

DAVID, JENNIE, JOSHUA, REBEKAH GRACE, JUSTUS, CHARITY, HOPE Dear Saints, April 2023

We hope and trust you are well. The past two months have been interesting to say the least We were sent out of the church which my dad and mom (Ron and Mary Robinson) started, Northstar Baptist Church, in 2008 to go to Malawi to preach the gospel. At that time, the Assistant Pastor of the church was Bro Daniel Grotke.

He was among those who were the first to "believe in" our calling and was instrumental in supporting us as we got started in the work. It was those who were closest to us who were our heaviest supporters and who God used to make it possible for us to go. Since that time the Lord called brother Grotke and his family to go and minister in the country of Norway. They were sent out of our home church and have now been there for the past few years. The Lord has seen fit to bless their work there to the point to where they were desirous to get involved in foreign missions. Amazingly, our sending church, and those who have been supportive since day one, once again got together and raised the funds for our family to be able to go and spend ten days holding some "Missions Emphasis" Sundays in Norway teaching about missions as well as presenting the ministry in Malawi to the congregation there. What an incredible and humbling experience it was to be able to encourage this young congregation in the right ways to be involved in world-wide missions work. Please pray that the Lord would bring to pass some of the plans which were committed to the Lord during that time. There is a good group of folks there and they genuinely desire to take some missions trips and support some foreign missionaries. PLEASE PRAY that the Lord would lead them in the steps to come so that they will truly fulfil what the Lord is leading them to do.

From there we were back in the saddle with the ministry in Malawi. We are continuing to go as far as we can with the Light Baptist Church building project. The project is going amazingly well! It is (so far as I know) the only Independent Baptist Church building which has ever been built in Malawi that is DIRECTLY on the M1 main north to south road in the county. It has been a miracle of sorts since the day we were able to buy the plot. Although the building is not finished yet we have decided to go ahead and hold services in the main auditorium while we plug away with the project. Charity Baptist Church continues to do very very well. Pastor Nyirenda is a great pastor and loves the people who he ministers to. His love for the Lord and for the scriptures continues to compel him to go forward in the ministry. This church has long outgrown their building, and desperately needs to move. As of right now we can see the problem, but we have no absolute clear direction from the Lord on what to do about it. Please pray with us. There is a building in Mzuzu that I have been praying about for years and years now. It would be a perfect place to be as a church. I have been telling the men that I work with here for years that the Lord is going to give that building to Charity Baptist one day. Recently, I noticed that the building was chained shut and was informed that the owner wanted to sell it. I haven't even asked the prices or details yet. I am asking for YOUR prayer for God to show HIS will and show HIS hand strong. Please pray with us about this.

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Due to the particular context of fraudulent Malawian "pastors" that I met early on in the ministry here, the Lord showed me to NOT financially support the men who I worked with in the ministry. This was totally against S.O.P. in third world missions work but it has proven to be one of the best decisions I made early on in the ministry. As opposed to riding the missionary gravy train style ministry, the men who would work with me would be destined to be "first proved" before holding a position of leadership in the church. These men have learned to "work with their own hands" to feed their families and have struggled to make ends meet as they have ministered to the congregations that the Lord has planted. This is not to say that I have not helped them and their families on many occasions, but it was a statement to the community to let people know that we take church leadership seriously and that you need to PROVE your work in the ministry just as many of our supporting church pastors have had to do as their congregations develop. Times have changed. According to the workload that the Lord has for us to do here, their working will soon become a hindering factor to what the Lord has us doing together. Although the men all pastor different churches, we have discovered that some of the work of the Lord's work is best done through joint efforts. It is fulfilling these efforts that now consume much of our time these days. Now we constantly find ourselves working around schedules and such in order to make time to fulfill the work that the Lord has given us to do. Although the churches continue to grow in number, the people are still citizens of the second poorest country in the world (Malawi). We have recently been praying as a group over the subject of possibly traveling to the USA and having these men preach in the churches there. In doing so, I have all confidence that the Lord would use these men to be a GREAT encouragement to your churches in the states, as well as lend opportunity to them being able to be at least partially supported. I have done enough things in my life to know that efforts are only worth acting on if GOD is the author and fulfiller of the effort. Please pray with us about this situation. I believe that time is short before the Lord's coming and that I need these men to be able to work with me on a daily full time basis. Again, there are no concrete plans in place, and we need the LORD to move in this matter. Speaking of recent efforts, thousands of gospel tracts went out at our local open air preaching services, and we saw five souls come to Christ on one occasion. At a different location there were fifteen teens who came forward to receive Christ. We praise the Lord for you all loving the Lord enough to give these folks a chance to hear the glorious gospel of grace!

We are only days away from the next Campaigns for Christ effort. This time around we will be holding all the distribution efforts and preaching efforts in the Capital City of Lilongwe. We will be attempting to distribute between 150,000 and 250,000 copies of John & Romans at three different locations around the city. We are holding the public preaching meetings at the nearest open grounds to the different churches that brother Mike Fleuch (an Independent Baptist Missionary) started years ago. The hope is to draw attention to the Independent Baptist Churches that already exist in that area. Hopefully it will be an encouragement and an example to those congregations. We covet your prayer for the lost souls who will attend the preaching meetings. Pray for the preachers, pray for the personal workers, pray for the weather, pray against the wiles of the devil, and pray for the folks who have selflessly raised the funds to come with Campaigns for Christ to come and strengthen our hands in the work.

On the home front, the family is doing fine. I appreciate your ongoing prayers over our family and children. We are so incredibly blessed to have our quiver full, and it is a joy to see them growing into godly young people for the Lord.