

I WILL GIVE THANKS TO YOU, LORD, WITH ALL MY HEART;
I WILL TELL OF ALL YOUR WONDERFUL DEEDS.
PSALMS 9:1 NIV



heart to heart

NEWSLETTER

Second Quarter

Jehovah Jireh Project - Loving the Orphans of Kasungu, Malawi

Vol. 1, Issue 2 • 2024



It's Harvest Time in Malawi!

MAIZE (corn) is the main staple food crop in Malawi, accounting for as much 80% of cultivated land. The growing season starts in November and goes through April. Harvesting normally starts in April and goes through June. Malawi's food security depends on maize. If the land yields a poor maize harvest, the people will suffer.

During the farming season everyone, including the children, in the two *Jehovah Jireh Project* (JJP) homes work in the fields. As we have emphasized before, it is important for the children to participate in chores as part of the family.

The first 3 years JJP was able to lease 4 acres of farm land for the maize crop. This year we were able to lease 6 acres. Keep in mind that all of the work in the fields are done by hand with no machinery. After the bumper crop this year, the JJP Board decided to purchase a corn sheller because there was just too much maize to effectively process.

The maize harvest provides the main food source for the two orphan homes throughout the year. If the crops do really well, surplus can be sold to provide a source of income. The maize crop is part of our long-range plan to move JJP toward self-sufficiency.



Pastor Justin helps unload bags of maize from the leased truck.

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will reward them for what they have done. ~ PROVERBS 19:17



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Bloom Jr.
President

Titus Miller
Vice-President

Susan Johnson
Secretary

Dean Holland
Treasurer

John Henning
Advisor



OUR MOTIVATION

Matthew 25:34-36

OUR VISION

To provide Christ-centered solutions to help the poor and underprivileged living in poverty in Kasungu, Malawi, Africa become financially self-sufficient followers of Christ so that they may be able to disciple others.

OUR MISSION

A Judeo-Christian ministry designed to show the love of Christ by providing relief for the poor, the distressed, and underprivileged in Kasungu, Malawi, Africa. Focus is primarily on housing, food, clothing, shelter, potable water, faith-based education, vocational training and other assistance to become financially self-sufficient.

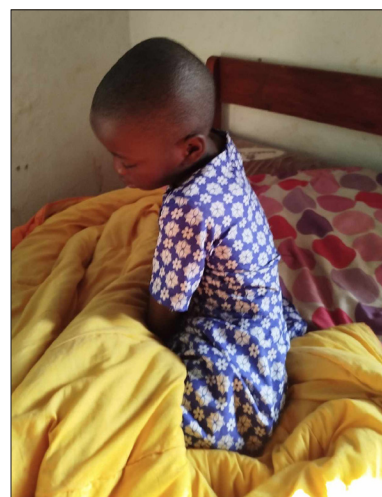


Disease is a Serious Problem in Malawi

Malaria is a disease caused by a parasite that is spread to humans through the bites of infected mosquitoes. People who have malaria usually feel very sick with a high fever and shaking chills. Transmission in Malawi peaks during the rainy season from November to April. It kills three people in Malawi every day and accounts for 15% of all hospital admissions.

Since January, *almost* everyone in the two orphan homes has had malaria... from babies to adults. Some have even had it twice. This year has been worse than most because there has been more rain, therefore more mosquitoes.

When someone gets sick from malaria and doesn't improve on their own, Pastor Justin is forced to take the child to a medical center for treatment and/or hospitalization. Recently, two of the children, Grace and Chisomo (who they call Mafunacy) were not improving after receiving medication for malaria so they were taken back to a medical facility and diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB). The treatment for TB is costly, running about \$260 per child for treatment that involves multiple antibiotics taken over many months. Despite free government services, inpatients were estimated to incur a mean of \$137 per initial TB episode, corresponding to greater than 50% of annual household spending. Non medical



Chisomo "Mafunacy" Banda

hospitalization costs accounted for 88% of this total.

The malaria vaccine is being provided as part of the under-five routine immunization program in some areas of Malawi. The only prevention, that we are aware of to date for the older children and adults, are pills that are taken every 3 months. The cost is \$20 per pill. We are currently looking into all options concerning this disease and would appreciate your prayers for healing and guidance as we search for treatment options.

If you would like to donate to help with this current situation, please go to our website at www.jjp-malawi.org or scan the QR code to the right and click the MEDICAL CARE button.



Grace and Chisomo "Mafunacy"



Pastor Justin's wife Chrissy and son Blessings, help bag up the maize the field.
All the children help with the harvest.

FINANCES

APRIL 1 - MAY 24, 2024

Beginning Balance	\$2,465.44
Income.....	\$21,268.70
Expenses:	
New Toilet.....	1345.00
Malaria Meds/Doctor Visit.....	93.99
April Monthly Dispersement- Includes School Fees	3545.00
Bags for Maize.....	410.98
May Monthly Dispersement- Includes Corn Sheller, Cement for Barn Repair & 2025 Land Lease.....	3545.00
Total Expenses.....	\$8,839.97
Balance	\$14,894.17

A note from Susan ...



Susan Johnson
Secretary
Jehovah Jireh Project

James 1:27 is a verse God has firmly planted in my heart from a young age. I remember well how He spoke these words over me often while my husband and I fostered children in our home. He reminded me many times that what He calls us to do is not always easy, but we're here for a better purpose than ease. *"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."*

My mother was orphaned at a very early age, first due to alcohol in the home, then by the early deaths of her parents because of it. She shared with me the stories of how she had to care for her baby sister when she was not old enough to know how to do it properly. She shared the stories of not-so-great foster homes, and the fear that always plagued her about possibly being separated from her sister. She was so malnourished, she had to stay at "fresh-air" camps in order to help her gain weight. She was a true orphan, but in the middle of her distress, God showed up through the hands and feet of His people. My mom's entire life trajectory was changed by one Christian lady who demonstrated love to her as a child. My mom knew by watching this woman's example that her life did not have to end the tragic way her parents' did. She grew up to be a pastor's wife who helped hundreds of people in their distress. Understand the important role you may play in the life of someone needing your help.

Deuteronomy 10:18 says, *"He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving him food and clothing."* This verse highlights God's character – He actively defends and provides for those who are vulnerable.

James 2:14-16 teaches that faith without action is meaningless. *"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but his actions do not demonstrate it? Can that faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you tells him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?"* Caring for orphans is a way to demonstrate genuine faith.

Lastly, Isaiah 1:17 teaches us to *"Learn to do right! Seek justice, defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."* This verse calls on believers to actively pursue justice and defend the rights of the vulnerable, including orphans. These verses paint a clear picture: God cares deeply for orphans, and He calls on us to do the same. Our faith should compel us to reach out, offering practical help and compassion to those who have lost their parents.

*... look after
orphans and
widows in their
distress and to
keep oneself from
being polluted by
the world."*

MAY 23

Board Meeting Notes

Board Meetings are typically held the third Thursday of each month in the New Philadelphia Nazarene Youth Building and we welcome anyone who wishes to attend.

- **6 Acre land lease for next year's corn crop:** \$400 approved by the board.
- **Damage to barn from animals:** \$115 approved to repair by the board.
- **Winter coats:** \$320 Approved by the board.
- **Corn Sheller:** \$650 for a used corn sheller approved by the board.
- **Malaria prevention medication discussion:** \$20/dose, 3x yearly per person. 38 people live in the 2 homes. Discussion tabled until next meeting.
- **Path to Self-Sufficiency:** animals, corn, bikes, sewing are all ways to promote self-sufficiency and Justin is working hard toward this goal
- **Transportation:** Discussion on the purchase of an automobile. Rick shared that it's not a good idea yet, as gas is not available. Discussed oxen as a means to transport goods. Will discuss with Pastor Justin.
- **Chicken BBQ Fundraiser:** Rick will call Matt Tharp to see if he does BBQs.
- **Paint Class Fundraiser:** Christy and Connie to lead painting class, \$50 per person, July 20, 9am to noon.

These 8 Children are Still in Need of Sponsors



Brandina
Age 14



Grace
Age 12



Jane
Age 18



Alina
Age 16



Isaac
Age 13



Maria
Age 16



Mbwana
Age 13

Please call Rick at (330)340-2327 or go to www.jjp-malawi.org for more information on sponsoring a child.



1045 Clearview Dr. SE
New Philadelphia, OH 44663



We are a 501(c)(3) charitable
organization, EIN 93-2430364.

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #13
44629

Annual Dinner & Fundraiser Raises Over \$10,000!



Our second annual fundraiser was held on Saturday, April 27, 2024. We would like to thank Pastor Rob Coburn and his wonderful congregation for hosting the event at The Summit Church in Dover. We had a lot of positive feedback, and people said they really enjoyed the evening. We raised over \$10,000, and were able to secure 16 more child sponsors, and 2 more pastor's family sponsors. We thank God for His many blessings and for all of you!



Tehovah Jireh Fundraiser...

WATERCOLOR & INK PAINTING CLASS

July 20 • 9 – 11ish

New Philadelphia Nazarene Youth Building behind the Church

Cost for the class is \$50 (Fee includes supplies)

Reservations are necessary, as seating is limited.

Deadline for reservations is Sunday, July 14.

Please call Christy Bloom at 330-204-5594 to sign up.