

## MISSION LEADER INSTITUTE PRAYER PARTNER REPORT

### MALAWI MISSION—JANUARY 2020

#### PASTOR JOHN MESSMANN

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel! By God's Spirit at work through you, the Word of the Lord is spreading widely and growing in power (Acts 19.20) across greater Ft. Worth, regionally and globally.

Mission Leader Institute (MLI) is a ministry of St. Paul which equips believers and congregations to engage open doors for the Gospel in daily life callings and the communities surrounding them. Mission Catalyst events with follow-up Coaching fuel momentum and multiplication amid diverse contexts.

Sharon and I were invited to bring this work to the newly-forming Confessional Lutheran Church—Malawi Synod, led by Rev. Davis Wowa of Mzuzu. He and I led worship at a 6 week old mission plant, to which the local evangelist walks several kilometers each week.



The primary purpose and focus of the invitation to Malawi was the Mission Catalyst workshop: Called by the Gospel—to Christ, for the World. We were able to utilize the facilities of African Bible College in Lilongwe, a central location for the more than 40 people who traveled from 17 sites across the country. Most of these deaconesses, pastors and student pastors were meeting one another for the first time. In a country where the vast majority of people live by subsistence farming, such a gathering was beyond reach. So, MLI helped provide transportation funds along with the accommodations at the ABC in Lilongwe.



Worship, singing with joyful dancing, skill practice in witness, and prayer for those yet to know Jesus filled nearly 3 days of powerful fellowship!

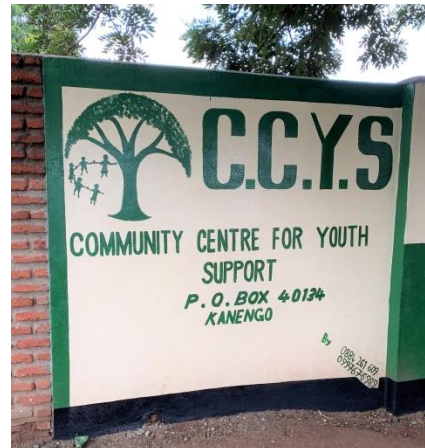


Much on the minds of the women were questions of how to encourage one another, support extended families, while caring for the constant needs of orphans and widows.





Such needs are also targetted by the great work of Chikondi Malawi, launched by St. Paul's own Lone Podgore, with ongoing support from us and others! Chikondi carries some of the quilts crafted by St. Paul's Quilting team to provide tangible markers of Christ's care for the many grandmothers who lead extended families. YOU prayed over those quilts! It was great to put eyes and hands on this significant work supported by St. Paul!



Let's covenant together that we will pray for the work among these most vulnerable in Malawi through Chikondi Malawi...

...and for the expanding, newly forming Lutheran Fellowship there which has only 7 pastors for 17 mission sites, with 16 students in training for mission pastoring, along with deaconesses in training. They serve with joy, amid poverty and limitations we could scarcely imagine. Will you join us in prayer??

Pastor John and Sharon Messmann