

Thank you for praying for Julian's trip to Malawi during July. Despite some significant obstacles he travelled safely and managed to achieve all that he had hoped to accomplish during this month-long visit.



A husband and wife seated outside their traditional house in Tsumba together with John Seda

The problems facing people are not easing up. During his visit Julian spoke with village families facing real hunger in the coming months, some of whom are surviving now due to the generosity of family members. He was unable to buy fuel for the vehicles because of national shortages of both diesel and petrol meaning some of the planned travelling had to be cancelled. And he witnessed many people struggling with huge increases in the day-to-day cost of living.

Julian verified that the team led by John had managed to buy and store over 650 x 50 kg bags of maize in preparation for helping the poor in the church when the crisis of food shortages becomes more intense. Praise God for this.

The principal work of the Church of the Disciples of Jesus in Malawi, supported by SaltMalawi, remains the preaching of the gospel and the making of disciples who are taught to put into practice the teachings of Jesus. Julian accompanied John and Charles in visiting the churches in the district of Chikwawa in the south of the country. They taught a group of church leaders, some of whom had travelled on foot for over 12 hours in order to reach the gathering. This area was one of those badly affected by Storm Freddie as previously reported.



The district of Chikwawa with the Shire River

The people in the church at the village at Lengwe in Chikwawa were excited to meet the visitors. They begged them to make a return visit later this year.

The work is not limited to established church groups. The picture below shows villagers at Tsumba, close to the Village of Light, meeting outdoors to hear teaching, despite the relative chill of the cold season.



The church at Lengwe Chikwawa celebrating in dance and song



An outdoor meeting for Bible teaching at Tsumba village



Women from Tsumba village sit on the ground sheltering under thin cotton chitenges from the cold

A major part of the visit was spent training leaders, many of whom have had little or no schooling. The group below which met on the farm are principally from the district of Dedza. Julian was greatly encouraged by their ability to understand the teaching and from the reports of the work they do in establishing groups to study the Rooted in Jesus course that he had taught on previous visits.

We give God thanks for the positive way in which Julian, and the teaching he brings, continues to be well received by the village at Tsumba, for the encouragement of the leaders who live sacrificially in order to bring the gospel

to many new places, and for the growth of the work generally.

Over the coming months please do pray for God's intervention and help for the church families (and others) to find food, for the protection of those on the farm who are looking after the stored maize, and for lasting fruit from the teaching given to the church leaders.

The photo below shows the relative undeveloped nature of the region around the Village of Light.



The leaders of churches in Dedza district after teaching at the Village of Light



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

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