

FBC News

A Publication of Fredericksburg Baptist Church

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Ministry Partner with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Baptist General Association of Virginia

Reflections on Malawi The Experience of Our FBC Passport Missionaries

I believe that when you have been educated about an issue or problem in the world you are obligated to do everything in your power to help alleviate that suffering.

I know a woman who loves Malawi, Colleen Burroughs. She tells stories from her past, growing up

with the Malawian people experiencing their generosity, smiles, and seeing their kindness towards one another. I understand, having traveled to this small African country with her twice now, why she is so in love with the people and why she feels called to help.

As we drove up to her old church Singa Bay Baptist in Salima, we were all welcomed and Colleen B. was embraced by childhood friends (her father, "Bamba Walker" was proudly remembered by all). We were all invited to share in worship and the living water in a language we didn't understand. Yet we could still feel the meaning. I sat with a young girl, Colleen, who is named after Colleen Burroughs. She shared her hymn book with me and whispered to me when it was time to stand, sit, kneel, etc. We shared Bibles and sang Amazing Grace together, she in Chechewa and I in English. When we left church we all shook each



others hands and created a giant circle outside of the church exchanging many zicomos (thank you). This type of fellowship is rare for an average American teenager to experience. It is life changing

and inspiring.

This inspiration has led me to believe more strongly in my reason for visiting; relationships and water. Colleen started Watering Malawi during a drought that Malawi experienced 5 years ago. The world was not paying attention to the risk of starvation that so many of Colleen's friends were facing. So she turned to students, and as the Vice President of the summer camp Passport, which runs all over the country and internationally, she was able to plant a seed in many minds about Malawi and the story started to spread.

Since then, students have raised money and helped to create long term solutions to poverty and hunger through access to clean water, simple irrigation, and sanitation. Watering Malawi partners with grass roots Non Government Organizations

At first the thought of traveling out of the country made me slightly nervous, as I had never done so before and wasn't sure what to expect. Would I be able to go along with the culture or would the different way of living be awkward and hard to understand?

As it turns out, when people say that Malawi is the warm heart of Africa they couldn't be more right. Everywhere that the Passport Malawi group traveled, people were warm and open, laughing and talking with us.

On Monday we visited Mpando secondary school, where we sat with a group of 300 students to learn about the harsh realities of being a student in the rural areas of Malawi. We were taught about the challenges of getting to and from school, obtaining clean water, concentrating in class while hungry, and other serious issues.



For lunch the Passport group tried local Malawian food, such as nsima and goat meat. We then passed out an American classic, the PB&J,

See Maren Helfrich on page 3

See Constance Yunker on page 3

Looking Ahead

Saturday, August 6

Minister on Call-Larry Haun 786-7762
7:45am Prayer Pilgrimage at National Cathedral

Sunday, August 7

8:30am Worship/Lord's Supper
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship/Lord's Supper
12:30pm Kirundi/Swahili Hymns & Scripture

Monday, August 8

10:00am Person/Hudgins/McRae Circle
12:00pm Scott Circle @ General Store
1:00pm Scott Circle Meeting
7:00pm King Circle

Tuesday, August 9

11:30am Mommy & Me Playgroup

Wednesday, August 10

10:00am Woodmont NH
6:00pm Citizenship Class
6:30pm Stephen Ministry
7:00pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, August 11

9:15am Worship Planning
4:00pm International Choir
5:00pm Community Dinner
6:00pm Young Adult Prayer Group
6:30pm Supper Club Group

Friday, August 12

1:00pm End of Year SOKS Party
6:00pm Youth Pool Party

Saturday, August 13

Minister on Call-Patti English 899-6557
5:30pm 3rd-5th Grade Pool Party

Sunday, August 14

8:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship
12:30pm Kirundi/Swahili Hymns & Scripture

Our 2011 Financial Stewardship

Ministry Budget

Weekly Needs	\$26,649
Sunday, July 31	\$14,278
Y-T-D Total	\$702,491
Ahead/Behind Budget	-\$123,622

BUOH in Missions

Weekly Needs	\$4,808
Sunday, July 31	\$2,365
Y-T-D Total	\$107,784
Ahead/Behind Goal	-\$37,155

Our Sunday School Attendance

Sunday, July 31	429
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Responsibilities for August 7

Extended Session

8:30am Service

Contact Person:

Erin Silver 809-1303

Infant Care (PA14):

Nikki Christmas, Kathy Hundley

Toddlers & Preschoolers (PA12):

Anne Marie Mastin, Dawn Whitehurst

11:00am Service

Contact Person:

Dawn Whitehurst 548-0331

Bed Babies:

Lori Gudmundsson, Beverly Blaisdell

Toddlers:

Janis Snider, Lidia Slyke, Brittany Slyke

2s:

Kristie & Jerry Brown

3s & 4s:

Chris & Meredith Everett

Greeters Schedule

Princess Anne St: Phil & Suzanne Short
Hallway outside Chapel: Harold "H" Nelson
Sanctuary Door: Janice Ashley
Caroline Street: Ben & Janice Clark
Children's Area: Cindy Baker
Youth Area: Volunteer from Youth Class
Amelia St: Hugh Mullen

Bus Drivers

8:30am

Durga Chhetri

9:45am

Jimmy McGlone, Mark Houghton,
Dewey Lowman

Ushers

8:30am

Anna & Frankie Lee,
Chuck & Donnell Pitts

11:00am

Randy Hart, Jim Wiltshire,
Randall & Stacy Pierce,
Dewey & Judy Lowman

Deacons

8:30am

Charles Willett, Camilla Willett,
John Ingram, Margaret Ingram
Johnny Jones (W&B)
Kathy Jones (W&B)

11:00am

Marian Wiltshire, Bill Young,
Nancy Young, Neal Walters,
Allen Bennett, Keith Morris,
Hugh Mullen, Tommy Settle

Burnie Parker (W&B),
John Rhea (W&B)

Audio Operators

8:30am Steve Simmons/John Ingram
11:00am Bob Dungan

Among Our Family

In The Hospital

MWH: Phyllis Jones

Inova Alexandria Hospital:

Pam Hathcock

Sympathy To:

the Family of Henry Albert;

Doris Gump in the death of her nephew, Ronnie Bell;

Adam Pence in the death of his grandfather, Earl Beatty

Thank you:

To Our Church Family,
We would like to thank everyone for all their prayers, cards, and support during our time of grief over the loss of our son-in-law, Howie Cook. Having this support each day helped us to survive during very difficult days, especially for our daughter, Shelley. We thank you for your continued prayers and support as Shelley begins the process of rebuilding her life without Howie.

The Valentine Family
Frank, Kathy, Andrea, Philip, and Shelley Valentine Cook

Special Gifts

In Memory of

Ministry Memorial Fund for **Henry Albert**, given by Shirley L. Fabian

BUOH for **Roger Graham, on his 100th birthday, August 2nd**, given by his wife, Arnita...for **Boyd Green**, given by Annie Mae Jones

Hospitality Ministry for **Boyd Green**, given by the Jerry & Vicki Silver

Baraca for **Boyd Green**, given by Sylvester Silver

Adult Ministry for **Ronnie Bell**, given by Marian Wiltshire...for **Susie King, on her birthday, August 11th**, given by Marian Wiltshire

In Honor of

Hospitality Ministry for **Brenda Richardelli, on the occasion of her retirement**, given by Friends

Adult Ministry for **Hugh & Frances Mullen, on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary**, given by Marian Wiltshire

Constance Yunker from page 1

to the crowd. It was amazing to see what just a sandwich could do. As we were placing one in someone's hand they would smile and thank us. We would laugh with them as if the language barrier didn't exist.

Later, some of the Malawian students taught us to make bricks. The fact that we were from almost completely different worlds didn't matter. Using their feet and their hands they taught us a lesson in thoroughness and honest work. We were shown their resourcefulness in using just the soil from the ground and water from their pump to make bricks. We also toured the toilets that Watering Malawi helped to fund. We learned that it is important not to go into a school or a village and personally do the building labor. This takes away from the sense of local ownership of the community.

On Tuesday, the Passport group raised awareness about sanitation and hygiene with a 6K walk. We

walked with a few hundred people: singing, drumming, and dancing. As more and more people joined us I noticed again that there were many more ways to communicate than with just a language. A child would come up to me and take my hand or a woman walking next to me would start dancing with me. These simple actions would form instant relationships and often would warrant a hug as we parted. Just a high five in passing could make a child giggle with joy. We all noticed this open welcoming each place we went this week.

On Wednesday we went with the Christian non-profit group World Vision to tour sights in a high-poverty rural area. The local villagers performed for us and shared stalks of sugar cane, even giving us extra to bring back and enjoy in our cabins back at African Bible College, where we stayed.

After we went on a Safari at Mvuuc camp on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, we ended the week by having dinner with the

former ambassador from Malawi to the U.S. Now a member of the president of Malawi's cabinet, Hawa Ndilowe welcomed us personally to her homeland and shared her dreams for her country with us.

At the end of the trip I realized that the very thing I was most worried about turned out to be one of the most amazing aspects of the experience. Even though the Malawians have a different culture than us, there was no awkwardness. The welcoming, loving and Christ-like acceptance from the Malawians all around us made us feel at home.

-Constance Yunker

Maren Helfrich from page 1

(NGOs), which help to build local ownership of facilities and create jobs to help families and communities. This willingness to listen to those that we are trying to help is much more effective than going into cities and villages with our American ideas of how to "help" Malawi. I feel after visiting the villages and people that this is a wise and lasting way to create change in a country who's people deserve to have clean water. This will help to provide food, education, empower women and so much more.

We had dinner with the former Ambassador from Malawi to the United States, who is now in the President of Malawi's cabinet. She informed us of the plans they have for their country and how they are so proud of their peaceful nation. She invited us to participate in those plans, and now I invite you.

Little Colleen and her family and

friends in her village participate proactively in this initiative by making Crosswater Crosses. These crosses are made by the hands of men, women, and children in Silema and are sold as a means of income for families who have befriended me. The crosses, molded with care and fired in hot coals outside of their home, have crossed waters, just as our support will, as we sell them and spread the Word.

We were lucky enough to bring home some of these crosses made in Silema. You can participate in helping Watering Malawi by purchasing these crosses for \$10 in the church office. Thank you for helping us to water Malawi. And of course, if you already have a cross, you are welcome to designate a monetary gift to the church, with Watering Malawi on the Memo Line of your check.

-Maren Helfrich



**Prime Timers
to
New York City at
Christmas!**

**Monday-Wednesday,
November 28-30, 2011**

**(\$200.00 Deposit required
by August 14)**

**Single Occupancy - \$925.00
Double Occupancy - \$620.00
Triple Occupancy - \$540.00
Quadruple Occupancy -**

Make plans now to join us for this Christmas trip! Our group will leave the FBC parking lot at 9:00am on Monday, and travel by charter bus to the Hyatt Regency in Jersey City. That night, we'll attend the **2011 Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular!**

On Tuesday and Wednesday you'll have the opportunity to tour with the group or strike out and see the city on your own. More details will be available in a brochure with registration form. We need **35 participants** to make this trip happen, so call your family and friends and invite them to come along!

Registration deadline (with \$200 deposit) – Sunday, August 14

**Our Youth Will Have
a Busy and Fun End of
Summer!**

**FBC Youth to Lead
S.O.K.S. Camp
Monday, August 8th –
Friday, August 12th
1:00 – 4:00pm each day**

After a week of PASSPORT and personal introspection and discipleship, we will lead a week of S.O.K.S. Camp.

This year, S.O.K.S. Camp will take place from 1:30 – 3:30 pm each day. We will meet at 1pm for set-up and plan to leave by 4pm after clean-up.

This is our week to give back to internationals in Fredericksburg. Other churches in our area have each been taking a week to serve at S.O.K.S. Camp, too! Sign-up TODAY!

**The Pool Party
Friday, August 12th
6:00 – 8:00pm**

On Friday, our last day of S.O.K.S. Camp, we will have a pool party at the Broadwell's home (12206 Dell Way, Fredericksburg, VA 22407). Don't forget your bathing suit and towel for the pool party. Please make sure you sign-up so our hosts can plan accordingly. Also, please bring a snack to share. Sign up TODAY!

**Youth to Virginia Beach
Friday, August 19th
8:00am – 9:30pm**

Meet at the church at 8:00am and we will travel in church buses to Virginia Beach for a day of body surfing, building sand castles, and lots of great fellowship. You will need money for your lunch at one of the boardwalk restaurants (like McDonald's) and for dinner at the food court at Lynnhaven Mall. We will return to the church at 9:30pm. Please sign-up early to help us secure transportation.

Hey Primetimers!



**Clara Barton's Glen Echo, MD Home
Glen Echo Park**

Lunch at the Irish Inn

**Friday, September 9
8:30am-3:00pm**

**\$60.00/person
(Transportation & Meal included)**

Travel with us by charter bus to lovely Glen Echo, Maryland, where we'll tour the home of Clara Barton. Right next door is the Glen Echo Park, which used to be an amusement park and then became an arts colony, and the original Dentzel Carousel remains.



After touring the home and park, we'll share lunch together at the Irish Inn, next to the park. The Irish Inn offers delicious food and atmosphere in a quaint setting.

**Please sign up and submit
payment by
Sunday, August 21.**

† Ministry Team †

**Larry Haun
Pastor**

**Patti English
Associate Pastor**

**Mike Patch
Music**

**Sarah Bush
Member Development**

**Jeanne Anderson
Missions**

**Erin Silver
Preschoolers and Children**

**David Haun
Youth and College**

**Ann Marlow
Education/Administration**

**Dennis Sacrey
Church Administrator**

**Susan Cruse
Ministries Coordinator**

**Shirley Onderdonk
Organist**

**Tammy Snellings
Office Assistant**

**Sharon Brennan
Hostess**