heal and did not help ...but not many that asked... I am asking, not for you to give to us, but to *please pray* and do what you feel, He is saying ... I ask you to do that for our little ones, as well as our older ones and the staff and their families , we must give substantial raises to our staff. Pray about regular monthly giving. I fail so much in the area of faith, as most teach it However, Pam and I do have great faith in who and what our Father is like. He is so good! We visited two children's homes recently .. They are so far above our standards, in all areas. True their budgets are 3 or 4 or 10 times ours and the capital investment twenty times ours....Hmmm and their climate is heavenly \O/ and.....few mosquitoes... more educated labor pool....WOW We need ambassadors talking to people , talking to corporations, talking to neighbors, friends , workmates. We need so much help to make the difference we so want to make here in Malawi.... for the seven years we have been here, Pam and I have been reticent as to chasing funds, and that reticence remains.... however, the fact is the last two years we seem hamstrung as to what needs to be happening ...continually just making payroll (for the first time a day late this past Monday) and going behind in funds then coming up and and and...celebrating because we can buy good white paint to paint our kitchen... it looks so much better! And so glad we can put in proper sidewalks ..at least some of them... It does not seem that is the way it should be .. There is a problem, am I not being forthright enough in letting others know what our needs are? Is this pushing ahead of Holy Spirit ?... I hope not ... my hope is, it is Him stirring me to a more pro-active stance. As you have read, we just completed moving 23 babies to another baby care center.... We have also since the new year began, dealt with having 7 babies and two older children coming to our gate. (20 minutes ago a 1 month old baby with a mentally deranged mom). Three of them we took to Kondanai early in Feb, then, a few days ago, another who was 8 days old. Tomorrow morning, arrangements are being made to deliver this 1 month old to go to Kondanai also. They say they now have space for only two more babies. The other two babies, a 9 and an 11 month old were sent back to their village with relatives by the Social Services Officer, with the promise he would come next week and assist. He is expecting to take them to another home who have stated they have only one place left. The older two children are going to SOS. So who is going to pick up the slack ??.....we need funds to prepare and do the job, ladies with mothering experience, who can teach our ladies how to care and how to play, people to teach (we will need a qualified teacher to teach six grade 9 students in September) , an accountant/ administrator.... We need funds to do so many things....We need to build good places for them all to live. All of this is so far above our abilities, it is laughable to us, but then the last 7 years have been that way. It really is no laughing matter but a saving and equipping of lives matter. We welcome your comments and questions. That's a fact!!

Please meet some of our wonderful staff... baby care ladies, childcare workers, teachers, guards, and maintenance people, time keepers and and \O/Stop and look at their faces.... You are welcome to visit our web site for past news letters and an average monthly expense summary. The web site address is below. Please e-mail us if you care to join us in any way.



If Poppa's calling u to assist or to come here don't delay.....if not please pray and please share this with friends and companies who have hearts to help.

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 Web: www.freewebs.com/tiyamike-center/

ABOVE Real lives..... Real people.... Real Joys ...Real Heartbreaks.....Real Hardships of all kinds.....100 plus families... You affect the lives of about 500 people plus extended families thru the jobs provided at TMC.... In the long run this place will not get smaller as long as HIV is rampantWith the transfer of 23 babies to Kondanai we have a short time and of course only with funds can we better prepare for the future little ones coming. The time is near when the other homes say sorry we are at our maximum!!!! This is not to forget the ongoing costs for our older children , food, medical, clothing, the primary school...finishing and equipping the secondary school. Installing a sewer system. Raising our staffs wages, developing our boys site with new bore hole and gardens and and and...there is much happening here, we need 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) 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!!!!Thank you. God is so Good!!! With much love Will n Pam