

Thank you to everyone who prayed for Julian and Nigel during their visit to Malawi in October to December last year.



Nigel Roe making new friends at the Village of Light

The principal reason for the visit was to encourage the church and provide training for her leaders. Four leaders' conferences were held over a 6 week period. These continued the equipping of the church to run small groups in the various communities. These groups are intended to further the discipleship of the church members. Please pray for the protection of our team of leaders, and that God will raise up more workers in His harvest field that is Malawi at this time.

Leaders came to the conferences from the districts of Lilongwe, Kasungu, Dowa & Ntchisi, Dedza, Nsanje and Chikwawa as well as from parts of Mozambique. Reflecting that the church now is actively present in over one half of the Central region of Malawi, there remains some way to go before we reach the majority of the southern or the northern regions.

The country is facing many challenges at present. There is yet another fuel crisis. In the course of his visit Julian was only able to find fuel on 2 occasions. Naturally this limited his freedom to travel as he would have wanted. Praise God that he had enough fuel to get to Lilongwe in November in order to run a 3 day conference and collect Nigel from the airport and return to his home in Dedza.



Dedza leaders after the final conference at the Village of Light showing their Rooted in Jesus 2 materials



The rains began in good time this year.

Sadly this was not the case last year. There is currently significant hunger in most of our churches. With the help of SaltMalawi the church has been able to buy more than 30 tons of maize which has recently been distributed among these districts to the church members who are most in need. 1220 families have been helped with this lifeline. The church is so grateful to everyone who has helped to make this possible.

Unfortunately there appears to be little maize left in the country. That which is there is far too expensive for ordinary people to buy. Yet the next harvest will not be until March/April

at the earliest. Please pray that in their hunger the people will remember to turn to their Heavenly Father for help, and that He will supply their need.



Women from Tsumba village carrying home gifts of maize

Cholera and malaria are major life-threatening problems at the moment, although it is notable that cholera is limited in its spread to the towns and cities. Please pray for the protection of the church.

The countries of southern Africa rely on maize as their staple food. Maize requires good amounts of rain and sunshine at the right times, as well as sufficient nutrients in the soil. For Malawi this means that fertilisers are necessary for there to be a good harvest. The war in Ukraine is affecting the supply of both fertiliser and the elements required to make fertiliser (See Daily Telegraph 17 January 2023) to much of the world. The cost of a bag of fertiliser in Malawi has risen from 35,000 Kwacha in 2022 to about 80,000 this year. It is far beyond the reach of the average person living in a village. For very many families this would be more money than they see in an entire year. For a good harvest traditional farming methods require at least 2 bags of fertiliser for a 2 acre field! The fear is that there will be another very great food shortage after the current growing season.

There is much for which to give thanks. The successful training conferences in which many leaders encountered the Lord in a fresh way, the fact that Julian and Nigel did manage to obtain some maize

during their visit which provided help for the local village and the continuing good relations between the local village chief and John and Julian. We are so grateful for your continuing partnership with us that facilitates visits such as these and the provision of emergency help. Most of all we know that the entire church is helped beyond measure by your prayers. Bless you so much.



A picture showing the difficulties of aid distribution. A road degenerating into a dirt track in the south of the country.
NB Note the deforestation. This road used to run through a forest!

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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