

Our thanks for your prayers for Evan Winter and Malcolm Franks during their recent visit to Malawi and their meetings with Disciples of Jesus Church. Representing SaltMalawi trustees, Evan and Malcolm were welcomed by Malawian Church leaders and new relationships formed. John Seda, on behalf of the Church, described their vision, emphasising enthusiastic commitment to continuing growth and to ongoing partnership with SaltMalawi. John Seda and Biliati Ngoma hosted the week-long visit, giving briefings on recent growth and Church needs. Evan and Malcolm also met with all the Church trustees and contributed to joint-planning discussions. They left with valuable information and unforgettable impressions to help strengthen links with the Malawian Church and to focus the support we give. We look forward to ever



Evan preaches at Nyombe Church as John translates



John and Biliati help Malcolm to nsima (maize), mustard, and egg dish

closer ties as these new relationships develop.

Please support us in prayer as we seek to respond to requests for help ranging from administration and finance, through orphan care, mercy work to the elderly and poor, food for the hungry, training on topics from discipleship to business skills, as well as a range of facilities from bicycles to mobile phones.

Meanwhile Julian and Caroline Lott have been preparing for their return visit to Malawi. Julian writes: "Please continue to pray for Caroline and me over the next 10 weeks or so. On Monday 9th September we leave for our latest visit to Malawi. We expect to be based in our home in the mountains near Dedza for part of the time. However, we anticipate the necessity of travelling for part of the visit as we meet our church leaders around the country. There has been dramatic growth in the Church over the last 2 or 3 years and we have the wonderful problems of helping new churches establish strong foundations and of equipping new church leaders. We expect to be mainly involved in training and teaching during the whole visit.

Please pray for our protection on the roads, for good health and strength throughout the trip, for grace and wisdom as we engage with new people and situations, for discernment and for the necessary

spiritual gifts to enable us to be the people that God wants us to be at all times. Thank you for your support and encouragement “.

Political unrest continues following the May presidential election result. Protesters allege irregularities in the electoral commission's handling of the vote. President Mutharika has warned that he will use force to protect planned disruptions by demonstrators at airports and border points. Please pray for justice and peace throughout Malawi. Please pray for protection for visitors travelling via Lilongwe Airport. We give thanks that a judicial moratorium on protests came at exactly the right time to enable Evan and Malcolm to avoid any difficulties.

Did you know that you can follow our team's visits on Facebook? You don't have to be a dedicated social media user. Just go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SaltMalawi/> and click Join to apply for membership. After a short wait you should receive the go-ahead to view our posts.



Banet carries timber to be used in firing bricks for a new Church building at Chabwanda

The Disciples of Jesus Church is led by 4 Malawian trustees (John Seda, Biliati Ngoma, Aroni Sanikonda and Josephy Chisungeni). These men need our prayers as they grow into their roles while the Church experiences dramatic growth. Each trustee is supported by two key men selected from local Church leadership. So a wider team of 12 is being developed to shepherd the work across the country. Praise God for these men! Pray for them, many with limited experience and working with local Church leaders who themselves may have been believers for a very short time. Travel is arduous - we heard of one brother who walks for a day each way every week to take the gospel to a distant village. Please pray too as we seek to source training materials suitable for village folk, to help new Churches grow secure foundations quickly.



Disciples of Jesus Church Trustees - left to right Aroni, John, Biliati, Josephy



John's dramatic Gospel presentation at a Preaching Station in Thundu village, supported by Banet & Mbozi Church members

During our visit we learned of over 50 villages where Churches are established or are being planted. Many of these embryonic, vulnerable Churches are themselves seeking to plant others in response to opportunities beyond their villages. Over 20% of these Churches currently operate 'Preaching Stations' in other villages and so the good news of Jesus Christ is spread.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and prayers for the many orphaned children who have been cared for on the Farm for several years. The authorities are now insisting that all orphans are returned to their villages. The rationale for this change of policy is unclear but for us this means that eight children must be returned to families where they were previously without care. The children have become accustomed to loving family relationships and to receiving good standards of care and education. Return to their former existence would be painful for them and very damaging. SaltMalawi has been helping the team as they work with Social Services on a plan to enable care and education to continue under the supervision of local Church leaders. Our trustees hope to be able to provide the funding required, extending out for several years. This is an opportunity for the children to be well looked after and for Church leaders to grow, but it carries many clear risks.

Please pray for wisdom for the team as they establish the organisation and processes needed to ensure that funds follow the children and are not diverted elsewhere. Please pray for local Church leaders as they liaise with the families' guardians. Most of all please pray for the protection of the children and for new loving relationships to grow around them.

Please continue to pray for Malawians in the South of the country struck earlier this year by cyclones and torrential rains. 5 village Churches in Nsanje District, near the Mozambique border, report their villages receiving no direct aid at all. Villagers returning from evacuation camps have no homes, no possessions and little or no food. As the world's media and relief agencies move on, villagers travel widely seeking scarce, poorly paid piece-work to feed their families. Meanwhile the work of reconstruction stalls and resources are almost non-existent. SaltMalawi is funding an emergency feeding programme via the southern Churches as a contribution towards meeting this desperate need. We will continue to monitor the situation carefully and stand ready to send more aid as the usual 'hunger season' approaches. Things can only be expected to get worse, at least until the next harvest around March next year.

And finally, the work of SaltMalawi is growing and becoming more diverse. So we are praying for additional new trustees and volunteers. Will you consider joining us in this exciting and challenging work? Please get in touch via info@saltmalawi.org.



Nyombe women lead the Church in song and dance

You can contact Julian & Caroline by email at - lottsinmalawi@gmail.com

or by letter at - PO Box 381, Dedza, Malawi, Africa

Financial gifts can be made via - SaltMalawi Ltd Charitable Trust, 89 Montrose Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 7DR

Email – treasurer@saltmalawi.org

Website - www.saltmalawi.org Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SaltMalawi/>

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