

INDIGENOUS TRAINING MINISTRIES, INC.

REVC'S NEWS & VIEWS

by
RevC

June 2019

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

BALAKA MALAWI, AFRICA



Malawi is a beautiful country with lush green foliage, colorful flowers, and vast areas between the mountains where you can easily picture a time when wild animals roamed in great numbers. Did I say mountains? Well, they aren't the Everest or Rocky Mountain type, but compared to Florida, they are mountains none the less. I took this picture out of the truck window as we drove to Balaka.

As I shared in last month's newsletter, the drive is always an experience and leaves me with tight muscles and the sense that I am grateful to have survived and not been partly responsible for killing anyone along the way. There is always something interesting to see! People are everywhere, walking along the roadways and selling everything from handmade



birdcages, pumpkins (not like ours), small watermelons, and charcoal. Then there are the men with bicy-

cles loaded with as much charcoal as they can carry, riding along the roadside. They often balance on the very edge of the highway to avoid being hit until they come to an uphill grade and must push their bikes on



the edge of the road. One of the other sights that has my

attention is the beautiful piles of black, reddish brown, and the most beautiful white stone chips that I have ever seen. The chips



glisten and shine in the sun and are used on walls and floors. Stephen tells me they are expensive and very beautiful in the homes of those who can afford it.



We arrived in Balaka and turned off the

highway onto the dirt road that leads to Kankawo village where the new New Hope Church building sits. At times, the road was little more than a series of ruts and potholes that had been created by the rains with no on-going maintenance of the roadway. The truck managed the road very well and made me glad again that we had made that investment. When we arrived, a greeter ushered me into the building and seated me on the platform. There was only a handful of people at the time and most were men. I later learned that the men were pastors from other churches in the district that Paul had invited to come together for the meeting. In addition, the local chief was also present.

Paul made a few introductions and asked the men to each stand and share who they were. There were about a dozen pastors from various denomina-





tional churches; eight of them had certificates from attending Bible school. I was impressed that Paul was taking the initiative to bring these men together when his work was still in the

beginning stage. What a blessing to learn from Stephen that the church building was being used as **a preschool for the village children** during part of the day!

A few months ago, I reported that after the building was finished, a storm had come through and destroyed most of the sheet metal roof. Thankfully, I still had enough funds to replace the ruined sheet metal. In the future, the church plans to plant trees around the building to give it some protection from the wind.

I was disappointed because the crowd was small and most of those in attendance were pastors. This was to be a church family meeting, with church members inviting friends to come to the dedication. I had prepared an evangelistic message to share the gospel and see people come to faith in Christ. As I pondered on what God wanted me to do, I felt assured that what I had prepared was still OK. Then Paul had one of the ladies stand and begin a time of praise and worship. It was not long until the room began to fill with men, women and children. By the time I got up to speak, the room was nearly full, and others continued to arrive as I spoke. As always, I provided an opportunity for people to receive Jesus.

About 25 or so stood and prayed with me! Thank you, Jesus, for great salvation!



After I had spoken for a good hour with Stephen translating, Paul had the people stand and praise the Lord in singing. As they finished, Stephen stood and led them in a couple more songs to prepare their hearts as he was going to speak for a few minutes. He shared out of the book of Luke about our need to know God's Word and to not just speak it but to live it before others. This led

into the possibility of starting a new CTC program that would meet six days each month for eight hours each day.

When Stephen asked how many would like to attend the training center, about 25 raised their hands. I encouraged him to ask those who responded if they knew of someone who would want to join them in the school. There were about another 30 possibilities. With that response, the **New Hope Christian Training Center** will open soon! Stephen suggested that we consider translating the curriculum into their language, Chewa, which is also good for most in Mozambique. Cost would be between \$10K & \$12K. What a great return on our sacrifices and investment in God's Kingdom! Realize that this church sits in the heart of a Muslim area. Most of the church members are **former** followers of Islam. PTL!!!

I just received word that our CTC locations in India have graduated **64** more students, already enrolled **67** new students, and were requesting support. I'm blessed to report that two of our partners went together and met



that **\$13K** need. **PTL!!!** We are also still in need of **\$20K** for Myanmar CTC, **\$10K** for Spanish CTC online, and **\$12K** for CTC in the Chewa language for Malawi and Mozambique. We can only do what God supplies; therefore, we are, according to His will, releasing God to increase your provision to give so we can do more to train others. I am earnestly praying for the needs of each person who gives. Please help us!!! **TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

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