



August 2017

We finally know how great it is to be grandparents. Our daughter Rachel gave birth to our first grandchild—a boy, Ari—on February 24. Sue was thrilled to be there for his birth in Boston while Bill was in Grand Rapids speaking in a missionary conference. Although Bill missed the birth he had several times to enjoy Ari while we were in the States from February through April.

At that time we shared Grace Ministries International's (GMI) vision for Malawi during the missionary conferences in eight churches in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York, as well as Grace Bible College. One important aspect of this vision that pertains to us is God's call on us to help train the Malawian church leaders to better teach and preach the message of God's grace.

One way that we are working to accomplish this vision is by training pastors and leaders in the 30 churches in Malawi that are affiliated with GMI. One difficulty that we encounter is that in an oral culture such as Malawi's, most people do not read very well and aren't interested in church programs that require much reading and writing. All of our churches here minister to people who have had very little education, so we're struggling to get people to come to our seminars and training. Another obstacle to our training program is that the churches are scattered



Ari Rayne Brose—born February 24, 2017— now 5½ months old

throughout Malawi, and therefore travel and communication is expensive and difficult. ***Pray for us as we try to find other ways to reach them.***

In spite of these challenges, God has opened up six areas where we have begun to hold module Bible School classes in our attempt to train pastors and leaders. Joseph Asong and Pastor Matthews recently taught the first Bible School classes in two different churches in the Salima area, 70 miles northeast of the city of Lilongwe where we reside. A 15-hour course on Methods of Bible Study was taught at Mauni to eight students. Also, two classes were taught at Kanongola to nine students with an additional five people who audited the classes. There was much enthusiasm in this area as these students were encouraged that they could learn and be empowered for ministry.

Bill, Pastor James, Yamikani, and Givemore Nyakambiri (a new GMI missionary) traveled six hours south by car to teach two 15-hour classes, one on Bible doctrine and spiritual gifts and another on evangelism to eight students and nine people who audited the classes. Several students who are pastors expressed a repentant attitude concerning some of their past teaching that they now realize was not



Joseph Asong at Mauni - July 2017



in accord with what the Bible teaches. They were also very enthusiastic to go back to their churches and teach the truth which they had learned in class. ***Pray that we will be able to honor our commitments to go out to teach these weeklong Bible classes in these different areas.***

After the evangelism class many of the students expressed their delight to witness using strategies learned in class, and they also held four outdoor evangelistic services during the week. Eighty people came forward to indicate that they wanted to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Praise God! One difficulty they now face is getting these new believers into church. A preaching point was established at one of these places and the following week they held their first service. ***Pray that a church will develop from this preaching point.***