

NEWS UPDATE

Spring 2020

We can never hope to bring you all the news, but here is a short selection for your prayers and thanksgiving.

Literature

We have practically completed the distribution of **500,000 Gospel Calendars**. It is humbling to have such a responsibility from the Lord, and we are deeply grateful for the generosity of His people which made it possible. We are grateful too for the faithfulness of local brothers, Harold and Goodson, who oversee the day-to-day literature work, and for the large number of other Christians involved throughout the country. A further container of literature is due to arrive in Malawi in the next month or so - please pray for its safe and speedy arrival.

During Jim & Stephen's February visit to Malawi, we were able to advance plans for a **major translation project**. We have assembled a three-man team to begin putting the Postal Bible School "Bible Time" lessons into Chichewa and have established a small translation office in Zomba. We are excited about the prospect of these resources getting into schools across the land. Please pray that the Lord will raise up workers who could take this forward.



Some of the brothers from the newly formed assembly at Chidewere. Some of them attended our last Teaching Conference in Lilongwe



Brother Harold with Raphael from Chitipa - he took a large quantity of literature and could use much more

The delayed translation of Bro. Bert Cargill's helpful book, Tell Me More About The Gospel, is now complete, and we hope shortly to have it **typeset and printed**. We have high hopes that it will prove to be a real blessing in helping local brothers develop a sound understanding of the doctrine of the Gospel.

There is growing demand for Bible Correspondence courses. We are not directly involved in running the ministry, but we are glad to facilitate it by undertaking to produce course materials, and help with some of the running costs.

Unrest in Malawi

There has been growing political unrest in Malawi since the Presidential election in May last year. In February, the Constitutional Court annulled the election because of widespread irregularities, making it only the second African nation ever to do so. Although this has briefly eased tensions, there is real potential for further violence as the re-run ordered by the court approaches. The date has just been set for 19 May.

Sadly this means that we will be **unable to hold our annual Bible Teaching conferences** for a second, consecutive year, due to the elections. There is real evidence that these conferences have been of great benefit, and so we are disappointed by this development, however we must leave the matter with the Lord.

Malawi Gospel Outreach

We have pencilled in MGO2020 for the first two weeks of August. Please pray that there will be no repetition of last year's unrest, as this could affect plans for MGO too. We plan to return to the south of the country and to concentrate on the Lower Shire, one of the areas hardest hit by the cyclone and flooding last year.

Prison Work

Jim & Stephen had a very profitable two-day training seminar with Prison Chaplains during their visit - a great opportunity to set out the Gospel's unique ability to transform lives. The feedback from the seminar was very good, and we believe it will lead to further doors of opportunity opening. The chaplains were very interested in the Hygiene Packs we showed them, and have committed to work with us to get Bible Study Courses into many more prisons.



Prison Chaplaincy Training Seminar

Relief

The Cyclone Relief Project is almost complete - we praise God for the kindness of His people which enabled us to help so many vulnerable people. We made a further visit to Dzaleka, and were delighted to see the school run by W & R in operation. The positive attitude of the volunteer staff and pupils was impressive, in spite of astonishing lack of resources. However, we were saddened to receive video footage a couple of days ago which revealed that one of the makeshift classrooms in which the youngsters learn has collapsed due to heavy rainfall.

As the Lord enables, we continue to help feed almost 100 orphaned children in the camp. The refugees rely upon NGOs such as World Food Program & UNHCR for their meagre ration, but this has now completely stopped since the start of the year, due to lack of resources. **£1 provides an Orphan child with 3 meals per day.**



Some of the Orphans receiving Breakfast



A pool of water in the classroom - the roof was letting in



The classroom has since partially collapsed

Southern Africa Literature Trust (salt@salt-mail.com) (See www.SouthernAfricaLiteratureTrust.com for further information on how to pray for and support the work)