

Joseph and Emmanuela Asong

Missio Vibes



March 2019

Dear Partner in Ministry,

Greetings from Lilongwe! From what we hear, many of you are facing a tough winter. We lift you up before the LORD and ask for His special care over you during this challenging season. Here in Malawi, we have experienced more rain than we probably have since we began serving here in 2012. This is great for most of the people here as they rely on agriculture for subsistence. The rain is giving way though, and the weather has become more unpredictable! One day it is raining cats and dogs, the very next day it becomes scorching hot, and then the next is cool. All in all, we give praise to our LORD who knows how to take care of all His people.

KITCHEN OPENING

As you may know, the last four months has seen us working diligently to build a kitchen here in Lilongwe that will primarily serve the ministry that Emmanuela is doing with an average of 50 women in Lilongwe. She teaches these women Cooking and Business. For a long time, she has been operating this ministry in challenging circumstances. But that is now in the past, at least for the women she teaches in Area 38 where the headquarters of the Grace Church is situated. On Friday, February 22, there was so much joy as Grace Ministries International (GMI) missionaries and national leaders of the Grace Church came together to officially open the kitchen. It is awesome that besides serving Emmanuela's classes, this kitchen will also serve the Bible School and other ministries of the Grace Church. Talking about the unpredictability of the weather here, the inauguration started well but it began to rain several minutes after. Thankfully, we had a "plan B"! We all transferred into the kitchen, which accommodated the entire group comfortably. We believe that pictures will tell the story better. As you examine the pictures we share from the inauguration, you will notice that we have not yet equipped the kitchen. Granted, Emmanuela and others will begin to use the facility as it is as we trust the LORD to provide for equipping. Thank you so much for your prayer and financial support for this project so far. If you wish to find out how you can further partner with us in reaching many women here in Lilongwe, the Executive Director of Grace Ministries International, Jeremy Clark, shares how you can do that. God is so good! We thank Him and we praise Him for His manifold blessings!

LOOKING FORWARD

This is proving to be a really busy year, but no matter how busy it gets, we never lose sight of our core commitment—to help the Grace Church in Malawi train godly and competent leaders who will lead strong Grace churches in Malawi that bring people to Christ and establish them in His grace. In March, Joseph and other folks are traveling to Phalombe in the south to conduct the first graduation for our Chichewa Bible Schools. Five students are graduating, including the current chairperson for the Grace Church in Malawi. In June, we will be graduating potentially five students from our English and Chichewa program in Lilongwe. Then in July, Joseph and Dr. Bill Vinton (Grace Ministries International Malawi Field Director) will be traveling to Zambia to train teachers from the southern Africa region who are involved in training leaders for our churches. We are also expecting several guests from the States this year. Please pray with and for us. Ask the LORD to be with us every step of the way as we rely completely on Him to execute the tasks that He has entrusted into our hands. Thank you so much for your support! We send love and best wishes!

Serving with joy,

Joseph, Emmanuela, Princess, and Sammy Parker



All who attended the inauguration of the Kitchen



Princess and Parker preparing for the inauguration



Armed for the rains on the day of the inauguration

PICTURE COLLAGE OF THE ASONGS' MINISTRIES - MARCH 2019



GMI Missionary Bill Vinton cutting the ribbon



Bill Vinton giving remarks at the inauguration



Joseph giving remarks



James speaking



Woman leader giving remarks



Emmanuela giving a kitchen tour



It rained for part of inauguration day



Plan B - we moved into the kitchen



Inauguration day in progress



Joseph and Emmanuela enjoying a joke



Pastors singing



GMI Missionary Sue Vinton serving



Titus Lloyd manning the grill



Titus and Eric in action



The storeroom



Area 44 students enjoying what they cooked



Some of Emmanuela's students in Area 38 cleaning



The Malawi Ministry Kitchen



Emmanuela's students in action



National Council meetings where Joseph taught all day on February 21.

