

## MISSION HAPPENINGS

### Meet the Staff

Several years ago in this monthly bulletin we introduced some of the staff members here at Namikango. While some of those introduced previously remain on board, things have changed and there are new members here as well. We thought it would be good to re-introduce some of the staff to you so you have a more personal connection with the Mission but also to get a grasp of the various positions that the Mission employs. We currently have around 50 staff members, even more when you include the Maternity Clinic and Bible School in roles ranging from "Nurse" to "Gardener" to "Bible School Teacher."

We had three interns from LCU here this summer, and part of their work was to spend time getting to know our staff members. We asked them to interview several staff members and to write a report to describe the role of these employees. Over the next few months, we will include reports to help you get to know them as well. This month we will start with Symon Katete, who has been on staff here for several years. He is a godly man and plays a key role here at Namikango.

Symon Katete is the acting administrator and operations officer for Namikango Mission. His duties include working with the day to day operations of the Mission, assisting to manage church disputes throughout the community, coordinating the Bible school, and teaching and preaching during village visits. Symon began his time at Namikango as a primary teacher at the Ntonda Primary School, before making his way to the Bible School.



Through the past eleven years with the Mission, Symon has loved seeing the way that Namikango blesses people in many areas of life. While the Bible School strengthens the Malawian church to preach and teach the Gospel, the Maternity Clinic and Namikango water well provide physical blessings to the community. Symon hopes to one day see the Bible School become a University. He prays that Namikango will always be a peaceful presence in the community, and that it will continue to grow and thrive in Malawi for years to come.

***Editor's Note:** Symon Katete is not only a strong member of the staff of Namikango; he actually grew up at the Mission. He was a young boy growing and developing in the shadow of his father, John Katete, who was for many years a beloved teacher and staff member of Namikango. John was an outstanding Bible scholar and memorized nearly all the Bible. Symon comes from fine stock.*

Sidney V.

### Master Plan for Years to Come

The EMI (Engineering Ministries Intl) team of volunteer engineers has not stopped working even though they left the Namikango campus two months ago. Since their visit, we have continued dialogue and email, trying to decide what will be included in the final report they give us: which is a master plan of the Namikango campus for the years to come. The expertise that has gone into this is astounding, as it is not only looking at buildings needing to be repaired or replaced, but also potential water sources to accommodate the future needs, waste management, electrical power sources, and so on. As you can imagine, to get all of this thoroughly reviewed and compiled in a couple months is a huge task. Though there will undoubtedly be adjustments as we go forward, the proposals we receive from EMI will be a strong, solid foundation of key components for what we hope to see at Namikango in the future.

This master plan will be incorporated into the film that Jerrod and his crew did back in April, combining all of the work, the dreams, and the vision of the missionaries, the staff, and the Board of Directors, into one tangible resource to guide us to wise decisions for our future. We are really excited to see things come together in the next few months.

**The Bible School** is coming to an end for the year, and we are now heading into the dry season. This means we will be out visiting churches every weekend for the coming months. The places deep in the village will now be accessible with vehicles, places where we could not go during the rainy season. This forms an important part of the work we do at Namikango, as it provides opportunity to teach God's Word, and more importantly, it enables us to maintain and build relationships with many of the existing churches with whom we are affiliated. When we make these weekend preaching trips out into the villages each year, we usually have a theme for the meetings, and this year we are spending our time delving into the Gospel and that its applications are not just for those who have recently accepted Jesus, but The Gospel is for all of us, as we continue to be made into His image.

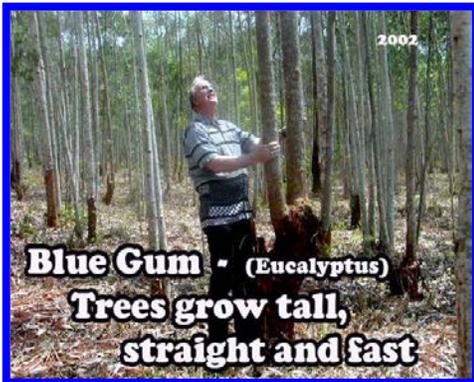


## Blue Gum Tree Disease

Blue Gum trees (Eucalyptus) are a very prevalent tree throughout Malawi, though they are not native to Africa. They grow quickly and provide a good source of shade, as well as firewood for many people. Since these trees grow tall and straight they are in high demand to be used for rafters and roof support, especially for churches.

On the negative side, these trees use a ton of water and are not good when grown near gardens. Recently a disease that attacks these trees has hit Malawi. It is significant enough that the gov't. has responded and urged great caution, warning that cutting and burning of trees that have been infected is dangerous. There have been some deaths resulting from ingestion after having touched the infected leaves. Many trees in the southern region have been affected by this disease, including trees here on the Mission campus.

While the removal of these trees may mean the possibility for the better growth of other vegetation, it may also mean significant deforestation here. And the removal of huge areas of



trees is a serious problem that already exists in Malawi. A way of preventing the spread of the disease or curing infected trees is being looked into, but in the meantime, please remember to keep this situation in your prayers.

### Mission Workers

Several of the major events of the month includes; the interns visit and the community health evangelism training which were highlighted in the bulletin last month. In addition, we've had three new staff members come on board: a Bible teacher and two community health trainers. *(More on these individuals to come later).*

Ben Hayes

## The much needed Immunization Fridge is Here!

The Namikango Maternity clinic is located at the Mission in Malawi in an area called Thondwe. It is 10 miles south of Malawi's old capital city – Zomba.

This facility is the main Health Centre for this area and it specializes in childbirth. Among the services provided by the Centre are: Childbirth; an Under-Five Clinic; Antenatal Care; and HIV/AIDS testing. The facility serves an area of 13,000 people in Zomba rural.

In 2008, Namikango Mission and the Malawi government signed a Service Agreement. In the agreement, the Mission has agreed to provide health care service for women and children from this rural area for free, while the government pays for nursing salaries and some other expenses. This was designed to reduce deaths among children and women. For several years now, this has been very successful with more and more women seeking maternal health care.

At times the government has been delayed in meeting their obligations. This has stretched the Maternity Clinic to the maximum to find adequate equipment and medical supplies and operating funds. In 2014, the health department removed an old Immunization fridge that was stationed at the Maternity Clinic and moved it to another facility that also needed it. However, this move left us without an immunization fridge for more than half a year now.

The results have not been good. Immunization meds have been kept at another facility and when they were able to get away to do so, healthcare workers would walk to and from there to administer the needed immunization to babies. Too often mothers were sent away without the immunization vaccines they needed.

The problem was emphasized in April 2015 when we hosted a group of nursing students. Their studies required them to practice managing and properly applying immunization vaccines. But they couldn't. We had no vaccines; we had no immunization fridge. They reported their disappointment about this and stated that we need to get our facilities up to date. We all agreed!

So, thank you leaders for allowing us to order an Immunization Fridge at a cost of \$3,500. Your contributions toward this are very much appreciated. This unit will greatly improve health care delivery to babies, protecting them from diseases. The Fridge will have high density insulation, temperature alarms, and thermally sealed doors with door locks. We are very anxious to receive this life saving unit here. Thank you.

Wilson Tembo





Namikango Mission • PO Box 21 • South Houston, TX 77587

## MONTHLY REPORT • Namikango Mission

[www.missionmalawi.org](http://www.missionmalawi.org) • Sidney Vaughn, Editor

VOLUME 51 • ISSUE NO. 9 • SEPTEMBER 2015



RETURN  
SERVICE  
REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 764  
Lubbock, Texas 79424



# Mr. Cool

**On a family retreat  
Braylon discovers a red racing bike**

## Three intensive weeks of community health training

We are very excited to begin a new outreach ministry at Namikango that touches on all the needs of people we work with, physical, financial, and spiritual. We call this community health evangelism (CHE) which is our term for a strategy involving lessons and Bible studies that work toward greater discipleship in reaching and helping the entire community. We have recently been able to hire two excellent individuals (Faith Somanje and Ziona Maharu) who will work full time in this area. In preparation for this program, we asked Judy Fish, who is very experienced with this outreach ministry to third world communities, to come over and take us through an intensive three weeks of training. This training will allow us to manage and monitor our effectiveness. Multiple strategies are put together to form a way of working with communities to build both healthier physical communities as well as healthy disciples who are then equipped to make other disciples.

We are eager to begin this work and are very grateful for Judy's willingness to come and teach for three straight weeks. It has been a great blessing to us and we trust that God will use this strategy to further His Kingdom here in Malawi.

Ryan Hayes



## 3 weeks of intense study



## Judy Fish teaches the teachers



## The Interns did a Wonderful Job

It seems only days ago that our interns (Jake, Samantha & Taylor) arrived at Namikango Mission. But after six weeks of solid service and learning, they have already left to return to life as students at LCU in Lubbock, Texas. It is fitting to take a moment now to mention how grateful we are for each of them and all of the work they did, coming to Namikango, while paying their own travel and living expenses. Some of the tasks they helped with included creating brochures, designing shirts, labeling and organizing our library, interviewing and photographing every staff member, painting and decorating the prayer room, speaking at the Namikango Clinic devotion, staying in the village with respective families, playing with and taking care of our kids . . . and . . . they served many other ways on a daily basis. As you can see, they packed many ways to serve into a very short time, and we are very grateful. This was the first group of interns at Namikango in recent years, and we feel blessed to have spent these six weeks with Jake, Samantha, and Taylor.

Ryan Hayes

### Missionaries

<http://www.namikangomission.org>

[Ben, Becca, Braylon, Brooklyn & Britain Hayes](#)

BenBecHayes@hotmail.com  
<http://hayesmalawi.wordpress.com>

[Ryan, Justine, & Amelie Hayes](#)

rjhayes@cmfmissionary.org  
<http://ryandjustine.wordpress.com>

### Editor

[Sidney Vaughn](#)

sidneyv@swbell.net  
713-944-8484

**Mail Contributions to:**

**Namikango Mission**  
P. O. Box 21  
South Houston, TX 77587

