



THE LLOYDS

Serving with GMI in Malawi

NOVEMBER 2024

Muli Bwanji? (How are you? in Chichewa)

After being stateside for nearly sixteen months we are doing well and are grateful to be back in Malawi. Malawi is full of challenges, but God is using us to equip the Malawians we are working with for ministry. He is also growing us and equipping us in ways we never would have imagined. We arrived back on April 20th, just in time to take Zech out for dinner on his twentieth birthday. We were greeted by a restaurant with no lights and a limited menu because the power was out. Welcome back!

Coming back in the middle of a semester at African Bible College gave Titus a unique opportunity to solve some lingering computer and internet problems without having a class schedule to work around. He was able to negotiate a better price for the internet (half what they had been paying!) and install a better power backup system to deal with the frequent power outages.

At the start of the current semester, Titus was asked to teach a Bible class to the entire high school at ABC Christian Academy. It is a new class for him and a new challenge. This year the topic is the attributes of God. He is enjoying it so far. Please pray for open hearts for a few of his students who are not yet believers, that they will hear and respond to the gospel as he teaches them. He is also teaching computers to the sophomores at African Bible College as he has done in the past.

In addition to resuming his role as the treasurer for the GMI Malawi field, which is a daunting task with lots of paperwork and reporting to the government, Titus has also been working on Bible school course translation. The goal is to complete a three-level program in both English and Chichewa. In a similar vein, he is working to identify which book to translate and publish next in Chichewa. This will be a big undertaking, and we appreciate your prayers as we begin.

Immediately following our return to Malawi, Kristy worked hard to get the house put back together after getting everything out of storage. It was amazing (or maybe disgusting is a better word) to find how dirt was able to get into every nook and cranny, even sealed storage containers! Every item in the kitchen had to be washed before it could be used.

One of the new teaching staff at ABC Christian Academy quickly latched onto Kristy as a mother figure. This young lady had a rough childhood and did not experience a healthy functioning family in the traditional sense. This opened many doors for ministry and some very difficult challenges. Kristy was able to mentor this lady for a couple of months until ultimately it was decided that she needed to return to the USA, for her own sake and the sake of the school. There were some very hard choices to be made, and Kristy was able to help walk with her through them, using God's Word as a guide.

When we returned Caleb made fast friends with some neighbor boys whose parents were teaching at ABC. They all had very similar interests and got along well.



Titus preaching at area 23 church, while Pastor James Bandah translates



Titus teaching his high school Bible class



Waiting in line over an hour to get fuel

Unfortunately, they left on a home assignment about a month and a half after we arrived. Since then, Caleb has become serious about his goal of becoming a farmer. He has worked hard planting anything he can get his hands on. It is forcing him to learn patience though as he is anxious for a good harvest.

Maggie was very happy to return to Malawi to see one of her best friends. Her friend had been through some difficult physical and mental health issues in the past few years, which led to her family deciding to relocate to the USA where more treatment options were available. We didn't realize how bad her friend's condition had gotten until she attempted suicide one evening. Fortunately, she communicated her plan to Maggie. Maggie then told Kristy who alerted her mom, and her mom was able to intervene in time. It has been a blessing to see how Maggie has encouraged her friend using Scripture. Maggie is now considering getting a degree in Biblical counseling so that she can be better prepared to help those like her friend who are hurting.

We were privileged to have two different teams affiliated with Grace Ministries International visit us over the summer. The Ministry Enhancement Team came in July and our team had a great time of encouragement and ministry strategizing. Our entire GMI Malawi team traveled to a beautiful place on Lake Malawi for several days of meetings, corporate worship, and fellowship. Brian and Pam Sherstad and Jim and Marcie Fosse from the GMI Board of Directors came, as well as Berea Clark, who had a program with all the MKs (missionary kids).

Just a day after the MET team departed, Jim and Carolyn Moore came for a visit. Jim is the chairman of the GMI Board of Directors and Carolyn is part of the GMI Member Care Committee and the founder of a spiritual coaching ministry called Stage Five Ministry. In addition to meeting with each missionary family, Carolyn was the speaker for a women's conference. She was also able to meet with Kristy and Maggie regarding Maggie's friend that was previously mentioned in our letter..

Zech is now in his junior year at ABC, studying for a degree in Mass Communication. Pray for him as he undertakes harder classes and starts thinking about what is next after graduation. Matthew is a sophomore at Bethel University back in Indiana. Pray for him as this is his first time being so far apart from the rest of the family.

Titus's health has improved since returning to Malawi. His cancer surveillance is going well, with his blood work, x-rays, and CT scans all coming back clean so far. He was having some persistent back pain but was able to find a physical therapist who has helped to all but eliminate the pain. We praise God for the good follow-ups but still appreciate your prayers as the doctors continue to monitor his health.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our family and the ministries we are working in here in Malawi. Please pray for opportunities to share the gospel with my students. Pray for our Bible school students and their commitment to learning God's word. Pray for a good rainy season as this leads to a good harvest.

In His grace,

Titus, Kristy, Zech, Matt, Maggie, and Caleb



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The GMI Malawi team with the MET. (You can see Caleb does not like his picture taken!)

"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

Ephesians 4:12-13



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