

## **A 15 YEAR RELATIONSHIP WITH NKHOMA, MALAWI**

### **THE HOSPITAL, EBENEZER INSTITUTE, RURAL HEALTH CLINICS, MOBILE HEALTH UNIT, THE SYNOD, THE SEMINARY AND GRADUATES, NICKEL A MEAL, AND MISSION CO-WORKERS**

2019 is the 15th year of our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Nkhoma, Malawi. It all began with Dr. Barbara Nagy, a Pediatrician at Nkhoma Hospital. This Presbytery made a decision to provide 80% of Dr. Nagy's support. After visiting Barbara in Malawi, we began working with the hospital. That decision led to helping start the Ebenezer Institute of Learning and so many other ministries. God has continued to expand our vision through the years.

- When visiting Barbara, we started working with the hospital to upgrade bathrooms and staff housing.
- After three years, the hospital requested assistance to start a school so their employees would have a school for their children. First Gastonia funded the first building with two classrooms.
- Currently, there are about 400 children at Ebenezer in pre-kindergarten through middle school, and PWNC supports more than 45 scholarship students.
- PWNC helped to fund the hospital's nine rural clinics and their staff housing to get electricity and updated or improved facilities. This Presbytery continues to support the mobile health unit and hospital improvements. Equipping all clinics with electricity and water has been one of our primary objectives.
- In addition to helping with staff housing, PWNC has supported the hospital in numerous other ways, including supporting a medicine fund, painting education murals in the wards, renovating exam rooms, etc.
- In 2019, a major project was funded by a PWNC donor (David Cannon Belk Foundation), enabling the Nkhoma Hospital and village to triple their water supply. This would eliminate the need for rationing one hour of water in the morning and at night. This successful completion of this project significantly impacts the hospital, schools, seminary, Synod, and residents.
- Also in 2019, seminary graduates helping to serve over one and a half million Presbyterians received bicycles to travel to their churches, as well as Study Bibles and clerical shirts. PWNC has also assisted with seminary housing.
- In 2018, PWNC celebrated visits from Chrissie Mbewe, principal of Ebenezer, and Vasco Kachipapa Banda, General Secretary of the Nkhoma Synod. The Nkhoma Synod has over one and a half million Presbyterians.
- Mission Teams travel to Malawi every year to strengthen relationships, work with our partners in ministry, and share together our faith in Jesus Christ. Each time we go, we hear, "You care and you come back." Justin, a college student on the 2019 delegation, said, "Our time and our relationships are more important to them than our money."
- In the Fall of 2019, Rev. Richard Kapanda, Director of Youth, (which encompasses children, youth, and young adults) attended a PWNC sponsored international retreat with Taiwanese pastors and the Rev. John McCall. Rev. Kapanda visited churches in the presbytery during his visit.
- Mission teams have included many people who have worked hand in hand and side by side with Malawians. Members say that being there is a spiritual experience, where they see God at work. Malawi changes your life forever, whether you are a college student or a senior citizen.



**2019 Malawi Team Delegation Members**