

A Year in Numbers

Working with the churches throughout Malawi is one of the major ministries that Namikango Mission takes part in. This ministry involves visiting with churches to teach, preach, offer encouragement, and mediate issues and even conflicts. We also visit churches to explain and offer our other ministries and resources such as Healthy Living, Savings & Loan, and Conservation Agriculture (CHE-VSL).

In addition to these, we often participate in dedicating new church buildings and attending seminars and trainings. Last year was filled with an abundance of church visits and camp meetings.

Here is a list of our church ministry in 2019 by the numbers:

27 Sunday church visits

138 Churches were represented in these visits
(that's an average of 5 churches present at each visit!)

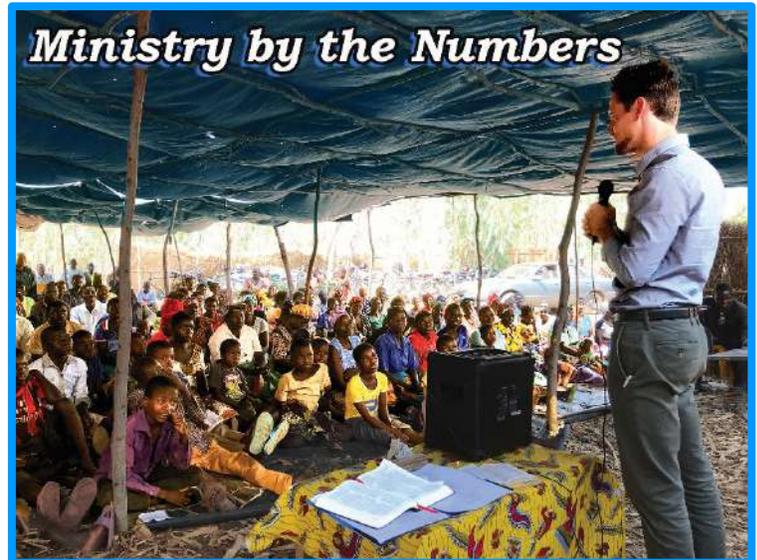
3,280 People present at the church visits
(that's an average of 121 people present at each visit!)

19 Camp meetings hosted

422 Churches were represented at the camp meetings
(that's an average of 22 churches each camp meeting!)

6,503 People were present at the camp meetings
(that's an average of 342 people at each camp meeting!)

1 Leadership seminar in the Central Region hosted by us



Ministry by the Numbers

140 Churches were represented at the seminar

424 Leaders were present at the seminar

1 Evangelism campaign held this year

151 People heard the Gospel preached in their homes

19 Were baptized

165 Many other baptisms were reported from the churches throughout the year which we had not reported, but we thought you would enjoy Symon's reporting of the baptisms at one Camp Meeting (elsewhere in this Newsletter).

Re-Construction at Ntonda School

We recently went to Ntonda School to celebrate the teachers' work for the year 2019. There are 28 full time teachers, the headmaster, and the Mission Bible teacher. Each year we go out to say thanks and offer a small cash gift to celebrate the work that has been done and to encourage teachers to keep up their good work. It was an enjoyable meeting and a good start to the Christmas Holiday.

Another item that made the day one to celebrate was getting to see the re-construction of one the classroom blocks that had been damaged by the storms. World Vision and another NGO (non-government org.) had selected Ntonda School as one of the projects to help as a result of the disaster. They began remodeling two classrooms (one block) and it has gone along really well. When it is finished, this will bring the total classrooms at Ntonda to 15, This is really a MAJOR improvement. We are so blessed to have other organizations respect our work enough to offer support like this when there is a need. We're really grateful for the work they are doing, and look forward to being able to use the classrooms.

Ben Hayes



Joy in Heaven by Symon Katete

"I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15: 10).

Camp Meeting season came with excitement when on Sunday, June 10th, we witnessed not just one but nineteen people give their lives to Christ and be baptized!

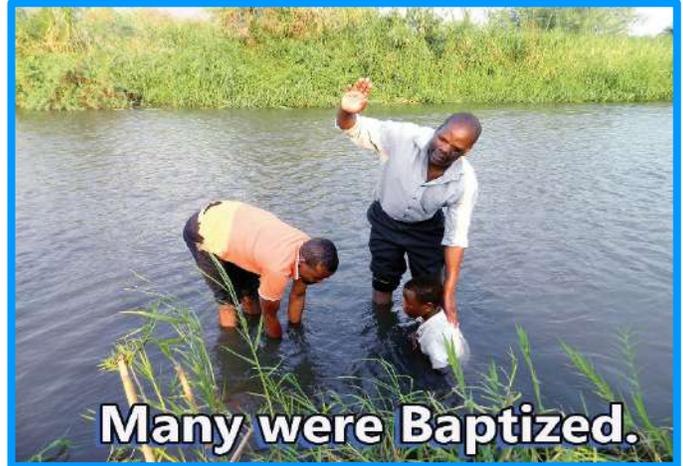
It was like a drama at the morning devotion when one person just couldn't hold back and came forward to repent, requesting to be baptized. We had a sermon teaching about baptism at the riverside and two more came forward.

Then, people kept coming, one by one, and the number increased to seven.

While these baptisms were being done . . . still others came. The number reached to twelve and they were all baptized. Then, we returned to our camp meeting and had a good sermon. followed by a hymn. Then seven more people came requesting to be baptized. We went back to the river and this group of seven were baptized. Before the end of our worship that day, 19 precious souls surrendered to Christ and were added to His Kingdom.

Great Day, Great Joy!

This is none of our own making and we cannot take credit for the results of the day, God was already working in the hearts of many long before we came, but we got to witness the harvest and to rejoice along with the angels. We know that the Lord has touched the hearts of these nineteen people and He will continue to help them to grow in their spiritual walk. Imagine the magnitude of joy and celebration that was in Heaven on this very special day.



41 Years Ago by Kirk Hayes

As I sit here in Malawi, I can reflect on the many things the Lord has done over the past 41 years since my first visit to Namikango.

I am here with Kalith and Vaughn Brown, my brother-in-law and sister. We travelled over with Sharon Lewis-Griffith and first stopped in Tanzania to visit the work Ricky & Allison Lewis are doing at HOPAC School in Dar. Then Kalith, Vaughn, and I continued on to Malawi and have spent the past week with Ben, Ryan, their families, and with Eric Gephart.

The Welch, TX, church where Kalith & Vaughn attend, and where he preaches, has supported the work at Namikango since the very beginning in 1961, but this is the first time they have been able to visit and see the work first-hand. We are seeing some outstanding work in progress, including:

- Revising the Bible School,
- The discipleship-mentoring program,
- The Maternity & HIV Clinics,
- Opening a health care center
- The sustainable agriculture projects, including the coffee production and processing facility,
- Farming God's Way program,
- Village Savings and Loan, and lastly,
- The new soccer field being developed.

Ben, Ryan, Eric, Kalith, and I, spent a day-and-a-half with a Journey Group which included twelve Malawian brothers. The focus of this discipleship group was on 'prayer and fasting,' and I must say it was an excellent time of study and fellowship together.



This outstanding work that was being done by B Shelburne and Lendal Wilks, when I came in 1979, is still bearing fruit as the present missionary team and the Malawian brothers and sisters continue to expand on that foundation and grow in strength, faith, and love. It was a remarkable visit.



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Uncle Ty's Visit

We were blessed to have Ryan and my brother, Ty and his girlfriend, Amy, come and stay with us through the Christmas break. It had been two years since Ty was last here, and it was great to spend the holidays together with him and Amy. Everything closes down here through Christmas and New Years, so we were able to be around Zomba town quite a bit, and they had a lot of play time with the nephews and nieces. But it doesn't happen often for the three of us brothers to get to be together, and more so with all of our families. It was a memorable time.

The Browns Visit

Shortly following Ty's departure, we had the GREAT blessing of having our Aunt and Uncle, Vaughn & Kalith Brown come and visit. Kalith is the minister at Welch Church of Christ. They have been connected to and supporters of the work at Namikango longer than we have. The time was made even better by having our Dad, Kirk Hayes, join them on their visit. We've had such a wonderful week together, getting to see and experience the sights of Namikango and Malawi. It was a delight to watch them as they got to see firsthand the things they had heard about for so many years. Getting to spend time with friends and family is one of the blessings of living here.. It has been a very special visit.

Ben Hayes





<p>Merry Christmas! Evan & Jacinda Simmons</p> <hr/> <p>Please use where needed. Ellen Hawley</p> <hr/> <p>Use for greatest need. Gene & Melody Sheets</p> <hr/> <p>Thank you so much for all you do. Doug & Mary Chris</p>	<p>In loving honor of Nelda Aplin Mark & LouAnn Gore</p> <hr/> <p>In honor of all the Hayes Family Charles & Kay Mickey</p> <hr/> <p>To Ben, Ryan, Eric, and families, in recognition of your outstanding work. Sidney Vaughn, Karen, & Robin</p>	<p>In honor of Bob & Charlotte Mize Darleen J West</p> <hr/> <p>In loving memory of Anita Vaughn Jim & Kathy Albright Sondra Allsbrooks Charlie & Phyllis Powell Ronnie Vaughn Doug & Mary Chris Wilks</p> <hr/> <p>God bless you all. Evergreen Church</p>
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