



October 2021

As many of you know, Bill's mom, Becky Vinton, went to be with the Lord on July 7, twelve days after having a stroke. We were thankful to be able to go home for her funeral and to help Bill's dad with some of the necessary tasks.

At times like those, we sometimes ask ourselves if it's time to return to the US. But, at this time we feel that God has kept the doors open for us to continue doing His ministry here in Malawi. Our vision statement continues to motivate us to help train and empower the Malawian church leaders to be better teachers and preachers of the message of God's grace. We are excited that we have 4-5 committed Malawian co-workers whom we are helping to fulfill their passion for reaching the unsaved and grounding new believers in the message of God's grace.

In our last letter, we shared with you two of the five goals that we're seeking to accomplish by early 2024. **Our first goal is to teach Acts, Dispensationalism 1 and 2, and Discipleship 2 in each of the six training centers in Malawi.** We've always had a burden



We praise God for students who sacrifice to attend six days of Bible School classes and for their passion to learn dispensational truth.



We praise God for the 51 people who attended the three-day Pastors' Conference in Southern Malawi (see the "Malawi Pastors' Conferences" in the Projects dropdown at gracem.org)

to train qualified pastors and church leaders in the Grace Church in Malawi. Bill has been able to teach three of these courses (which he wrote previously) in three of the training centers. It has been eye opening to see how confused many of the students are in dispensational truth, yet Bill is very encouraged by their desire to understand more in this area.

Our second goal is to continue the children's ministry in Ngala and increase children's ministry in three other zones in southern Malawi.

Sue is happy to have completed an objective she's been working on for over a year: holding three 3-day training seminars in different parts of the country for people already involved in or interested in teaching Bible lessons to children. The seminar focused on how to present the gospel to children, the importance of teaching the Bible as a book about God instead of a book of rules, how to use the 25-lesson curriculum we prepared, the importance of teaching children to memorize Scripture (including many game

ideas), and learning special songs for children. A large amount of time was spent on practice teaching, an extra lesson was brought in on eternal security (as the trainees struggle with this), and lots of supplies were given to the churches (Bible coloring pages and crayons, a soccer ball, some wordless book bracelets, 25 color laminated teaching pictures, a carrying bag, and some miscellaneous prizes to encourage the kids). We are praising God that 35 churches sent people for training!!



We praise God for three Children's Teacher Training seminars which were taught in different areas in Malawi.

We held the first seminar in Lilongwe and were so grateful to be able to house and feed the trainees on our church headquarters property here, thanks to the Grace Guest Rooms hostel and kitchen. People from ten of



We praise God for six different leadership seminars which were held in the new Grace Guest Rooms in Lilongwe in the last six months.

the churches were blessed to use the guest rooms during that seminar.

As we press on in our calling here in Malawi, we want to present our last three goals that we would like to accomplish with God's help. ***Our third goal is to teach the remaining four two-week sessions of the proposed six sessions of the International Teacher's Training program (ITT).*** The ITT, which has the purpose of training future Bible School teachers from the countries of Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Zambia, has stalled due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. A little over two years ago, Dr. Sam Vinton taught one two-week session on his book, *An Introduction to Systematic Theology* and later Bill taught a session on *Advanced Studies In Dispensationalism*. Due to continuing travel complications, while we wait for in-person sessions, Bill's objective is to teach two online classes to these students.

Most of the people who attend Grace Churches cannot speak or read English and there is very little Christian literature available in Chichewa, the national language. We are making an effort to write or translate tracts, Christian booklets, and Bible School courses in Chichewa. ***Our fourth goal is to write or translate and print 10 pieces of literature in Chichewa and to print at least 100 copies of each piece for church use.*** We have a group

of six Malawians who are members of the Writer's Club here in Lilongwe that occasionally writes and produces different booklets in Chichewa which are used in our churches.

Although we are involved in the personal discipleship of key leaders, Bill wants to see Malawians in the Grace Church discipling one another. ***Our fifth and final goal is to help develop a discipleship system for churches that results in at least second-generation disciples, and to see this taking place in ten churches.***

Please pray for these needs:

- the elections of most of the leadership positions in the Grace Church National Council in November.
- that we get the right car to buy which will help in many ministries outside of Lilongwe.
- good health for Bill as he continues to travel on ministry trips, and that seeing a rheumatologist in South Africa in October will help provide him with some relief from pain.



We are thankful to be able to assist four churches with tin roofs this year (see the "Malawi Church Roofs" in the Projects drop-down at gracem.org)

- Sue as she starts writing new lessons, and pray for those who attended the Children's Teacher Training seminars to apply what they learned and be committed in their ministry.



We are thankful for a seven-day trip to Southern Malawi where we taught pastors and elders in four different places