

A Word from the Lloyds

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Greetings from hot and humid Indiana,

This year in the USA has been a time of blessing and struggles. When we last wrote we were busy packing up and finishing projects in Malawi for a year of home assignment. It is a hard thing to prepare to be away for a year from the place you call home. Titus was blessed to get some unexpected help setting up new computer labs that needed to be finished before we got on the plane. SIM missionary Daniel Muir came to Malawi from Zambia because of a Visa issue. He is an IT guy and was looking for some work to do! He, along with our son Matthew, was a huge help getting those labs finished while Titus was busy working on getting our own visa situation sorted out so we could get on the plane.

One of Titus's high school students, Mzati Banda, got the opportunity to study at Kristy's alma mater, Huntington University. We picked him up at the airport and helped him get settled in. Kristy served as his adopted mom during orientation. We are staying at a mission house about three blocks from the university, so we have been able to see Mzati and provide a few home cooked meals through out the year.

In the fall we traveled out to the Northwest United States to participate in a series of mission conferences. It is a blessing to see how God is working in these different churches and to share about what is happening in Malawi. The travel did take a toll on the family, however. Our oldest son Zech ended up in the hospital with orbital cellulitis on his right sinus and eye socket, and required emergency surgery. He came though fine and spent a week in Seattle Children's Hospital recovering. Zech had to

have an additional surgery in March to ensure we didn't have the same problem again on the other side. That along with some new medications has helped him and he his doing fine now.

In January we traveled south and spent some time with our good friends, the Hodges, who had spent two and a half years as our next-door neighbors in Malawi. We had an opportunity to share our ministry at their church as well as experience a Houston, TX, "blizzard." It was a refreshing time and fortunately they opened up the interstate in time for us to travel to our next conference in Mobile, Alabama. We had a wonderful time visiting the saints in Alabama. On our way back to Indiana we made a stop in North Carolina to visit some more dear friends, the Carlisles, we had served with in Malawi. It is so encouraging to spend time with people who served on the same field and who understand many of the struggles you face.

In February and March we participated in conferences at the Berean Bible Institute and at churches in West Michigan. One morning Titus woke up with pain in his abdomen. By noon, his pain had grown so bad he knew he needed to see a doctor. We went to an urgent care facility just around the corner and he was immediately transferred to the hospital. He was in surgery by 7:00 with a burst appendix. The doctors were able to do everything laparoscopically so he was able to get out of the hospital after only three days.

At the end of March Titus made a short trip to Malawi. He was asked by ABC Christian Academy, where he teaches Jr. High and High School computer classes, to come help officiate an international swim competition called CANA. Fourteen different countries were represented and Malawi ranked 7th, the highest



Zech recovering from orbital cellulitis



Playing in the unexpected snow

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Enjoying the company of other young people the same ages



Visiting with friends during our travels



Titus officiating the international swim competition

they have ever finished at this event. The timing system behaved itself and the gala went smoothly. Titus also had a chance to visit with our other Malawi team members and our Grace church in area 23 of Lilongwe.

The beginning of April we traveled to Gatlinburg, TN, for a family reunion with Titus's parents, siblings, and their families. It was the only time while on home assignment our entire family was together. All the cousins had a great time together and it was nice to be able to relax amidst all the conferences and Titus's trip to Malawi. After our family reunion we traveled to churches in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Long Island, New York. We have put over twenty-five thousand miles on our van this past year!

In May we went on a camping trip with our home church at a local state park. Matthew was enjoying riding a scooter, when he hit a rock and landed on his left wrist. It turns out it was broken. He had to be in a cast for a month, which dampened his summer activities!

We received a generous donation of a number of laptop computers for the portable computer lab that Titus will setup. This will allow the computer course in our Grace Bible School to be taught around the country, not just at the headquarters in Lilongwe. This will help us accomplish our strategic plan of training leaders for ministry. Titus and Matthew have been busy getting these computers ready to go.

Please pray for us as we prepare to return to Malawi on August 6! This is a time of transition for our family as we leave family and friends here in the USA and reintegrate with our ministry team in Malawi. Pray for Titus as he prepares for school to be started the week after we arrive. Pray for safe travels and ease though customs with our luggage. Pray for a fruitful new term of ministry as we continue to facilitate different kinds of training and leadership development.

In His grace,
Titus, Kristy, Zech, Matt, Maggie & Caleb



The missionaries doing the Pacific Northwest tour



Matthew with his broken wrist