

Why you would want to become part of this ministry?

1. We have a variety of areas of ministry in which you could choose to help: orphanage, schools, water needs such as well repair and installation, clinic, Food relief, church buildings, and the Bible school. We are involved in all of these areas in the bush country of Malawi. Choose one or all of these to be part of. We are even open to new ministry ideas as God gives us vision.
2. We have the full support of all surrounding village chiefs. We also have the support of the head chief and even the traditional authority (TA). We are registered with the government and have the backing of members of Parliament.
3. We are in the process of establishing our own tax-exempt organization. We are presently covered for tax exemption through Christian Character Ministries until we gain our own tax exempt status.
4. We see a real problem in integrity and transparency in charitable ministries of which we believe is despicable and it is our goal to make integrity and transparency a first priority for this ministry.
5. This ministry is unique because it is not an attempt to establish another humanitarian or Christian institution which takes in funds and accumulates vast infrastructures which require funds themselves to operate. This ministry has been established in an attempt to do everything within its power to minimize administration cost in its presentation of the gospel of Christ. Specifically speaking, it is attempting to help the poor, but not by just giving them donations and doing their work for them. We believe that ultimately it is the Malawians who must solve their problems. Further, we believe in the old proverb of teaching a man to fish rather than just giving fish. If we are to accomplish these things rightly, where the people will be able to hold her head up recognizing that they have accomplished these things. We cannot do this by just throwing money at a situation or taking the responsibilities in hand and resolving that for them.

We are allowing the Malawian people to do as much of the administration work as they can so that even the “necessary administration” costs will be in the hands of the people who need the help. If the administration costs stay in Malawi then that money support the people in Malawi instead of in America. We have been told that this would not work, however we are presently doing this and the results are staggering. The Malawian people see that we are trusting them and they are taking the responsibility to better themselves. It is working and we are seeing great growth in maturity.

Thus the mission goal of “Offering Hope to the World” is to try to get these people to invest in themselves. What we are trying to accomplish is to facilitate that goal with our finances and skills but not to do it for them. They are responsible for building the orphanage, digging wells, feeding people, building churches, and teaching people in their own language the gospel message. These things are happening by the efforts of Malawians and we are facilitating or helping them in their efforts. We are not the ones on site doing the work. In this respect, it is a unique situation. We do everything in our power to keep the overhead, on the American side, as low as possible and we are totally transparent about it. Further, we are always open to any ideas of doing this in a better way. This is the real deal that we are talking about here. It is not another way people have thought up to make money by helping the poor. These people who are working on the American side actually give, not take. This expression is as close as we can come to doing what we believe Christ commissioned the church to accomplish.

After studying different missionary approaches throughout the years, we believe, as candidly and apologetically as we can, that this is a great reason the church is not been more successful in its

attempts to bring hope to the poor. Too many efforts quickly turn into something more than just helping our fellow man. The goodwill eventually becomes an institution that needs to be fed itself and often it becomes hungrier than the people it was established to feed. It starts out as an act from the benevolence of one's heart but when people and money get involved with charity too often something other than charity transpires. Most of the time this is not intentional, but harmful nonetheless. Also, when the poor are just given a life, they never grow and become able to take care of themselves. This becomes a mindset and they eventually believe that it is the responsibility of others to take care of them. Even worse, this attitude perpetuates poverty and allows unscrupulous people to take advantage of them as they promise to care for them.

When attempting to bring the gospel to third – world places, we find that it is the lack of the gospel being taught, not the lack of resources that keeps them in poverty. Once they see that they are children of God, created in his image to accomplish great and mighty things, they pick themselves up off the poverty floor and began to desire something different. Our early efforts in Malawi are proof that this is working. So we ask you to get involved in this ministry for the same reasons that we are involved.

Again, there is no one profiting (monetarily) from this ministry other than the Malawians and no other motive other than the kingdom of God glorified. We would appeal to you in this manner; if you want to become part of a ministry that you can support, that is dedicated to the right value of Scripture, this is that ministry. You are welcome to be as much a part of the ministry as your God-given abilities allow. You can go to Malawi with our missionary team and have a hands-on participation if you so desire. Our records are open to all interested parties. We are willing to visit and answer any and all questions you may have.

We have seen the power in the small churches that produces the results of a much larger entity. God has blessed these churches with the finances to do the work. The blessing has not been miraculous but the efforts of hard work and sacrificial giving. If you would choose to join us in this venture the only compensation would be that you, as we, would be doing service that may only pay dividends in the next life.

6. Our yearly mission trips to Malawi are open to our supporters. You can go and see for yourself the value of your investment.

Dreams for the future:

1. Build a guesthouse so those wanting to see for themselves the work in progress could stay in an environment conducive to an American Standard while being in the bush country.
2. Widow's house: Malawi has an abundance of orphans and widows. James 1:27 teaches us that it is our responsibility to care for both. Plans for a widows' house is on the drawing board.
3. A library in the bush is unheard of. Thousands of books are discarded every day in the states. We want to harness this loss and provide a free education via books to those who would otherwise never have such an opportunity.
4. Playground equipment: those of us who have been to a third world country can see the desire for these things that all of us took for granted growing up.
5. Build and start a trade school: the hope and dreams of most of the young in the bush is very limited. I was personally told by one young man that his dream was to dig for mice. Another told me he wanted to raise tomatoes to sell to support his family. We want to teach Malawians a trade such as welding, carpentry, sewing, will repair etc.
6. We want to start these plans all over again in another part of the country!