

The Chisomo Trust

Working in Malawi, Central Africa

www.chisomotrust.org

Miles & Liz Thomas Newsletter

Issue Six – February 2012

Dear Friends

We have been back in Malawi for a month now since our Christmas break with our family and shall be here until the end of June.

As expected at this time of year heavy rain is almost a daily occurrence here but what is not even a yearly occurrence is the cyclone that was experienced during January this year. The last one which was of anything like this magnitude was in 1991 and caused floods, loss of homes and lives. Many people this time have lost their mud hut homes and for some older people it was the cause of death. All the buildings with which Chisomo Trust has been involved in the last 20 years are still standing and were used to shelter various people. Thank God for secure buildings

Most rural Malawians are stoical, recover quickly and pull together. We help in the small ways we are able and in our sphere of activity. The maize in the local area appears to be growing well although there is always poverty in some areas and in some households.

We are very encouraged that the local New Life church at Bvumbwe have themselves organized and financed successful seminars in recent months for marriage and youth

The marriage seminar was much enjoyed not only by members from the local church which appears to be stronger in numbers now than in recent years but also by some individuals from the surrounding area. We have heard that one of these individuals has commented that they have applied the practical business and financial tips gained from the marriage seminar and they are reaping the benefits in their family life.

Good news indeed.

The girls club in which we have been involved continues now on Saturday mornings and we have been having a great deal of fun with sport's activities, especially the use of the parachute, Bible quizzes (Using the Christianity explored course as a base), singing and other fun activities. We always share some home baked goodies to give us all energy to enjoy the sports activities!

Sundays finds us at various churches where we are usually asked to share but we sometimes have the privilege of listening and always receive something from what is shared by way of testimony. Lately we have been taking the Frisbee and having some fun games with the children while people gather.

The Zomba church pastor's house is progressing and up to window level. Rains and transport interrupt these things here as you can well imagine.

Concerning transport, the fuel and in particular diesel is still a serious problem but we have managed to obtain some from a contact of our neighbours.

On the domestic front we have been making preparation for the Thomas/ Parker visit – all 3 of our children, 2 spouses, and 1 granddaughter are visiting us for 2 weeks over Easter. Curtains have been made, mattresses for the floor have been bought and kind friends have helped with essential baby items. Cakes have been baked for the freezer and plans for full use of their time have been put in place. We are very much looking forward to seeing them all as you can tell. Thank you to all who have lifted us up. Please continue. We are mindful of you too.

God is good – All the time.

With love Miles and Liz Thomas



Girls Club at Bvumbwe New Life Church



Liz mending the parachute

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