

Missionaries to Malawi, Africa May 2024

UNTES FAMILY

Dear Praying Friends,

As we write this letter our youngest son, Daniel, is just starting to recover from a sickness. He had a high fever for 11-12 days. Finally we decided to give him antibiotics, guessing that it was pneumonia or some other bacterial infection. Thankfully that has helped and he seems to be doing much better now. Although we have experienced some sickness, we are thankful that the Lord has spared us from Malaria so far. There has been a surge in our area of mosquitoes and sicknesses this year, and many around us are getting Malaria, cholera, or severe sicknesses. Once again I want to thank you for remembering us in prayer concerning our health, as this is a constant concern here. Pray the Lord gives us wisdom as to how to handle each sickness we may be faced with.

In our last prayer letter we asked you to be praying about our immigration situation as we had been without our immigration stamp for a couple of months. Thankfully the Lord has heard and answered our prayers concerning this! On May 9th, we were able to receive our temporary employment papers (TEP) which allow us to stay here until April 30, 2026! It will be a tremendous blessing not to have to worry about running to the immigration office every six months. Thank you for praying!

We also mentioned a special request concerning the need of shipping good Bibles from Bearing Precious Seed to our ministry here in Malawi. The cost to ship this container and to pay customs fees will be about \$12,000. So far \$6,595 has come in for this project. Thank you for praying about this need. We greatly appreciate each one that has helped towards covering the cost of this container! Please continue to pray with us that we will have the necessary funds available by the time this container is ready to be shipped.

The church that was started in Phokera is continuing to do well. The adult group is growing and we are having regular visitors. Sadly though, since we changed to a morning service time, we have noticed that we have lost some of the children that were attending the afternoon Bible study. We still have 50-75 kids for each service, but Jessica was hoping to keep them all! As we seek to help the church to mature, we have started taking the whole group through discipleship lessons in the Sunday school hour. We also have also been discussing the necessary arrangements concerning when the church will start burning bricks for their permanent building. Please continue to pray for this church as they grow and as we start preparing them little by little to operate on their own.

Here at the main compound, we are busily planning and preparing for the graduation of the Bible college students. Lord willing we will have their graduation on June 7. They are all excitedly awaiting graduation day and they are looking forward to using what they have learned in their home areas. Please pray as well that the Lord would bless this special event.

Prayer Requests

*Pray for our continued health and safety! *Pray for fluency in the Chichewa language. *Pray for the Bible college Graduation! *Pray for continued evangelism in Phokera as well as other villages. *Pray for the Phokera church to grow and mature. *Pray for us to have wisdom about where and when to start our next church plant *Pray for our prison ministry.

Praise

*Immigration papers received for two years! *Over half of the needed amount has been received to ship the Bibles!*The church in Phokera is growing and maturing! *The Gospel is going forth and souls are being saved and discipled! Thank you for Praying!

Your Servants in Christ, Eric & Jessica Curtis & Family

<u>Contact Information</u> Eric Curtis 200 Golden Lane Sutherlin, VA 24594 571-513-6904 <u>Sending Church</u> Victory Baptist Church 200 Golden Lane Sutherlin, VA 24594 434-822-7527 Baptist International Missions Inc. PO Box 9 Harrison, TN 37341 423-344-5050 <u>www.bimi.org</u>