

Malawi means "flaming waters"-- an allusion to the reflections of the setting sun on Lake Malawi.

PRAY FOR...

*Physical health & safety and our spiritual protection

* Discernment, love and patience as we train pastors and leaders

* Perseverance & encouragement as we continue to study language and culture after 15 months in Malawi!

* Pastors to have integrity & a renewed love for Jesus

CALENDAR

May 4-- Visit Pastor Masiye in Migowi

May 5-30-- GCS Bible School Module in Lilongwe

May 5-6 Ryan travels to Bangula to train church leaders in evangelism

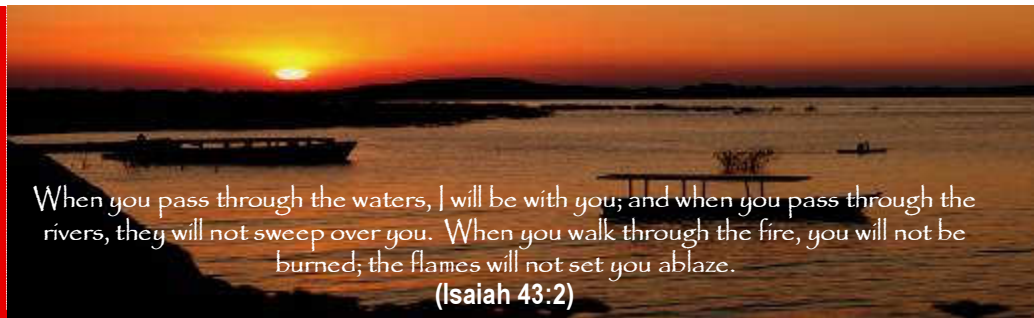
May 7-- Mtg. with pastors to plan Aug. youth camp

May 9-- Jen's Birthday

May 17-18-- Jen travels to Muloza to meet with women that have started a knitting ministry to support orphans

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When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.
(Isaiah 43:2)

FLAMING WATERS

MARCH/APRIL 2008

Women's Module for FM Pastor's Wives

Jen spent the last two weeks teaching Free Methodist Pastor's Wives at the Great Commission School in Lilongwe. 58 women (and 15 babies!) were in attendance. She worked with fellow missionary, Katie Bartlett, to teach "Inductive Bible Study Methods" every morning. It was so rewarding to see the women find joy in discovering things in God's word. We praise God for providing all the necessary funds, including enough money to purchase a Study Bible in the Chichewa language for each woman. In addition to this class, Jen administered a spiritual gifts inventory and taught about each individual gift...many women remarked that this was an affirming and insightful thing for them, and that now they are able to help others in their church identify their gifts as well. Near the end of the module, Katie and Jen explained what a Free Methodist is by giving a brief overview of the history and theology. Jeanne Tucker, a former missionary to Malawi, traveled from



Mrs. Simbeye



Mrs. Jumbe

Canada to teach literacy skills. Many of the women do not know how to read and write, and they shared how wonderful it is that they now know how to write and read the sounds of alphabet letters. The other women are thankful they are better equipped to teach reading and writing to women in their home church and village. A highlight was that Jen had the privilege of praying with two women, Mrs. Simbeye and Mrs. Siliya, to have a personal relationship with Jesus for the first time! Praise God for the amazing work he did in each woman's life.

A Return Trip to Swaziland



Pastor Antonio (Left) with Tutors

and how to teach a Bible object lesson. She enjoyed her time with the tutors and the children, both primary and secondary students. It was also a joy to meet with and encourage Pastor Antonio, who recently moved with his family to Swaziland after being appointed by Mozambique.

At the beginning of April, Jen returned to Swaziland on behalf of International Child Care Ministries to provide some training for tutors at the Free Methodist Church. They have recently started an after school program for all of the sponsored children. Jen taught on goal setting, monitoring student progress, discipline, scheduling and things related to Christian education



Teaching Men to Fish

It has been said, “If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a life-time”. Living in the poorest country in the world, it is often a temptation to give things that will only last for a short time. Though the physical needs in Malawi are great, the biggest need is for biblical teaching and training that will stand the test of time. Over one year ago we were sent to help teach and develop leaders in the Free Methodist Church of Malawi. We can honestly say that we are seeing positive results from the training we are conducting! Recently Ryan met with 40



leaders from 3 churches and spoke on the qualities of an overseer in 1 Timothy 3. Before beginning the training, he started with some small group initiatives— mostly problem solving activities. The goal was to show the importance of solving problems as a team rather than as an individual. As the day went on, Ryan taught about the importance of having a mission and vision for the local church. It was encouraging to

hear small groups of leaders talk about the purposes of God’s church and how God wants to use them to reach the lost. At the end of the training, one leader presented a problem. He said that he does not own a Bible. In fact, 15 leaders said they did not own a Bible. After the man sat down in his chair, one leader turned around and shook his hand indicating that he was committed to help solve this problem. The training has paid off!



A Church Leader Comes to Jesus

While at church last week, I thought to myself, “What? You’re a church leader and you don’t have a personal relationship with Jesus? Could this be true?” I imagine this scenario is more common than I’d like to think. On Sunday God gave me a new and fresh word to preach to his people. I spoke on Psalm 101— David’s vow to live a life of integrity. Usually I liked to preach off an outline, however on this day ,because of miscommunication with a pastor, we went to a church that we had not planned to visit. Jen drove as I prayed and asked the Lord

to give me His words because I definitely did not have any of my own. At the end of the service their was an overwhelming response of people being set free from witchcraft, short tempers, and alcoholism.

We had been praying with people at the altar for more than 1 hour when a church leader came said, “I want to ask Jesus to be the Lord of my life . As you taught on 1 Timothy 3, I knew that my life did not match with the qualities of a leader. God has spoken to me this morning that I am not living with integrity because I don’t know Jesus. I only know about Him.” Jen also had the chance to pray with a woman who didn’t know Jesus. Rejoice with us!



Jen prays for this woman to be set free from a tobacco addiction.



Missionary Kid Snapshots

Curtis was a circus elephant in his school play last month. Both kids enjoyed learning about Easter with “Resurrection Eggs” and Kara was very happy to have a new Easter dress from her grandma! We also had a party for Curtis’ 5th birthday this month! Another treat was a trip to Nyala Park to see safari animals.



Do you see the giraffes in the corner?



Faces of the Month



Check us out on-line @ www.flamingwaters.org