



February 2017

**O**n February 15 we plan to arrive in Boston—a day before our first grandchild is due to be born to Rachel and Andrew. We're thrilled to be able to see and hold that baby on the way to the Michigan missionary conferences. We also look forward to sharing about some great things that God has done through Grace Ministries International in the country of Malawi (if we can drag ourselves away from that baby in Boston!). We plan to be in the States for almost 3 months visiting churches in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York. Please email us if you'd like to try to get together.

We believe that God has brought us here to Malawi at an important time in the development of the Grace church. We continually seek to make ourselves available to God and His work of saving the lost. We have traveled to different areas of Malawi to train church leaders and believers in the message of God's grace in salvation, and also to help develop their understanding of dispensational truth. Our focus is on making the message of salvation clear while also teaching them to read the Bible dispensationally so they can experience joy in their relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We have enjoyed teaching four week-long Bible School modules at different locations in Malawi, teaching at a



*Pray for these leaders as they travel in their ministries.*

three-day pastor's conference, leading a weekly women's Bible study in Lilongwe, and teaching in other seminars for church leaders. Our goal is to empower the national church to better preach the gospel and communicate the Grace Message to their fellow Malawians. It has been exciting to see how God has worked by using the team we travel with, along with some of the Bible School students, to preach the gospel in outdoor evangelistic services. During every trip God has saved hundreds of children and adults when the altar call has been given. Praise God for their salvation!

As part of our strategy to empower the national church, Bill has been helping Chairman Selengu organize his office and build better rapport with other leaders in the church. Sue continues to work with Yamikani who is the children's department leader. They have taught Sunday School teachers and together are translating and writing materials to be used in children's church or Sunday schools.

One of GMI's Christmas projects was to provide bikes for some Malawian leaders (pictured above). We were able to buy seven bikes, each with spare parts: one tire, two inner tubes, a brake set, a luggage rack, and a lock. Thank you to those who participated in this project!



*Bill and James teaching in the Bible School modules*



*A group of children hearing the Word of God*

Globally, the statistics show that 80% of those who come to Christ do so between the ages of 4 and 14. **The 4/14 Window** targets people aged four to fourteen years old, as the most open and receptive to every form of spiritual and developmental input.\* These statistics are one reason we strongly believe in training children in the Word. A Christian charity organization called *Grace Foundation* rents two classrooms and an office on one of our church properties. They help with feeding and educating 30 orphan children who are between 7 and 15 years old. Sue teaches them Bible one afternoon each week in Chichewa. Many of these children have come to know Christ personally in the past few months. Also, a few of these kids have begun attending the Grace Church on the property. Praise the Lord with us!

Another means of empowering the Grace Church in Malawi is through writing. Not only has Bill written several short books which have been used in the ministry, but he has also started a writer's club with four Malawian pastors. Their goal is to learn how to write better and to produce literature in Chichewa which will then be used in our churches. The going has been slow and the quality is not yet where we want it to be. However, this year they hope to produce a book of 15 sermons and 15 Sunday school lessons on "Grace in Ephesians."

We wait anxiously to see what new doors God will open this year.

Pray for some of these possible new ministries:

- **Literacy**--we have found that several women in our churches do not know how to read. Sue is interested in starting a literacy class using Bible-based curriculum available in Chichewa.
- **Church business**--at one of the churches in Lilongwe there is plenty of space in a good location where the church wants to build some small rooms that they would rent out as shops. There is a need to help with some church businesses.
- **Women's ministry**—Annie Mwinjiro, pictured below with Sue, was chosen by the national council of the Grace Church to head up the women's ministry in all of the churches. She is a pastor's wife, a mother of four, and lives about a 6-hour drive from Lilongwe. She has never done this kind of thing before and needs a lot of help. *Will you pray for her?*

Thanks for your support and prayer. We look forward to seeing some of you very soon!

Partnering with you for His glory,  
Bill and Sue



**Bill and Sue Vinton**  
**c/o Grace Church in Malawi**  
**PO Box 20043**  
**Lilongwe, MALAWI**