

Faith in Action

Working in Partnership with the Church in Africa

July 2024

Wells

On 23rd April, we sent a total of MK40,844,280 (£18,650.36) for the construction of four wells. These wells were located in Mbobo, Kalaundi, Chimwembere, and Mtantha villages. Dan has reported that this whole project has been very successful and the community in the villages where wells were constructed are thankful.

Recent cyclones have led the government to encourage communities who live in the lower areas of the Lower Shire to move to higher ground which is less likely to flood but where there will be no supply of clean drinking water. These wells have been constructed in these higher areas so that they are less likely to be damaged by flood water in the future.

Drilling the Well in Chimwembere Village





Well in Mbobo Village



Well in Mtantha Village

We are currently including several videos of the construction of these wells in our Faith in Action WhatsApp Broadcast. If you would like to receive

an invitation to this broadcast, could you please send me your name and mobile phone number by email or post.

Orphan Support

On 15th January we sent MK780,000 (£358) for the purchase of 12 goats. These 12 goats were distributed to 4 foster parents who had each fostered one orphan in Nsantu Village. Each family received one male and two female goats.

We included a video of the distribution of one of these goats on our WhatsApp Broadcast on 29th February. Dan wrote that they were very thankful for the provision of these goats.

Goats in Nsantu Village



Masika Maize Seeds

On 18th March and 8th April, we sent a total of MK6,698,615 (£3,015) for 137 x 10kg packets of maize seeds.

We provided these seeds following the rains stopping early in some areas in the Lower Shire and the resultant crop failure in those areas. These Masika maize seeds will be planted in land beside the River Shire where they can water them with water from the river and hopefully produce a small replacement crop. This provision is limited to land which is close enough to the River Shire. There are many rivers which flow into the River Shire but they usually dry up during the dry period from April to October.

Wesley wrote following the first distribution: *"We were able to go to Pastor Ntontha's area. We were warmly*



Distribution of Seeds in Pastor Ntontha's Area

welcomed. Pastor Ntontha thanked us for coming and once again thanked you Sally for remembering them and listening to God's leading. He said that the seeds will go a long way in helping the people get a harvest.

The President has declared several districts including Nsanje and Chikwawa as disaster areas due to hunger following low or no rain fall.

Bibles and Bible Studies

On 15th January, 18th March, and 8th April, we sent a total of MK5,145,000 (£2,338) for the purchase of 245 Bibles and MK5,250,000 (£2,382) for printing 3,500 studies.

Wesley wrote following the first distribution: *"The distribution of the Bibles and studies continues to be a blessing to the church as the spiritual food uplifts the people. The pastors were*

very thankful and passed on their thanks. I was blessed to hear a testimony from one of the new pastors, Pastor Genti, who said this was in fact the first time for him to own a Bible. He said that he will be able to minister better as he has now been equipped with Bible study and Bible."

Wesley wrote following the second distribution: *"We were able to go to*

Pastor Ntonthas area and we were warmly welcomed. Pastor Ntontha thanked us for coming and said that the Bible Studies and Bibles will be a source of hope to people."

Wesley wrote following the third distribution: "I would like to thank you and the entire UK team for the love that has been given by the spiritual food. Pastor Mandala of Sorjin spoke on behalf of the other Pastors and asked us to thank you for the Bibles and Bible studies. He said that this is very important as it helps to quench the thirst for spiritual material. As we distributed the Bibles and Studies, there was joy in the church. The ladies ululated with joy and we were repeatedly asked to say a big thank you to our friends in the UK."

Pastor Golasi travelled to Blantyre to see how my mother is doing. He took the opportunity to collect a few Bibles and Bible studies on behalf of a new church branch that has been recently planted. He also thanks you for the



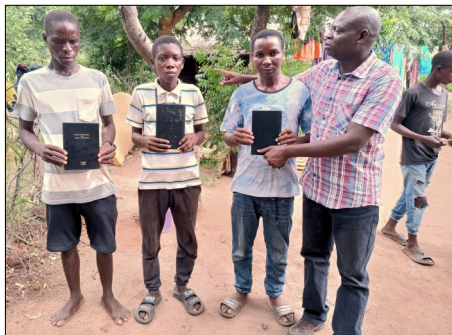
The Second Distribution of Studies spiritual food as it will immensely help the new church in spiritual growth.

I also received a request from the youth leaders of Nkhate, Msusa, Osiyana and Fatima for Bibles and Bible studies funds permitting. They also gave an update on the youth ministry. They are meeting twice a month where they worship God in song, preaching, meditation, Bible study and encourage one another on challenges they go through. They suggested that these Bibles and studies could be kept in the church as a library and they could share them when they meet."

The First Distribution of Bibles



The Second Distribution of Bibles



Bicycle Ambulance

On 15th January, we sent MK750,000 (£344) for a bicycle ambulance. It has been located in Makanjira village and was provided at the time when the people in this village were facing serious problems with cholera patients needing to be taken to the nearest clinic and also for carrying the dead bodies from the hospitals to their homes for burial.



Bicycle Ambulance in Makanjira Village

Solar Irrigation

A smaller solar irrigation system has recently been produced which irrigates 35 acres instead of the 200 acre system which we have been providing. It is considerably cheaper. We thought that it would be advantageous to provide more, smaller systems which could be spread more widely over the Lower Shire. We

therefore provided funds for this as a pilot project. The cost was subsidized because it was part of a promotion.

The total cost for this system was MK10,821,325 (£4,853), which included funds for the complete irrigation system, 35 x 10kg packets of

Left: Construction of Brick Pillar
Right: Installing the Solar Panels



Masika maize seeds and 45 x 50kg bags of fertilizer.

The construction of this system has

taken time as there was a delay in supplying the solar pump. The brick pillar has now been built and the solar panels are being installed.

Maize Flour

On 15th January we sent MK4,960,000 (£2,275) for the purchase of 122 x 50kg bag of maize flour. This flour was distributed in Mbangu village. Wesley wrote that this flour was welcomed with a smile as they would be able to feed their families.

Distribution of Maize Flour in Mbangu Village



Rubbish Dump Ministry

We wrote in our previous newssheet about some medical treatment which we provided for Mr Sandlamu, a man who was scavenging for rubbish in the municipal dump and who was suffering from elephantiasis in his legs and feet.

The Donut and Bun-Making Business



We also provided MK1,417,000 (£650) to enable his wife to set up a donut and bun-making business which would provide for them financially and eliminate the need for him to return to the dump where he could easily get re-infected.

Wesley wrote: *"We paid a visit to the doughnut and bun business. The team was very happy and encouraged to see that the business was operational, and some customers were visiting. The lady explained how this is already being of great help to the family. She thanked us and asked us to thank those who provided the funds for their love and care."*

High Interest Accounts

On 18th March, 8th April, and 23rd April, we sent a total of MK173,755 (£78) to be paid into our high interest account for Bibles.

BIBLE ACCOUNT:

The current total in this account for Bibles is MK1,872,280 (£828).

MOSQUITO NET ACCOUNT:

He total in this account for mosquito nets is MK4,987,215 (£2,207). The interest for the months of January to March this year was MK1,350,000 (£605). These funds were used to purchase 90 mosquito nets at MK15,000 (£6.73) each. They were distributed in Magoti Village where 3 nets were given to 30 families.

Prices in Malawi have doubled or tripled since the beginning of this year. The price for mosquito nets has risen from MK8,000 (£3.59) in January to MK15,000 (£6.73).

You will notice that the current totals in these two accounts are greatly reduced. We have paid £10,544 into the mosquito net account and £1,244 into the Bible account. I must confess to my failure to realise that when we invest in accounts in a foreign currency, the balance will be re-

duced if that currency is devalued against the pound sterling. Since 2008 the Malawi Kwacha has devalued from MK285 to MK2,260 to £1. So, for example: we paid £2,000 into the mosquito net account in January 2008 when the exchange rate was £1 to MK285. Thus MK570,000 was paid into the account, which is now only worth £252.

However, we have still made a very substantial profit from this mosquito net account. In the 16 years from 2008 to the end of 2023, we have been able to purchase 12,712 nets with the interest paid from this account, and these have been given to 4,890 families in 308 villages. The average price for each net has been £5. The cost for these 12,712 nets at £5 each is therefore £63,560.

Distribution of Nets in Magoti Village



Exchange Rates: February 2024 £1 = MK2,160 July 2024 £1 = MK2,260

Please Note: Most sterling prices have been calculated to the nearest pound.

Faith in Action supports the ministry of local churches in Africa by:

- Developing personal links and church to church contacts
- Strengthening the work of local pastors
- Supplying Christian resources in local languages
- Providing resources which will help communities to provide for themselves
- Providing wells and irrigation systems
- Supporting orphans
- Providing mosquito nets

We have produced some leaflets which give more detailed information about our current projects together with photographs and costs. If you would like to receive any of these leaflets, please contact us at either the postal address or the email address given below.

Faith in Action,

14 Gabriel Road, Maidenbower,
Crawley, West Sussex RH10 7LG

Phone: 01293 886596

Registered Charity No: 293961

Contact: Sally Jeffree

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE

Website:

www.faithinactionuk.co.uk

Email:

sally@faithinactionuk.co.uk

Points of Interest:

Since 1987 we have sent the following Relief Consignments to East Africa:

- 133 20ft Container Consignments
- 696 Sewing Machines and 1,786 Sewing Machines sent through other Organizations

Since August 1990 we have sent Finances for the following: (Space does not allow a Full List.)

- 107 Bicycle Ambulances
- 84 Wells
- £181,969 for Maize Flour for Food
- £177,520 for 142,818 Bible Studies
- **Irrigation:** £166,183 for 13 Wind-Pump Irrigation Systems and 9 Replacement/Repair Projects
- £65,649 for 3 x 200-acre Solar Irrigation Systems + £28,222 for 1 Replacement System
- £4,853 for 1 x 35-acre Solar Irrigation System
- £132,860 for Goats for Foster Families
- £90,586 for Masika Maize Seeds
- £73,888 for Bibles
- £45,551 for Seed
- £35,921 for Medical Treatment
- £32,046 for Cassava Cuttings
- £21,362 for 18 Motorbikes
- £20,157 for Fertilizer
- £18,639 for Plantain Banana Suckers
- £15,862 for Business Loan Projects
- £14,979 for Forestry Projects
- £14,660 for 9,806 for Banquets in Prisons
- £13,693 for 16 Businesses for Rubbish Dump Community
- £13,640 for Sorghum Seeds
- £11,268 for 32,925 Bars of Soap, 1,375 Buckets, 3,500 Masks and 1 Thermometer Gun
- £10,544 (£2,207) for Account for Mosquito Nets
- £10,182 for Soya Bean Seeds
- £13,204 for 4 15.28m x 7.62m Tents
- £8,322 for 1,030 Blankets
- £8,266 for a Grinding Mill
- £7,175 for 5,329 meals in Rubbish Dump
- £6,157 for 46 Eco-Stove Businesses and 7 Replacement Businesses
- £6,070 for Bicycles
- £5,077 for Rain-Conservation Farming
- £3,904 for Hospital Ministry
- £2,540 for Mulch and Transport
- £2,382 for 127 Proclaimers
- £2,155 for Covid 19 Test Kits in 5 Prisons
- £1,297 for Msangu Trees
- £1,244 (£828) for High-Interest Account for Bibles