



VILLAGES OF HOPE AFRICA



David & Connie Buzikievich

Directors of Village of Hope Malawi

December 2009

Moni Muli Bwanji? (Hello! How are you?)

We are beginning to learn Chichewa... challenging and fun, all at the same time!

The fall season has been filled with activity! David has been connecting with many pastors, business people and friends about sharing our vision for the ministry at The Village of Hope. At the end of October, he spoke at an interdenominational men's breakfast in Mount Forest, Ontario. Another highlight was speaking in a Sunday morning service at Living Word Assembly of God, a Ghanaian church in Toronto, in November. Please pray that God will continue to speak to the hearts of His people about partnering with The Village of Hope through finances and prayer.

We have also enjoyed meeting with other missionary friends and learning valuable information from them – Rev. Arn and Elsie Bowler, Rev. Stuart and Zelda Mae Hunter - all of whom have served with PAOC in Malawi - and Jeremy and Christine Feser who are currently working in Tanzania. The Bowlers even showed us a picture of the house we will be living in! They have all been such an encouragement to us as we journey to Malawi. We also had the opportunity to meet with Sergio Bersaglio, who began the first Village of Hope in Zambia and currently provides leadership to all of the Villages of Hope. It was exciting to get a better understanding of our roles in this vital ministry!

We want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. May you experience the love and blessings of God during this season in increased measure, and may you have a Blessed New Year!



VOH Malawi SPOTLIGHT

Pilirani Banda came to the Village of Hope, severely malnourished and underweight when he was four years old. His father had died from a snake bite in 2006 and his mother died in 2007, leaving him a double orphan. His uncle assumed responsibility of him creating tension between his uncle and his wife to the point that she threatened to burn down their house with the boy inside. Pilirani's uncle loves him, but because he did not have the resources or capacity to look after him, combined with the stress it was putting on his marriage, Pilirani was left to find shelter in various homes. Pilirani was warmly welcomed by his House auntie and House mother at VOH Malawi where his life has been healed through nutrition, education, protection, security, God's love and his new family!

Prayer Requests

- That the remaining 43% of our budget needed to finance the operation of the Village of Hope Malawi would come in by the end of 2009
- For health and wisdom for Connie & David as they prepare to leave for Malawi in March 2010
- That God would be with, and provide for Lindy and Kara & David during this time of transition
- That God would put together every detail of our move to Malawi
- For provision to fund the operation of VOH Malawi's six remaining vacant homes (\$1,200.00/month/home)

Praise Reports

- The sixth house at the Village of Hope has been occupied with children and a house mother!
- Our Jetta is sold – and it is a real blessing that we can drive it up until the time we leave!
- God has provided a car for our daughter, Lindy, so we can now sell our second vehicle which is the car she had been using to commute to school in Hamilton
- We now have 57% of the funds needed for our operating budget pledged through monthly commitments
- Two additional churches have partnered with us in the month of November – God is good!



The Country of Malawi...

- Population of 14 250 000 in an area only twice the size of Nova Scotia
- Bordered by Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique
- 85% of population is rural
- 12% of the population (1.72 million people) are infected with HIV/AIDS
- 30% of school aged children have lost at least one parent
- Over 1 million orphaned children in the country
- Life expectancy is 40 years

How you can help

We are looking for people who will partner with us in the ministry of Village of Hope Malawi. We cannot do it alone. It is God's ministry, not ours, and we need your help. There are a variety of ways you can help us:

Pray

This is the most important help you can give us! We truly believe that God is calling us to Malawi and if we are to accomplish His will there, we need His presence and His power. The country of Malawi & the children of VOH Malawi need your prayers. By partnering with us in prayer you are providing spiritual covering over us and our ministry.

Give

We believe that where God calls, He provides! And He works through people like our partners who help us meet our budget needs in Malawi. You can give in any one of the following ways:

- Designate your offerings in your local PAOC church to Connie & David Buzikievich, PAOC missionaries to Malawi
- Give online at <http://www.paoc.org/donate.aspx?mID=329>

James 1:27 – Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress

PAOC APDC

Be sure to check out our website at www.vohmalawi.org!