

# A WORD FROM THE LLOYDS

May 2020

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Greetings from Malawi,

These are interesting and unprecedented times here in Malawi and around the world! This past year we have seen many “firsts” in Malawi. There had been regular unrest in the country since the election last May. In February, the constitutional court ruled the presidential election had been rigged and called for new elections. They are supposed to happen in July; however, the measures put in place to combat COVID-19 cast doubt on whether or not that will happen. The government recently tried to institute a lockdown due to COVID-19 which would have been devastating to many in Malawi and would have stopped the voter registration for the upcoming new election. The high court has ruled that a lockdown is unconstitutional but has referred the matter to the constitutional court.

Titus has been very busy on all fronts. He has been leading a Bible study with the church leaders in Lilongwe teaching through the book of 1 Timothy. He has also worked with Pastor James Bandah to preach through 1 and 2 Timothy.

The laptops we had donated have allowed Titus to teach three different computer courses to our Bible school students in Lilongwe. The Computer 1 class is almost finished being translated into Chichewa so we will be able to begin offering a computer class outside Lilongwe as well. Thank you to those who have supported and continue to support our Bible School translation project. It has allowed over a dozen courses to be translated into

Chichewa. Our missionary team in Malawi continues to develop new courses and these will all need to be translated.

Titus also continues to teach computer classes at African Bible College (ABC) and handle the IT support for their campus. ABC had the opportunity to be included in a fiber optic cable deployment by an internet provider in Lilongwe. Titus worked with the company to help design and deploy a fiber optic network to all the buildings on the ABC campus. This was a huge undertaking but has made internet much more accessible to the staff and students at ABC. This has become especially useful as they have had to move to all online coursework in the midst of COVID-19.

Kristy’s days are full home schooling two teenagers, a preteen, and a five-year-old. She is also working on a writing curriculum to teach our Bible school students later this year. Currently, she is working to make cloth masks to help protect our local church members and the local community clinic.

Zechariah spent a month in a village a couple of hours south of Lilongwe to study Chichewa. His desire was to be able to better communicate with the children at our church in Area 23 in Lilongwe whom he was struggling to communicate with in English. He helps (along with the pastor’s daughter, Blessings Bandah) teach the Sunday school program (which actually meets on Saturday mornings). He can now speak the language better than his parents and is able to be more effective working with the kids. Zech recently acquired an accordion from a family leaving because of COVID-19 and has been teaching himself how to play.



Malawi Grace Bible School students taking a computer exam



Zech with his friend Timothy and their Chichewa teacher Sister Josefa

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Matthew receiving a medal at Malawi Nationals



The Lloyd family

Matthew is an avid swimmer and came home with three bronze medals at Malawi National Swim Championships this year. He was invited to swim in the Zambian Swim Nationals as well, but unfortunately they were canceled this year due to COVID-19 cases being found in Lusaka. Matthew likes to write computer programs and solve Rubik's Cubes. Recently, he has been working on writing a program to time himself solving his cube.

Maggie is also a swimmer and has worked her way from lessons onto the swim team this year. She is also grateful to have a ballet teacher now but disappointed that the end of the year ballet program has been postponed due to COVID-19. She had been practicing her ballet dances with one of her friends over Face-Time calls.

Caleb is an ever-energetic five-year-old. He loves to do anything active. Jumping on the trampoline another missionary family left

us is one of his favorite pastimes. He enjoys attending the Saturday kids' program at our Area 23 church in Lilongwe.

Please pray for us as we continue to minister in Malawi. Here are some specific ways you can pray for us: Please pray for peace during these uncertain times, especially as we near the time of new elections. Please pray that the majority of Malawi will be spared from the COVID-19 pandemic. Please pray for our kids during this time. Many of their friends have left the country prematurely due to the threat of COVID-19. We would also like to know ways we can be praying for you. Please email any specific requests you have to talloyd@yahoo.com (Titus) or klkettering@yahoo.com (Kristy).

In His grace,

Titus, Kristy, Zech, Matt, Maggie & Caleb



Kristy working on sewing masks for church members and the local clinic



Titus with one of his computer classes at African Bible College