



Rev Wellington Obotte, Mission Coordinator
Church of the Nazarene, Malawi

Rev. Chipi Charle, Pastor
Chiimba Church of the Nazarene, Malawi.

From the Executive Director

by Elaine Bumstead (*Executive Director of NCM Canada*)

This newsletter will focus on Malawi, Africa and NCM Canada's involvement in Malawi, partnering with NCM Malawi and local churches in Malawi. In the last decade, NCM Canada has funded two food relief projects in Malawi funded through Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Compassionate Resource Warehouse also shipped a number of containers to Malawi during that time.

From 2009- 2012 Canadian youth along with other Nazarene youth supported a "30-hour famine project" in Northern Malawi jointly implemented by NCM Malawi and World Vision Malawi. I participated in a team that evaluated that project. In February 2012 Jodi Getson, Dell Marie Wergeland and I visited the 30-hour famine project and also a church at Chiimba, Malawi.

Pastor Chipi Charle of the Chiimba Church of the Nazarene had started a ministry for vulnerable children and orphans. In 2012 NCM Canada became a funding partner of that ministry which has grown to include well over 1,000 children in 7 communities surrounding Chiimba. There are now 7 Churches of the Nazarene in these communities out of which the ministries of compassion are being implemented.



Map of southern Africa showing Malawi (red)

Since 2012, NCM Canada, with generous support from several Canadian Nazarene churches and Canadian youth teams, has provided for the organization of 7 child development centres (CDC's), training of the CDC workers, repairs to the CDC / church buildings, a motorcycle ambulance, wells, CDC supplies, food for the CDC's, & conservation agriculture projects - in the 7 communities.

Currently NCM Canada is providing a food ration of maize, beans, cooking oil for 2000 families for 3 months in the 7 communities and in Nsanje District (southern Malawi) through Canadian Foodgrains bank. (See picture on left)

NCM Canada is also continuing to fund conservation agriculture projects. (See next page). Compassionate Resource Warehouse has just shipped a container of dried soup mix for the children in the 7 CDC's. (See story).

Thank you for your support for local churches and their ministries of compassion in Malawi!



COMPASSION.
AS A LIFESTYLE.

Issue 1, 2017

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Conservation agriculture expands food production in Malawi



Elaine Bumstead and Joan Barkman Azar (CFGFB) visit the CFGFB funded project in Bangladesh in May 2015

Report by Rev. Dennis Hubert¹ on his recent visit to Malawi.

August 2016, Scott Brooks and Dennis Hubert traveled to Malawi Africa to meet with our brothers and sisters there and to learn how our past projects and compassionate involvement had impacted lives and communities. Our guide and gracious host was Malawi Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Director, Chinsinsi Phiri. (pictured below)



Along with visited Conservation Agriculture projects, we visited 8 Child Development Centres (CDC's).

However, because of the severe drought and poor harvest, each one of these centres was operating at very minimal capacity. One of our recommendations was to provide at least some resources so that the children in these communities could be fed & also participate in learning about God and His plan for our lives.

Scott and I were met with great enthusiasm and appreciation at each one of the CDC's. We were sung to, greeted warmly and welcomed thoroughly. At one of the CDC's a Camp Victory was going on. (Camp Victory is a summer camp for children from the CDC's)

I would describe this as a discipleship training for youth that operates for about 6 weeks. It includes schooling, leadership instruction, exercise and evangelism. It was very powerful to see the young people's eagerness to learn about Jesus and follow Him wholeheartedly.

¹ Dennis pastors the O'Leary Church of the Nazarene in PEI. He has recently joined the NCM Canada team.



Our 7-8 days in Malawi were very busy. We attended & participated in church on Sunday, visited food suppliers to assess availability & cost of food for upcoming feeding projects, and worked with Chinsinsi and others to look at current and ongoing needs and develop project proposals. Malawi has suffered intensely from poor harvests for the past few years. Many people who were already on the starvation line have been pushed over that line because of climate change & minimal rains during their growing season. NCM Canada is working to help, and impact communities to save lives.

Let me finish my report with this. NCM Canada has provided new wells to the 7 communities that we visited and have been working with.



The impact of those wells was mentioned over & over again by not only church leaders but also the chiefs & leaders of the communities. I asked one leader how the well had helped his community. He responded "before the well 5 or 6 people would get sick every week from the bad drinking water. Now we can go a whole month without anyone getting sick."

We are blessed to bless others. NCM Canada is making a real difference in the lives of people in Malawi.

seeds of life

Conservation Agriculture expands food production in Malawi

This fall (October) NCM Canada has provided 30 farmers with crop inputs (seed, fertilizer) to plant their food crops using conservation agriculture methodology.



One farmer named Kalembezi Kathawe, who has expanded his CA plot from 20x20 m to 70x70 m said and I quote "This is God answering my prayers. I didn't know where to get seeds this year because I ate all that remained from last harvest period. I do not have enough money to buy seeds from local store because pests affected my vegetable production. Conservation Agriculture has answered all my prayers because of my commitment to learning new farming methods."

Conservation agriculture was developed in Africa to conserve moisture in times of drought (such as experienced in last year's growing season) and to replenish soil nutrients. Such measures have proven to multiply crop yields significantly so that farmers can feed their families.

seeds-of-life.ca

Help us raise funds for Canadian Foodgrains Bank where your dollars are multiplied 4:1 (for most food assistance initiatives).

For further information, contact
Scott Brooks at
Seeds-of-Life@bell.net.

A Heart-warming story of Child Sponsorship in Malawi

Do you ever wonder if your Child Sponsorship funds have any lasting impact?

Pictured below are a group of people in a local Nazarene church in Malawi who were (or are) sponsored as children and now have assumed significant leadership roles in the Church. One is the wife of the current mission coordinator for Malawi. One is a pastor. One is a leader in Nazarene Child Development ministries. One is a youth leader. The others are members of the local church of the Nazarene. Thank you for your giving to Child Sponsorship!



To sponsor a child,
please visit
cs.ncm.org.

Shipment of Food from Compassionate Resource Warehouse Arrives in Malawi

A container of food has just arrived in Malawi and is being distributed to seven Child Development Centres.

Over 1,000 children will benefit directly from this support!



To find out more about our resource warehouse, please visit:

[www.ncmcanada.ca/
compassionate-resource-warehouse](http://www.ncmcanada.ca/compassionate-resource-warehouse)

NEWS UPDATE

IT WAS ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO...

Nepal – After The Earthquake

The 2015 powerful earthquake in Nepal damaged several Nazarene churches in the country. The local Nazarene church at Jutpani was having regular church activities in a temporary building provided by a local Nazarene member. The earthquake damaged this building so badly that it was in danger of collapse and people feared meeting there. There was no such building/hall or big room available to rent for the needs of the church in that community.

Therefore, it became an urgent need for a new earthquake resistant structure for the congregation, Sunday School children and other church related activities. The congregation is composed of 40-60 people.

NCM Canada funded a new ministry center on the same site and the demolition of the existing damaged building. The new building is earthquake resistant and adequate to serve the needs of the congregation as well as house a child development centre for the community.

This building (pictured on the right) is one of two such churches / CDC's funded by NCM Canada in Nepal since the earthquake.



\$41,000 for Wells in Sierra Leone and Liberia

In September 2016, NCM Canada sent \$41,000 for wells to be installed as part of the large WASH (Water and Sanitation and Hygiene) program being funded by NCM in Sierra Leone and Liberia (West Africa). More than half of people living in rural areas in these two countries have no access to safe water, and as many as 80 percent have no access to a decent toilet. As a result, thousands of people die each year from water-related illness.

Nazarene churches in Liberia and Sierra Leone have decided to do something about the problem. They're working with communities to create change through WASH projects that combine water, sanitation, and hygiene.

The projects start with wells that provide clean, safe water for entire communities. Each well improves the health of children and families, and easier access to water also improves children's education by ensuring they can attend school instead of walking for water. Next, the project includes building toilets (pit latrines) as a way to prevent the spread of disease.

Children and families also receive hygiene education to learn practices to stay healthy.

The church is beginning with communities that were most affected by Ebola and are still experiencing its devastating after-effects. The combination of clean water, sanitation, and hygiene could have helped prevent the quick spread of that deadly virus.

An article about this project is the centre story in the Summer 2016 edition of the NCM magazine. See <http://www.ncm.org/summer-2016.html>

For a subscription to the NCM Magazine, see <http://www.ncm.org/magazine-subscribe.html>. It's free!

Watch for further pictures and stories about the beneficiaries of these wells in our NCM Canada newsletters in 2017.

Thank you for your giving of wells. People are receiving clean drinking water and learning about the Living Water as a result of your giving!

Well Projects

In 2015, the inmates of the Bowden Institution near Innisfail Alberta held a walk-a-thon and raised funds for 4 wells in Nepal. The wells are needed for clean drinking water but also for irrigation of home gardens. The seed for the home (vegetable) gardens are being provided as part of a three-year food security project funded through CFGB.



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Each gift will be used as designated, except where any given need has been met or when projects cannot be reasonably carried out, in which case the donor agrees that the designated gift may be used where it is needed most.