

Tiyamike Mulungu Center

Our Goal since 2003: "Children's lives being made whole thru family love and care"



Hello everyone , family , friends, friends of friends , and friends to be.....

A what's been happening at TMC Greetings from Bangula as I sit typing battling the bugs as the electrical company has the power on sharing basis and I am using a rechargeable flashlight (which is great to have!) the bugs do seem to be drawn to it \O/ I can hear the baby care ladies visiting away and at times the childrens voices as they are rounded up for circle time (a wind down , pray and share and see how they did today time) ... the hum of Tiyamike at 7:05 thursday evening ... it is a dark night and I hear the crickets sawing away their song....

It has been an amazing day starting with having a staff and older children, scripture sharing time at 6:45 am of which a part is the eighty-plus of us standing in a circle holding hands and dancing first to the right then to the left singing a jewish song ... something like Ava gareeah.. Ava gareeha... well I am not sure what we sing but we sure have fun .. then our stores man now called Dr. Ho leads us in a one, two , three.... HO!!! We do that three times getting louder each time!!! All moving to the center still holding hands and raising them to the Lord!!! It is wild with much fun and smiles and laughter everywhere... We have been doing the weekday morning scripture for well over a year now and the dancing intermittently for about two months... it is a great way to start the day !!!!

So after the day starter, we had a morning meeting at which I (Will) have the task of letting two ladies go and deciding whether to let an older lady who has knee problems go or what what... \O/ Help Lord..... and help he did so well! The first lady we ended up praying for as she accepted Jesus. She was empty of love for the babies, so it seemed to her supervisors and the second lady Mrs thundercloud face, soon had a smile that didn't quit as she also accepted Jesus and then our older lady with tears... dancing out the door, it seemed with healed knees and thankfulness at God's love.... It is always a challenge to keep the employer hammer from being the reason people accept our Lord and good friend that one and only the Jewish carpenter (in his younger years.) So if you are a bit of a skeptic (which I fight myself) just think of it as we will see the fruit and carry on. From what we could tell it was so real and heart depth stuff YEEHAW would be one way to phrase my perception of the morning oh and then we had one of our baby lady want to be prayed for filling of Holy Spirit , it was beautiful, managers... she was there to say what the two ladies were not doing well who we thought we were having to let go. Another worker in our house also got prayed for baptism in/by Holy Spirit. Hmmm this was all before team from World Duty free stores came, you will read about them below.

So back to bugs n lights out... I am waiting for Pam and our friend and co-hort Mary to return from Nsanje Hospital where we have had to take one of our little guys "Moses or Mosey as we call him" Nsanje Hospital is about 40 minutes south of us and the road is paved (tarmack, hardtop, asphalt) depending on where you live and the terminology.. Unfortunately the distance from the major center (Blantyre) is considerable and often there are shortages of everything so we far prefer to go directly to Blantyre however the road Well on and on... Mosey is staying in the hospital tonight(with a care lady) and Pam and Mary should arrive anytime for supper... across the yard the standard eights (grade eights) and the form 1 and 2's are studying for exams coming so soon here in Malawi. Just heard from Pam and Mosey is staying in the hospital tonight and is now unconscious hopefully from the sedatives thru the IV. He has had some seizures and we are concerned.

*Will n Pam Phillips Cells: 0888-202-330 or 0888 -206-222
P.O. Box 11 Blantyre, Malawi, Located along the Airstrip in Bangula.*

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We had an amazing group of twelve people visit for a few hours today. They are from World Duty Free stores and have brought an irrigation pipe system and are also providing breakfast fortified porridge for all our children until next February What a blessing!!!! They also brought so many little knitted dolls and bears for the children, clothes and shoes and even funds humbling and over whelming for us as to timing, as we are actually a bit short now and needed the injection quite a bit.

Our chicken venture has resulted in two of our managers and myself almost selling the same chickens to three different parties.... I caught on quick enough to head off the issue but what a great problem to have! Considering we were concerned about finding buyers for our broilers....It looks like selling them is no problem at all. Eggs are the next issue as we are unable to buy eggs locally periodically so we should have a good market for eggs. So ordered 120 more and will probably boost that tomorrow as I have now found out we have house large enough to have 200 chickens in them. What do I know about gardens / chickens \O/ hmmm more than I did a few months ago...

It has been a season of building/renovating and bringing things up a notch or ten.... We are in the final stages of a five stall flush toilet (75%) for our Boys site YEEHAW!!!! And should have another school room done this week.... (renovated out of the carpenter shop area) and a carpenter shop/storage area built beside our from entry which we see in the future becoming a small store and then where for the carpenters \O/ perhaps the boys site?? One of the smilingest projects almost completed just awaiting grass roofing, is our two roundovals (round grass roofed buildings with open design) which are in front of our school building will be (and are already) great for the kids to sit in and in future even outdoor classes when too hot inside...

We have also moved six of our boys 18 years and older into a rented house, they eat with us and go to school here as well . They were so excited to move out and are pumped to be on their own, a bit scary for us but they seem to be doing well. We have employed them part-time to give them some financial training and responsibility and they pay for the rent themselves. We are listening/looking for a suitable house for our older girls and one of them has two sisters that really need to be in better care situation. Having space opened up at the boys site allowed us to move six of our 12 year olds over, which made room for a much needed office which we have just renovated and are painting....

And we have started on a sitting room , small kitchen and office for Pam and I behind our house as we have gradually given our main house over to needed child space especially the library coming into better use and would you believe Wiii games

We have had intercessors praying for our District Commissioner and his wife and last week we had the pleasure of going to meet the new District Commissioner he seems a reasonable man and we look forward to him and members of the Assembly (governing body for the District) coming to visit. This is what we have been asking for years WOW!!!! We actually had the Director for Social Services for Malawi and his team for a visit last week and are much encouraged however the Village Project is going thru bureaucratic hoops one of which is having the approval and such of the Assembly and District Commissioner. We had apparent initial encouragement from the previous DC however it never got to the point of him really getting behind it which was not and is not understandable. We have 70,000 plus bricks on site just waiting to turn into a house asap. The bore hole (water well) is working and much appreciated by our Village Project neighbors.

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The main thrust of Government is to have children in Malawian homes preferably relatives which of course is the best of scenarios all around! Reality is the relatives are for the most part so impoverished here in the Nsanje it isn't reasonable or workable without much input and development. What is needed is jobs, housing improvements, to mention just two major hurdles!

We have had a bit of a false start with our garden efforts at the boys site but hopefully on track now and expecting produce in August! The new irrigation system is exactly what we were wanting to get and even had gone to the same supplier to get quotes earlier this year.. \O/ the supplier is even coming down to help install it! So we need shade system in place soon and we hope to have year around vegetables \O/....

And we are applying for single phase power to the boys site which has always failed in the past but as we found four chickens to sell to the power people (Escom) they have said come in and make an application so we are looking for electricity at our boys site! Maybe in the next couple months... what a change that would be! Electric submersible pump for watering garden and lights for study and lights for going to the toilet at night and lights to make the chickens grow and grow and grow... and heat to keep the young chicks warm ... YES even in Bangula at least during our weather now and thru to August it can get to having to have a blanket as well as a sheet at night \O/.....

I didn't mention I took a break for supper (by candlelight) and now lights are back on ... bugs are gone ... life is good!!!! And Pam is soon home from hospital....

Just got a call and the ladies hit and killed a cow on way home so we are headed back to try to salvage the meat as it will cost much....sure glad we didn't repaint our little truck \O/.... ... We went to the police station to report the accident with the cow and after considerable waiting and were able to take a police officer with us to look for the cow... having another police officer in the back of our big truck (what an amazing vehicle this has been!!!) and five of our men gathered for the purpose of hoisting the cow to bleed it out... and thinking oh no we will be too late to salvage the meat So the pressure was on well driving back to the site and finding no blood , no vehicle debris and no cow was a puzzle ... had I not seen our little truck I would think it was a definite grey moment for Pam and Mary.... Quite a bit of damage but had she been going faster they could have been hurt so badly so very thankful me and TMC here!!!! We got along well with the police officer and agreed to write report the next day (yesterday) ... I was glad the cow was gone as the only experience I have had in butchering cattle was about 30 years ago when a friend had about 20 plus head of feeder cattle get into green feed and bloated , it looked like a battle field ... with carcasses everywhere and using frontend loaders to lift the carcasses to allow us to use chain saws filled with vegetable oil for lubrication to section the carcasses... well you get the picture So here I am 30 years or more later trying to recall what I could do to deal with this cow. You will laugh when I confess we took our laptop (with an Aircard or as we call it a dongle) so Pam could try to internet info to help me know what to do Oh how the angels must laugh \O/ so no cow!

The next day (Friday) arrived to soon, but a great time with the morning "HO JESU" (we take to mean COME JESUS) time and by the way during all this we have workers building a sitting room/ small kitchen/ office space for Pam and I as we have gradually given our main house over to the kids.

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The library will be much more available when we stop using the main house sitting room area and at last we will have a get away place other than our bedroom ... hey its only been ten years... why rush ?

Back to the story of our life here. I realized my temporary drivers license had expired, we have temps while wait for new ones when we have to renew here. And we have funds from the visitors which we need to take to the forex dealer to have Malawi Kwacha deposited in our account so we don't have to institute a fasting program for the staff and children ... now that would not go over well \O/ especially with the babies! This means one of our men who has a license to drive the big truck goes to Blantyre to look after the issues and since the small truck is out of commission Pam has to drive to Nchalo to pick up 120 newly hatched chicks, since I do not have a current license \O/. All is well until Pam calls saying she has hit our truck mirror on another parked truck as she drove to Nchalo. Since time was an issue to get to pick up the chicks she kept going... with me thinking oh no we have a hit and run situation about to come down on us. Well grace grace such wonderful grace.... That afternoon the traffic policeman who had ridden out with us the night before came to see the little truck and get Pam's statement as it turned out there is no statement at this point as the cow has disappeared, the vehicle debris has disappeared, the blood on the road has disappeared and that is that! I wonder if it was because the owner was not supposed to have his cows on the road at night ??? But as I showed the gentleman around TMC and as he saw what was happening here he was amazed and blown away saying "from the outside it looks small but inside it is very large so much going on!" I had to agree. As it turned out I told him about Pam hitting the truck mirror and it is still within his jurisdiction so he is the one for her to report to in that regard. So Pam and Epheson are in Nchalo picking up chicks and chicken feed and then back they come to find the truck and hopefully the driver. They did find him even thou it was now dark and his truck was undamaged as it had a mirror support of strong steel and that was the contact point. The issue was some children were playing under the truck at the time and one of them apparently received a cut on their shoulder. Pam left our phone number with the driver to give to the childs family and here at 4 pm, Saturday, no call as yet. The driver said they did not take the child to medical care so it must not have been serious. We still await the results from however they will come and Pam is now going to report this issue to the officer. He may want to go to the village? We will see.

So the report from Nsanje Hospital is that Mosey is resting much better and they want to keep him the weekend to watch him.... We are expecting to whisk him to Blantyre early next week if no answers arise soon.

It is now 5:57 pm and the dinner buzzer has gone and I have had about four "Video tonight Poppa?" My answer "Is Escom Power staying on tonight?" Ha Ha... well maybe ???

Well that is an overview , yes there was much more happening \O/ But at least an overview and some fodder for you prayer warriors and info for others and however , whatever.... Always with his great and amazing grace oh by the way we heard from our friends transferring funds from USA Duane and Emily, we should have funds Monday Isnt God good!!! Much love to all especially our grand-grand children BIG HUGS!!! Grama n Grampa aka Will n Pam

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