

Asman's Mission to Malawi Africa

October 2007

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A: IN THE BEGINNING:

Through sharing experiences in Laos with Aloha Medical Missions, we became friends with Sheree Lipton and her daughter Lavanya or Levani. The Ananda Foundation funds various projects to help bring women and children out of poverty. After funding and visiting some projects in Malawi beginning in 2004, they returned home to Hawaii and asked us to consider doing a mission trip with particular focus on the Dzanja La Chifundo Christian Orphanage. They felt that our particular gifts would be a good fit to help encourage the children, staff and volunteers of this orphanage in a country ravaged by AIDS/HIV and overwhelmed with orphans and dependent elderly. In God's time (2007) everything came together.

B: PLANNING, PURPOSE, SUPPORT:

We love to travel and we want to use the gifts that God has given us BUT we weren't sure just what use we might be in Malawi. We had several meetings with Sheree and Levani to clarify what they desired of us and to learn more about the culture that we would be entering. We are well aware that God is in Malawi and we were anxious about how God might use us in this far off country. We are open and say "here we are Lord and if it is your will, the plans will all come together and Your purpose will become clearer as time goes by." We took what information we had with our heartfelt prayers and presented this to Makiki Christian Church's Stewardship and Missions Committee. We felt strongly that we needed to "be sent" and prayed for by our home church. Support was overwhelming and most of our transportation cost was covered by donations. Sheree and Levani wanted maize and bean seed taken to several projects and we found a source right in our congregation! We were able to take 30# of seed donated by the University of Hawaii Department of Tropical Agriculture that should do well in Malawi. As well, the children of Makiki Christian Church each sent a Hawaiian tee shirt and their laminated photo. UCC Judd Street folk made "rag dolls to love" and others donated toothbrushes, school supplies, embroidery thread etc. etc. Our plans were in motion. Our purpose to be open to God's will, to come from love and to deliver some specific supplies seemed clear. The support of prayer, supplies and monies was awesome!

C: PRAYING, PREPARING AND PLANE RIDES:

Those of you close to us know that from June on, our condo apartment was undergoing renovations and we were residing with daughter Tammy and her husband Bart. Our prayers for housing were answered as the renovations took much longer than we hoped. So during this time, Don's office at UCC Judd St. became the "staging area" and I even used his computer when ours was unavailable.

The UCC Judd folks wanted to become more involved and took on the task of praying and making more than 40 lovely “rag-dolls-to-love” with love and prayer knots tied into their hair. Individuals donated soccer balls, embroidery thread, yarn, material, crayons, toothbrushes etc. The bags were going to be heavy!

We probably didn’t get the cheapest itinerary (used United and South African Air) but we had United frequent flier miles. By using United, we were able to use miles to upgrade to first class which permitted #70/bag for our 4 check in bags AND they let Pastor Phil’s guitar go for free! Let us say that 35 hours (to Johannesburg) of plane travel is not easy no matter how you go but we were prepared and South African Air coach was almost as nice as United First Class. Praying, looking forward to the experience, dressing comfortable and Thermacare hot packs for Judy’s arthritic knee and hip helped to make the trip successful. After a few days layover in Johannesburg, we braved the Joberg airport for the 3 hour flight to Blantyre Malawi and again our overweight luggage was permitted!

D: CULTURAL IMMERSION:

Before missions, we always get some good travel books for the area. The Lonely Planet Malawi is out of print but we found other resources to give us some information. Sheree and Levani also had “an evening of Africa” in the fall of 2006 and we met and talked with graduate students from Africa. We even had some cultural food. Sheree and Levani shared more including lovely photos about their various Africa projects. On our flight from JFK to Joberg, we began seeing lots of Africans and some in cultural garb. The plane stops to refuel in Senegal and new folks joined the flight. One of the cultural things that we noticed at JFK airport was that Africans are not very good at staying in que or line....lots of pushing and jockeying for position...hmmmm. Noticed the same thing on our flights in and out of South Africa.

While in Joberg, we visited Lesedi (a cultural center similar to our Polynesian cultural center here in Hawaii) where 5 different South African tribes demonstrated, village life, garments, song and dance, food and other cultural aspects. Even in the drizzle of rain, it was a good activity to also help us get more into that time zone. Once we arrived at the Chileka airport in Blantyre, we were ready for whatever God had in mind for us. Mulibwanji! Hearing some different languages...initially, even English with a British, Afrikaner or Malawian accent was difficult to understand. We were cool/mellow while people rushed in and out the only door at the airport. Since we had so many bags, we were in no hurry but it was nice to be met by an English speaking blonde woman, Anne Davidson, the director of the orphanage. All our bags fit into her van and we were whisked off to the Dzanja La Chifundo (The Compassionate Hand) Orphanage which was located in Bvumbwe about 30 minutes south of the Chileka airport in Blantyre (on the Limbe-Mulanje road).

E: DZANJA LA CHIFUNDO CHRISTIAN ORPHANAGE:

This orphanage had its beginnings in 1997 when Anne Davidson and friends began outreach to the orphans of the area. By 2000 they had a single room house as an orphanage...it was barely a roof over their heads but food and clothing was provided and some tender loving Christian care. Sometime in 2002 the property/estate on which the present orphanage resides was available for purchase by a friend of Ann’s moving out of the country. A trust was set up so that donations and other funds could be managed for the sake of the orphans. I think there are 5 trustees and Anne Davidson is the trustee designated as director of the orphanage.

Details of the property are sketchy but I estimate that it is about 5 acres with high stone walls surrounding it. There are a few big termite hills and has a fair woods of eucalyptus (used for firewood etc.), lots of vegetation, some of it planted for food, some obviously residual beauty from prior estate owner and much of it wild. It is an easy walk to nearby churches and market in Bvumbwe. There are some old shacks on the property where the 2 couples (gardeners and their children) reside. There is a 2 bedroom 1 bath cottage where we stayed and a one bedroom cottage attached where a nurse Rose Carter (also one of the trustees) stayed with some family members.

Presently the orphanage has 41 children – 19 girls and 22 boys. There was a shortage of 3 wood beds on order but everyone had a good mattress and a small trunk to keep their personal clothes and treasures. There are 7 “housemothers”...one is mostly responsible for the little ones who do not go to school, one is primarily a housekeeper and the others cook, assist with laundry etc. If a child is hospitalized, one of the housemothers always stays with them so they seem to need all seven. At least 3 housemothers sleep each night in the girl’s dormitory. There is rotation of chores performed by the older children including some of the gardening. Most of the children wash and iron their own clothes and have at least 3 sets of clothes and shoes.

There is a separate bathing area with a solar panel on the roof but obviously not functioning as there is only cold water throughout. The bore hole provided by the Ananda foundation is working well and the children can pump it by hand if the electricity is not working (a daily happening while we were there) but otherwise the electric pump does a good job of pumping it up to a high tank for gravity flow.

So this present location of the orphanage is just 4 years old. They obviously were able to take in many orphans that first year of operation as most of the children have been there for 4 years. Managing the orphanage is a challenge. The flora and fauna could easily overtake the buildings (especially termites, mice etc.). The rapid growth of space, facilities and children required a major increase of workers. The director does not speak the local language and depends on an interpreter. Though she was born and raised in southern Africa, she speaks only English and Afrikaans. Hiring, mentoring and supervising primarily Chichewa speaking staff to care for property and children (who are supposed to be learning English in school) is a daunting responsibility.

F: THE CHILDREN OF DZANJA LA CHIFUNDO:

To a person, the children seem to be happy and thankful for their life at the orphanage. All, except Mphatso (who has AIDS) seem in very good health. They eat plenty of a very simple diet similar to what they might have in the villages...lots of sima (cooked finely ground maize), some greens and occasional beef sausage. Mush and milk are common for breakfast. They have beautiful teeth, clear skin and eyes and the most common snack is bananas. Most of the school age children attend and walk to the nearby village school but a couple of the older boys attend special high school. The children have praise time each evening usually led by the older children.

There are several Christian volunteers who work with the preschoolers and tutor and mentor the children after school. The children can choose where they go to church but all do go to church on Sundays...its a big day to wear your best clothes and shoes and walk to church with friends and maybe get a special treat if you happen to walk with Pastor Don and Judy. We always needed to stop to buy bottled water.

The time spent with the children was precious. Sometime during our stay, each child was entertained at our cottage and interviewed to find out a little bit about their history and their hopes and dreams. During the praise time, we taught Christian songs with motions, led prayers, showed gospel tricks and danced and sang and clapped along with them. During the day, if we were on campus, we spent time with them just visiting, playing a bit of volleyball, teaching a few gospel tricks or in Margaret's situation, tutoring her in proper behavior and English. We tried to encourage "family" even to having one session with all the girls and housemothers talking and sharing about the importance of their family (everyone at the orphanage) and how you might share and show Godly love in your family. Sharing all the gifts was fun as well and we had a silly time with new tooth brushes. The older girls spend most Saturday mornings with Ann's "right hand", Elizabeth ... actually walking to her home to spend time doing crafts together and having lunch...how special to spend that time with them and also watch African soap opera

One weekend, Pastor Don escorted the children (reminiscent of the Pied Piper) to a revival being held right next to the orphanage. He also visited their elementary school to share his gospel magic ministry (along with donation of some school supplies and soccer balls). I think it was important for the children to see us with them, walking with them, holding their hands, at their church, shopping and at various activities outside the orphanage campus.

These are all precious children of God! They are the future of Malawi which has lost so many of their parent's generation. All the children will say that they are happy and thankful to be at the orphanage. We had been told that the children exhibit a lot of jealousy, trying to get what someone else has. However, when you listen closely, you notice that they are all "wanting". Sometimes it looks like jealousy, to want something someone else has, but I think it is more a basic survival skill that helps them develop their "hopes and dreams". They have not had parents encouraging them toward a good future. That is part of our ministry – to help them articulate, to encourage them to strive for a good and realistic future. Please see attachment for more details.

G: SOME OF THE PENDULUM PROJECTS IN LILONGWE AREA:

On a Thursday, bright and early we took a 4 hour bus ride from Blantyre to Lilongwe. We were met in Lilongwe by Mara Banda and members of her family who escorted and interpreted for us most of our time in that area driving a Toyota Corolla.

Mara is a fascinating, strong Malawian woman who is living with AIDS fully. She is director of Paradiso House – Home Based Care and connected with the umbrella organization – The Pendulum Project which is a 501C3 organization originally directed by a woman in Boston. The project is now managed in Malawi by Malawians for Malawians and focuses on support for children in AIDS affected communities. The Community Based Organizations in part supported through The Pendulum Project seem to be managed and staffed by volunteers who are mostly HIV positive and many living with AIDS.

We took a very large suitcase of supplies including soccer balls and pumps, Hawaiian tee shirts, toiletries, clothing and maize and bean seeds. Our goal was to see the projects, bring greetings from the Liptons/Ananda Foundation, bring gifts from Hawaii and learn about their successes and ongoing challenges. We would bring back information to Ananda Foundation and our home churches and try to begin discerning how we might join in the fight to end AIDS, poverty and to lift up children for a better tomorrow.

We had a simple accommodation (Budget motel) which did have CNN in the eve and good hot water shower! The days were filled with visits to several Pendulum project sites in which the Ananda Foundation also had interests.

MCHENGA CBO – (Arnold Keyo key person) – Has a mission “to support, care and protect orphans, vulnerable children and people living in their area with AIDS using best methods we can afford.” Present Activities: Nursery school, home based care, youth programmes, resource center, income generation and feeding site. The director had a well organized summary of the project. They would/could do more with more money. At this time a major thrust is to PLANT maize so that they supplement the inadequate donations of food as well as provide other monies for fertilizer, more seed, school fees, building shelter etc. Items needing funding:

- Food – ongoing need for sima
- Bicycles for volunteer transport from village to village
- Home based care kits
- School fees for secondary school
- Build a shelter for the childcare programs
- Office, furniture, supply/storage area, cooking area
- Clothing for children and PWA
- Ambulance bikes to transport patients to doctors
- Encouragement(incentives) for volunteers as some need to support family

They put on a wonderful program in part demonstrating how they use culturally sensitive song and dance to teach people about AIDS prevention and treatment. There was a big crowd and many volunteers (men and women) and children performed. We sat out in the shade of a falling down building. They performed on a dusty dirt area. There was much enthusiasm. We were amazed at the amount of service being provided with limited funds – it seemed that the entire village was somehow involved. We were very happy to bring about 15# of maize seed. They gifted us with an elephant calendar carved by a villager.

TILERANE ORPHAN CARE CENTRE – (Lameck Mandevu key contact). This site has existed since 1995 feeding and caring for 400 children at 2 different sites and providing day care for the little ones. Similar to Mchenga, there are many good adult volunteers but a shortage of funds to purchase some of the simplest items (cooking & feeding utensils for instance). They too depend on donations from a variety of sources but would like to become more self sustaining. They were making beaded AIDS pins and desire to get funding for raw materials to make and sell soap. Some items needed funding:

- Kitchen utensils-pots, plastic cups, plates, child chairs, tables, pails, basins, spoons
- Food items-rice, maize, beans, sugar, cooking oil, powdered milk, salt, flour
- School fees for children – fees, uniform, shoes
- Farm equipment – fertilizer, seeds, pesticides
- Soap making business – costic soda, palm oil, large vats
- Clothes, blankets, soccer and volley balls, nets, computer printer bicycle

They have a relatively new concrete and brick building with an office for staff and a large class room. There was also an outdoor covered patio and cooking area. The children entertained us with songs and Pastor Don entertained them with some gospel magic.

PARADISO HOUSE – (Mara Banda contact). This project has a building for child care program and feeding site as well as the office and supplies for the home based care. They have a “social area” where they can do counseling, watch videos, visit and relax. Again the very

talented and educated living with AIDS volunteers helped us to understand the challenges and needs. They took us on home visits to meet the people so frail that they must bring them food and medicine.

This site is very busy on Saturdays as it becomes a feeding site and day care for even the school age children. They provided the musical welcome with plenty of opportunity to dance and sing and gifted us with a wrap skirt and locally carved bow and arrows. We understand that “next week” the painter was to come and paint the halls ceiling with a design developed by Hawaii’s Peggy Chun (friend of Liptons and Asmans). Some specific needs identified that require funding:

- School fees especially for the orphans
- Clothing
- Transportation costs – getting people to doctors and Mara into Lilongwe office
- Paper supplies – stationary, envelopes,
- Computers for grant writing, project tracking and training
- DVD and films with spiritual emphasis
- Development and training in HIV management – ongoing need for volunteers

CHIEF TSABANGO – lives a good distance (it took about 4 hours for our round-trip and brief visit) from Lilongwe but is the high chief of about 395 villages (400,000 population) which he visits regularly on his bicycle. He was very gracious and shared the many challenges that they face in his area that all require funding sources:

- poor transportation (poorly maintained dirt roads and little bus service),
- poor communication (no land lines and cell towers few)
- orphan care – he has land but no people to build/manage projects
- safe water sources – need bore holes at brand new school
- fees so that orphans can attend secondary school
- practical works and encouragement from outsiders like ourselves

There is a new government public school in the area but as this was Saturday, there was no one about. Again we were happy to deliver maize and bean seed to the chief so that he could help his people.

We attended Assembly of God Church with Mara on Sunday. The spirit was really moving as a guest preacher shared about growing up as an orphan with a deformity and the pastors wife led the sing. Eventually a couple of men were moved to dance at the altar. Another neat experience followed by lunch at the pastor’s house...a short walk away. Sharing food and fellowship with the people is such a gift to us white folks from Hawaii. We felt honored to be welcomed into their homes.

We are pleased to see that the Malawi government considers this public health issue a priority and medications are provided for treatment. The adult volunteers have hearts so big for their community and deserve all the resources that we can get to them. The CBO’s with the aid of the Pendulum Project staff continue to network and work towards best practices.

The time we spent in the Lilongwe area was a blessing as we now have a better idea of how enormous is the challenge of living with AIDS and its aftermath in this basically rural society and how the strong spirit of God is at work to bring healing and a promising future.

Our visit was especially enjoyable as we also fell in love with Mara and her family through sharing sima, soda, gospel magic interpretation and hours of prayerful safe driving. Mara's family became our family and now we have a photo by email of the newest Banda – baby girl Chance born to Mara's son Roger (our primary driver) and wife Ruth and daughter Tamala.

H: OTHER HAPPENINGS IN THE BLANTYRE AREA:

FEEDING SITES: Ann Davidson has a huge heart for the orphans and old grannies of Malawi. With some financial assistance from like-minded friends, she has begun some feeding sites in nearby villages. She works with the village chief to identify the orphans and most at risk grannies. The village builds a feeding hut and has a team that cooks the food so that these identified vulnerables get a daily meal of sima with some added sugar for energy. There are so many orphans and never enough orphanages. Some villages still have a fair number of Grannies or Aunties who can help raise the children but the primary laborers and parents have died and there are few to plant food for the village people. Ann would love to develop more feeding centers as she develops a steady funding process...she definitely doesn't want to start something and then have to stop it due to insufficient funding. Feeding sites are also a good way to help identify individuals who might benefit from special services not available in the village. One such child is Esmi (see photo and some information in attachment. Because of her being an orphan and disabled, she was identified for the feeding site.

HEALTH CARE: We visited one of the near by hospitals (in Cholo?) twice since the girl child Mphatso was hospitalized twice during our stay. The hospital was quite nice and relatively new and at least partially staffed by interns or externs from the Netherlands under the auspices of Doctors without Borders. The equipment including beds, tables etc. were very old and in need of repair, but the place was clean and light. Dental care is probably non existent BUT there is little snacking on sweets or sodas and the children at the orphanage do brush their teeth. Many who are able go to South Africa for more serious health concerns.

RETIREMENT: Judy had occasion to visit Newland Homes which is a rather nice retirement community for Europeans. (If you are black, you are Malawian, if you are white you are European and if you are mixed, you are colored.) As if Ann didn't have enough to do, she and other lady friends take turns running a Wednesday beauty salon...wash, curl, dry, comb out and shoulder massage. The location was also where some of the retirees have their library so I was able to borrow some rather old but informative Malawi focused books.

TEA PLANTATIONS: About a 40 minute drive south towards Mt. Mulanje, we had occasion to visit a tea plantation. Actually Don led a woman's bible study group (Ann is member) in the out of doors with a baboon running in the woods and Mt. Mulanje and acres of tea fields in the background. One of the ladies 3rd generation Malawi European lives on the plantation where he husband is the manager (many years) for a British company. It was interesting to fellowship with these white women who lived and raised families in Malawi but spoke little or no Chichewa. Most had a Dutch Reform church background and spoke Africann as their first language.

VISITING DAVIDSON HOUSE: Several times we were guests of the Davidson's for lunch or dinner...they have 3 different excellent cooks! We were able to use their computer for some email and relax in a lovely surrounding with peace and quiet and beautiful vegetation.

I: SOME SUGGESTIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS:

A bit more than a month since returning from Malawi, we complete this lengthy report in part to share with the reader but also to help remind ourselves to pray and continue forward with God's plan for our participation in any Malawi work. We feel God calling us back and we have some ideas for how our skills and gifts might best be used. However, as always, we remain open to the moving of the Spirit in others as well and we look to others to confirm our hearts desire.

Below are some thoughts/suggestions related to the Dzanja La Chifundo Orphanage in no particular order...just seeds consider for planting and watering:

- Good Christian couple presence living on campus – mentor children and staff
- Termite control project – treat, repair, maintain
- Solar heating for water and maybe generating electricity for back-up
- Agricultural plan for the property- seed, fertilizer etc. to follow
- Recycling/resource management plan – get the kids involved in this need for the future
- Older children volunteer for community service in fields of interest with mentors
- Overall Maintenance Plan for buildings and expensive equipment
- Renovate cottage to be used for on-site couple and quiet training center
- Training center – computer, tailoring, tutoring, repairs/maintenance small electrics, future nurses group, bible study etc.
- On-site schooling for staff – especially house mothers – English, reading, writing, math
- Scholarship plan for children to go on to college or other training
- Family plan – nourishing relationships of family members that age out

The following children need consideration rather quickly so plans can be made before they “age out” of the orphanage:

- Daniel James is 18 and final year of high school wants to be lawyer
- Patrick Aleya is 17 and final year of high school wants to take drivers training
- John Seyani is 17 and final year of high school wants to take drivers training
- Francis Petulo is 16 and interested in agriculture and aquaculture
- David Ramses is 16 and wants to be a lawyer
- Chrissie Black is 16 and developmentally slow but want to be a tailor
- Dalitso Magambo is 16 and 1 more year of high school; wants to become a nurse

Concerns or suggestions related to Lilongwe area are pretty much summed up in each paragraph. Each project was encouraged to work with Mara who can assist them to put together realistic grant requests.

Ann Davidson has been traveling. We shared some of these thoughts with her while in Malawi. Many of the projects, including the orphanage have grown in size and complexity. I think the trust that manages the orphanage is in process or looking at their management structure as Ann also wants to devote more time to developing funding and meal sites.

**Zicomo for taking your time to read this.
If you want to know a bit more detail about the children, read on.**



Don's shoulder - then behind PRISCA (11), MEMORY (8), front MANESI (9) and ELIAS (5)



DAVIE RAMSES – male age 16 is the brother of Lameck, Tiyanjane and Sungie and has been at the orphanage for 4 years. He is a good “older brother” to many of the youngsters and enjoys school – especially math and English. Davie plays guitar and keyboard and is thankful to Pastor Phil Mark for sending his guitar gift. He wants to be a lawyer so that he can help the poor. He will be prayed for by **Leslye** who sent a Hawaiian tee.



CHRISSIE BLACK – female age 16 has been at the orphanage for 4 years. She is very sweet and shy. She does beautiful embroidery and also knits. When she grows up she would like to be a tailor. She is happy to be praying for **Megan** who sent her a Hawaiian tee shirt.

TIYANJANE RAMSES – female age 15 and sister of Davie, Lameck and Sungie has been at the orphanage for 4 years. She isn't very fond of school but she is good at embroidery, arts and crafts and speaks English well. Tiyanjane has a joyful spirit and will be praying for **Jerissa** who sent her a Hawaiian tee shirt. She dreams of becoming an accountant some day but finds math difficult.

SUNGIE RAMSES – female age 12 is the sister of Davie, Lameck and Tiyanjane and has been at the orphanage for 4 years. She loves English and wants to become a nurse. She will be praying for **Corinna Ishihara** who sent her a neat Hawaiian tee shirt.



RUTH VICTOR – female age 13 has been at the orphanage for 4 years. She has 2 older sisters who remain in the village. Ruth is a rascal who loves English and Math and talking with her friends. She wants to be a lawyer some day as she is good friends with Elube Michael. She will be praying for **Elise** who sent her a nice Hawaiian tee shirt.

ELUBE MICHAEL – female age 14 will be praying for **Elizabeth Okuna** who sent her a nice red Hawaiian tee shirt! Elube has been at the orphanage 4 years and told us that she has 3 brothers at the orphanage but that they all have different father's last names. She loves English but struggles with math and social studies. She does like to read the Bible and attends the local Catholic church. She wants to become a lawyer-good friends with Ruth Victor.

JAMES CHARLES – male age 15 has been at the orphanage for 4 years and has no other family. He will be praying for **Laura** that sent him the “trusting God” tee shirt. James likes English but not math yet want to be a general manager of a bank. He attends the local Catholic church.

CHARLES DANIEL – male age 15 will be praying for **Jonathan** who sent him a red Hawaiian tee shirt. Charles has been at the orphanage 5 years and has a sister Estel at the orphanage. He likes math and music; plays the drums, sings and dances and wants to be a lawyer some day.

DALITSO MAJIGA – male age 8 has been at the orphanage 4 years and is the brother of Wilson. He loves school, especially math and some day he would like to be able to drive a car and be a messenger. He is praying mightily for **Jerrin** who sent him a Hawaiian shirt.

WILSON CHILUMPHA – male age 8 says he is the brother of Dalitso Majiga and Elube Michael...sometimes I think maybe they are cousins but maybe just have same Mom and different fathers. Wilson is really a joyful happy fellow and he has been at the orphanage for 4 years. He has pretty good command of English and will be praying for **Issac** who sent a neat blue tee shirt. Wilson wants to be a cook in a restaurant.

LAMECK RAMSES – 11 year old male will be praying for **Ryan** who sent a good “shaka” tee. Lameck is brother to Davie, Tiyanjane and Sungie. Lameck likes social studies and English and someday hopes to become a priest. He worships at the local Catholic church.

FRANCIS PETULO – is a 16 year old male who will be praying for **Anna Onaka** who sent a MCC tee. Francis has been at the orphanage for 4 years and someday wants to be minister of agriculture! He is fascinated by aquaculture, likes French and food.

ISAAC BWANALI – is just 6 years old and came to the orphanage 3 years ago. He has a sister Sibongile also at the orphanage. He will be praying for **Amanda** who sent a neat red Hawaiian tee shirt. Isaac has a dream of someday getting a car. He likes to draw.

EVANS JUSTEN – is a smiley 11 year old boy who has been at the orphanage 3 years. When he grows up, he would like to become a pilot and travel the world. Meanwhile he will be praying for **Daniel** who sent him a nice purple Hawaiian tee.



KONDWANI MAJIGA – is 11 year old male who has been at the orphanage 4 years. He has a younger brother Dalitso at the orphanage as well. Kondwani would like to be a manager of a bank when he grows up. He likes science and will be praying for **Kimberly** who sent him a nice tee.

JOSEPH BIZIWECK – 3 year old male also known as little Joe has been at the orphanage for 2 years along with his sister Ruth. I don't think he understood the purpose of the photos but he is happy with a doll and the neat striped long sleeve tee from **Isaac Obara**. He is the youngest but he will be the first to tell you... "I'm not a baby".

CHIKONDI FORDSON – is 12 years old and he seems to spend a lot of time helping to care for little Joe. Chikondi has been at the orphanage for 3 years and would like more time to sleep. Actually he said that when he grows up he wants to sleep and pray for the poor... maybe he will become a priest. Anyway, he will be praying for **Jerrisa** who sent a nice Hawaiian tee shirt.

STEVEN KALLIET – is 7 year old male who will be praying for **Camillia**. Steven was pretty quiet so I don't know much about him though I remember that he liked to ham it up for photos.



MARGARET JAFALI – is a 10 year old young lady who came to the orphanage just 3 months ago after a very rough time after her parents and then grandmother died. Margaret needs prayers for patience and kindness as she is having a challenge "fitting in" as the newest child. She seems very bright and will be praying for **Kaci K** who sent a nice yellow Hawaiian tee. Margaret likes to learn English and wants to be a nurse – Auntie Judy tutored her in English and behavior almost daily during our stay.

MEMORY KHASIMU – is an 8 year old girl sister of Manesi and always with a huge smile and very pleasant disposition. Memory has good English language skills as she has been at the orphanage 6 years and attended preschool lessons with Lucy (missionary volunteer). Memory wants to be a nurse when she grows up and will pray for **Laura Shigeta** who sent tee shirt.

TRIPHONIA BANDA – is a 7 year old girl and sister of Silvia and Malita. Like Memory, her best friend, she has been at the orphanage from this old site (5 years) and had Miss Lucy for preschool. She will be praying for **Jenna Endo** and wants to become a medical doctor.

SILVIA BANDA – is a 6 year old girl who is just so tiny, sweet, loveable and funny. She's been at the orphanage 5 years. She's a joy to be around and her English is excellent--maybe because she has sisters Malita and Triphonia to mentor her. Silvia will be praying for **Aidlyn** who sent tee and photo from Hawaii.

ELIAS DAUDI (see his photo on last page) is a lovely 5 year old boy and is in first standard or secondary school. He's playful and will pray for **Mako Nishimura** who sent a neat tee shirt.

CHRISTOPHER GUTSTO – is a 10 year old who has lived at the orphanage for 2 years. He's in 3rd standard at school and hopes to become a pilot. He will be praying for **Richard Bevacqua**.

RUTH BIZIWECK is 9 years old sister to little Joe and has lived at the orphanage for 2 years. She's in 3rd standard and loves her English class. She wants to become a nurse like many of her friends. She will pray for **Maxx** who sent his photo and tee shirt from Hawaii.

MANESI KHASIMU is 9 years old sister of Memory and has lived at the orphanage for 6 years. The is in 3rd standard, loves math and also wants to be a nurse. She will be praying for **Kiana**.

MALITA BANDA is a 10 year old sister of Triphonia and Silvia. She has lived at the orphanage for 5 yers and is in 3rd standard. Malita enjoys religious education and will be praying for **Jazmine Ogata** who sent her photo and a Hawiian tee shirt.

PRISCA KAFERA is an 11 year old girl who has been at the orphanage just 1 year. She likes English and is in 4th standard. She has an older sister back in the village. When she gets older she wants to become a nurse. She will pray for **Christian Takamoto** in Hawaii.

SIBONGILE BWANALI - is an 11 year old girl in 4th standard. She has lived 4 years at the orphanage and enjoys English class. She wants to be a nurse and will pray for **Micah**.

MPHATSO GEORGE – is a 14 year old girl who has lived at the orphanage 3 years. She is living with AIDS and has missed a lot of her schooling. She speaks only Chechiwa and is very shy yet says that she wants to be a nurse. She was in and out of the hospital twice during our 3 week stay and seems very placid and accepting of life. She really had a sparkle in her eye though when she was given a nice tee shirt with M in sparkling rinestones as well as a picture of **Amy Ishioka**. She will treasure it and will pray and hopes Amy will pray for her.

MILOSI SAUKIRA is a 13 year old boy that is in 1st form (high school) and likes English and hopes to be a soldier. He will pray for **David Torigoe** who sent his photo and shirt from Hawaii.

PHILLIP FORDSON is 11 years old and in 4th standard. He also likes English and wants to be a soldier. He will be praying for **KK** who sent a photo and Hawaiian tee shirt.

DALITSO MAGAMBO is one of the very mature older girls who has such compassion in caring for the younger ones. Dalitso has lived at the orphanage 3 years and has just one more year of high school. She likes biology, has excellent English and wants to attend college to become a nurse. She will be praying for **Brysson** who sent his photo and Hawaiian tee.

SUNGANANI M'BALAKA is a 9 year old boy in 5th standard who likes math and English and wants to be a soldier. He will pray for **Nathan Inaka** who sent his photo and shirt.

STENI SYANI is a 15 year old boy and has been at the orphanage for 1 year with his sister Grace and brother John. He's in 8th standard and likes English. He would like to be a truck driver. He helped us shop for bottled water and he will be praying for **Kari Kuboyama** who sent a picture and shirt.

ESTEL DANIEL is a 13 year old girl who has been at the orphanage for 2 years along with her brother Charles. She is in 5th standard, enjoys English and wants to be a lawyer. She will pray for **Sarah Loui** who sent Hawaiian tee shirts and her photo. Hopefully Sarah will pray for her.

GRACE SEYANI is the 12 year old sister of brothers Steni and John. She has been at the orphanage about 1 year and is in standard 5. She enjoys social studies and wants to become a nurse. She will be praying for **Sara Hashizume** who sent her photo and Hawaiian tee.

DANIEL JAMES is 18 and coming up on his last semester of high school. He has lived at the orphanage 3 years and enjoys English class. He has lots of “wants”...to be a TV producer, to keep playing guitar and singing and to become a lawyer. He will be praying for **Matthew Kim**.

PATRICK ALEYA is 17 years old and also coming up on his last semester of high school. Patrick has been attending a good high school and in his extra time is working around the property and helping with the garden. Patrick wants to become a driver of the small local buses or for a family. He'll be praying for **Jon Ichimura**.

JOHN SEYANI is 17 and in his last semester of school. He helped a lot in the garden after school and will be praying for **Mari Tadaki** who sent cute photo and tee shirt.



ESMIT is one of the orphans at one of Ann's feeding centers. She was a twin. The sister with similar disabilities died. Esmi says she is 13 – she has bust development similar to 13-16 year old. She wants to be able to support herself as she gets older and says she would like to be a nurse. She speaks only Chichewa so Elizabeth did most of the interpreting. She does not appear to have other disabilities and when

brought to the orphanage for weekend visits seemed shy but did play volleyball and other games with the children. She seems well adapted to most activities and is very flexible with strong legs and maximizes use of her poorly formed arms and hands.

We asked a local nurse, Rose Khader (who is also an orphanage trustee) if there were some training programs that might help Esmi. We were not there long enough to sort out this concern but perhaps Rose is working on it.

So this is the end of this report but not the end of the story. We feel that God has magical plans for our return to this land and lovely people. Meanwhile, let's all keep the light shining!



PASTOR DON SHARES MAGIC MINISTRY AT ONE OF FEEDING SITES.

ALOHA, ELIAS DAUDI (5), LITTLE JOE BIZIWECK (3) & ISAAC BWANALI (6)

