

Julian and Caroline Lott returned home safely from Malawi in the middle of February.

In this latest newsletter we will be reporting on their visit.

Thank you to everyone who was praying for their trip and for the church in Malawi.

It might be helpful for us to take the opportunity to take our eyes off the many pressures that we face at home and witness what God is doing in another region of our troubled world. There is much to encourage us, as well as to remind us to hold up our brothers and sisters in prayer before our merciful Father.

## **Church growth**

Over the past few years the national church has witnessed much growth for which we give thanks to God. From a base of 25 churches in 2018, there are now well over 60 churches across Malawi and Mozambique. Importantly most of this growth has occurred because of the work of the Malawians themselves as they visit new areas, preach, baptise and disciple new converts.



Baptisms at Lifu

Nonetheless there remain significant challenges. Especially the need to teach and disciple newly formed churches in remote areas. A significant part of the Lotts' trip focused on the training of church leaders from the four regions of the country. With the help of material produced by the Mathethes Trust we have been equipping our Malawian churches to teach church members to know God better and keep in step with His Holy Spirit.

Julian and Caroline worked alongside John Seda and Biliat Ngoma to run four conferences for church leaders. God's presence was tangibly manifested among these men and women throughout most of these times. The lives of



Church leaders studying the Mathethes Trust "Rooted in Jesus"

several were changed as He brought conviction of sin or apathy, gifts of the Holy Spirit were given generously to many, and teaching was received that took the majority to a new place in their walk with God.



A lady praying after the conference

Seda in particular experienced what he described as new power in his teaching and ministry during these conferences. He and his wife are now putting into practice plans made with the Lotts for them to spend more time in

the South of Malawi (and the neighbouring regions of Mozambique) where they can help what is the fastest growing region in terms of new churches and members.

Several new leaders were added to the management of the national church.



Moses, Biliat, Joseph, Aaron, Andrew, Charles and John Trustees of the Church of the Disciples of Jesus

The Lotts found the village of Tsumba which neighbours their home in Malawi to be particularly receptive to them and to their ministry. The village church was renewed, and the weekly visit to the village led to an open air



The villagers at Tsumba saying goodbye to Julian & Caroline

meeting which was popular among people who did not wish to join the church but wanted to pray and hear teaching from God's Word.

## Floods

Sadly Malawi was badly affected by tremendous tropical storms both during the visit and afterwards that led to much damage and loss of life, crops and homes.



SaltMalawi were able to fund 300 bags of maize to be transported to the affected area (above). There were logistical problems as the hired lorry broke down and there was a four day wait (in a remote area) until a replacement was able to complete the journey (below).



## **Prayer requests**

- For the church leaders to teach faithfully and accurately what they have learned
- For food help throughout the year for the area affected by the storms
- For protection for the leadership team as they attempt to reach the unreached
- For the growth of the kingdom of God within Tsumba village

SaltMalawi supports the work of the Disciples of Jesus churches in Malawi that were founded by Julian and Caroline Lott and are now under Malawian leadership

You can contact Julian & Caroline by email at - <a href="mailto:lottsinmalawi@gmail.com">lottsinmalawi@gmail.com</a>

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