



February 2010

Ebenezer up-date

The First Term is over

It has been a while..... But here's some news from the Ebenezer School!!!! Due to government decisions, this school year is a short one. The year started on December 7th 2009 and will be ending on August 6th 2010.



This school year we were able to add Grade 1, which means that our school has now three classes, three teachers, one assistant teacher and 34 children!!!

Ebenezer School 2010

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"He named it Ebenezer, saying: "Thus far the Lord has helped us", 1 Sam 7:12 We trust the Lord will continue leading us forward.

In the picture on the left is standing teacher Pauline Hara. She is teaching Reception Class. Lawrence, our assistant is just above her in the picture. He helps her a lot with the young children.

On the right side, on top you see teacher Mirriam Mwanza, She takes care of the First Graders!!

Then in blue we've got teacher Jessi Stitt. She came all the way from the States and is teaching the Kindergarten Class. Thanks Jessi for helping us out!!! Jessi is planning to stay for the year 2010.

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Special points of interest:

- Our school calendar for this year runs from: De cember 7th 2009 till August 6th 2010!!!
- Next school year will start on Sep-tember13th 2010 till July 2011. From then onwards we will be together with the European school calendar.

A Principal for our School!!!

To be honest with you, for the last few months I felt the School was growing above my head. From dawn till night the School was on my mind and it started to feel like a burden. For myself when things, that started off with joy, turn into a burden, I know something has to change. But..... much more important God knew something had to happen. Over and over I'm so amazed by His loving care and provisions.

Dorothy McKenzie, felt God leading her to go to Malawi. Within two months from making that decision she arrived at Lilongwe airport. Dorothy has done early childhood training back home several years ago and worked with the little ones for many years. Specifically the young children are on her heart and she is showing the teachers how to work in centers. A new concept for the teachers but very useful.

At the same time Dorothy is trying to have the teachers working as a team. Once a month there will be Staff meetings. And at the beginning and end of each week they will have a short meeting, mainly to start and close the week with prayer. Besides the meetings Dorothy shows a personal interest in the teachers and that is very important and encouraging to them.

To say it in one sentence: She is a blessing to the Ebenezer School!!

Please keep her in your prayers!



Mrs. Dorothy Mc Kenzie came at the age of 79 to Malawi to help with the School!!!

**Even when I'm old and gray; do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come.
Ps 71:18**

Climbing equipment for the School

From the Netherlands we received a large donation for a playground. The Ebenezer School in Holland (where I worked from 1984-1994) celebrated their 125th anniversary and wanted to organize a fundraiser for our school. They raised 7,000 Euro!!!!!! That amount changed into Malawi Kwacha gave us enough money for several playgrounds. As the School Work Team we decided to build an extra playground for the public Primary School at Nkhoma



We asked Mr. Scott Van Dycke to help us with the construction. Together with Mr. Chapola, they do a fantastic job!!!

In the next Ebenezer up-date we will show you the project being finalized!!!!

The remaining money will be used on the school curriculum!!



Our second School block

I think you all know the stunning story about the Korean people who have been raising the money for our second school block. Raymond and Mariella Provost worked as missionaries in Korea. Raymond felt the importance of education and started a school in rural Korea (1960) with funds from the States.

That school, with God's help has grown to what is



Two class rooms and a multipurpose room.

now called: Moon Wha Junior and Senior High School in Kyungju. Mariella who is widowed and lives in the States challenged the School leaders of the Moon Wha School with the story of our school in Nkhoma. In trusting the Lord they took that challenge and raised \$20,000 for the second school block. Lord willing, in June 2010 we will have Mr. Kim coming from

Korea to attend the opening ceremony of this second set of class rooms. Mariella asked us to name the building: "Raymond Provost Memorial Hall". Raymond Provost is already with his Lord and Savior but his vision has been carried on!!

Youth of the Reformed Church of Westbrook

Westbroek is my home town!!! That's where I was born and spent my youth. Mr. R. Nagel, one of the youth leaders, approached me with the idea to have their yearly project money going for the Ebenezer School. All we needed was to find a specific project to get the children in Westbrook enthusiastic about it. They decided to help all the First Graders with a half scholarship!!! Depending on the total amount they raise, we will

know how many years these children will be provided for.

Marieke Hasselman went to Westbrook and gave a beautiful presentation about our School.

We will wait for Mr. Nagel to hear how the fundraiser went!



Go for it youth of Westbrook !!

sponsors

All the children at the Ebenezer School in Nkhoma are receiving a half scholarship. Parents or guardians are paying the other half. But for some parents, even the half amount of school fees is too high and they are helped with a full scholarship. A half scholarship is \$120 per year. A full scholarship is double the amount.

Most of our sponsors are from Holland but you do understand that any person willing to help is very welcome!!!

Every school term I'll provide sponsors with a school up-date to keep you informed. Once a year I'll write something about your scholar and will send you a new picture.

Please let me know when you are interested in joining the scholarship program.

February 2010



If you are a qualified teacher and would like to do a year of voluntary work in Malawi????

▶ **You are very welcome!!!!**



Staff

Growing Library!!

Jack and Henrietta Schenk, who worked at Nkhoma for a while, took the initiative to write a web log about our school. They asked people to send books for the School. Many parcels arrived and we are overjoyed!!! Even two boxes full of books arrived and at the moment we are sorting them by age levels. First we will start using them in the different classrooms and later on we would like to start a library. We would love to see parents getting enthusiastic and involved in their child's reading progress.

Every family that took the time to arrange a parcel and send it to Malawi, can be sure of much appreciation. Your efforts are gratefully received.

We will let you know when the mail man starts to complain.....
More books are still welcome!