

Tiyamike Mulungu Center



News Update

Nov 10, 2009

.....148 children in total of these..... there are 12 babies under 1 yr of age the youngest is Sarah Ann born Nov 4 and 18 between 1 and 2 yrs. and 15 between 2 and 3 yrs and 14 between 3 and 4 yrs of age.....11 between 4 and 5 yrs of age. They keep growing and growing and growing :)

Hmmm 70 little ones who will need secondary school ...now why do we want to get that going.... (and that's if we do not get any more)

God is Good !!!!

All the Time !!!

Our latest news letter is in "**attempt to send mode**" with difficulties occurring \O/ hopefully this weekend it will be available to our friend Randy who puts it on the web site and then if he has time it may be on for Sunday viewing (as if u have nothing to do but read our news letters Ha Ha.... Well this is an addendum to the news letter.. justalmost sent...

In our news letter (u are yet to receive) we outline how after almost three years of .."We need a staffed Baby Clinic for three and under" we finally realize there is likely and that would be very likely that no health professional of the caliber we would need to be effective would ever consider moving to our little slice of the world... Now to those who have visited us it was probably clear however it truly was to us a probability...We have been away from home since Nov 5 dealing with taking a little ones body back to the Valley on Nov 6 to babies in the hospital thru this time. An acute diesel shortage and queues hours long influenced us initially and then God appointments, selling our mini-bus (which has helped with the monies owed for formulae) and subsequent meetings have kept us here in Blantyre. Having a shortage of fuel to return to home we began putting some time into finding a place to stay when we have to be in Blantyre. Along the way we started thinking and talking about what to do with the small babies ...How could we provide better care and access to the quality of medical care we want for them ...**good questions**..well the first block was our "Have a Baby Clinic in Bangula" thinking... That seemed to dissipate Nov 11 and then on Nov 12 we called a lady, Grace, we had talked to a couple of years ago about a house the company she works for owns near Queens Hospital in Blantyre ... It was rented however, she said, her brother had a large house near the hospital and the people had just moved out Nov 6 . We agreed to look at it with her and had the joy of meeting the owner , Richard (who by the way let us think he was the garden worker for the first while) Well we were amazed everything we needed for housing our under one year old babies was present... room for all and the ladies needed to care for them as well as a room for Pam and I to stay in when we come up. **And location**... one km from the minibus drop from Bangula and one and one half km to the Queens Hospital (less distance than most of our staff walk to work each morning). The grounds are beautiful and gardens large we expect to be taking produce down to Bangula for our use there ... remember this is Blantyre the land of coolness and pleasant seasons... **BUT** The rent issue was to be discussed the next morning Nov 13. Pam and I had asked separately "**How much Holy Spirit?**" we received the same figure independently... 500 USD per month... that was about 200 USD equivalentless than they would have liked and 125 less than they had from the previous renter. We parted with the agreement that Richard, his wife Kate (whom we had not met yet) and Grace would come for a French toast breakfast with us at the flat we were staying at (belonging to a friend Mary who is in SA until Dec) that was this morning Nov 14 ..



We were sure we would not be able to take the house, as it seemed they would have to have more than the 500 we felt we could offer... This couple Richard and Kate are not wealthy ...as with many, they have payments to make on the house and taxes , school fees for their three children as they need it and and and ...however, they came to peace in agreement that this would help Malawian babies and God was interested big-time.. They agreed to the amount we had said, with the qualifier that the first six months being paid at once and on a six-month basis thereafter. They could then use those funds to make money and increase the amount in that way. As to Pam and I we believe this is Poppa's opening for the babies of the Lower Shire Valley to have a better avenue of care for their first year or two of life. It will mean a small increase in staff and a restructuring of schedules possibly such as bringing baby ladies up on a 20 day on and 10 day off rotation which will solve so many other problematic issues. This would also hopefully allow the ladies to be able to focus on the babies from a point of not being tired and having all their work at home waiting after each shift. We have been looking at this program of rotation for Home in Bangula as well, and as such, have had favorable feedback as to the staff's interest. As to coming to Blantyre for the 20 days (or how ever that works out) that is a reward !!!! As to furnishings, we are in pretty good shape, however, there are additional costs such as ... paying out leave pay and long service pay so we can switch to contracts covering the rotation schedule suitable to Malawi Labor requirements. We would have to give leave or pay this out anyway so is not an extra cost ... also buckets, nets, some mattresses, rakes, a push lawnmower, garden hoes, watering cans, minimal furniture such as plastic chairs, curtain material, clothes lines, truck fuel: in total less than 2000 USD **so we need an immediate commitment for 3000 USD (with funds following asap)** for the rent for the first 6 months with followup of every six months the same, and a one time 2000 USD for the transition and set up costs. Pam and I believe this is what the Lord is directing us to do. If you agree, then we invite you to join us with what you are able,: if not, then no problem. If there are extra funds donated to help us help and care for these littlest ones we will use it towards catching up our other TMC costs that have fallen behind. We have sold our minibus and that has helped.

This is not a small thing. We have tried our best to make it work with the medical services in Bangula and there is no question that our friend who has the private clinic is doing his very best to help but is limited in training and equipment when dealing with these smallest ones . The other clinic seems to have dealt with too many deaths and seems to us to have a more fatalistic attitude; as such we have difficulty there.... It does not matter where we are; even though we do our best, there are those who will not make it. We ourselves have had to be reminded when it is about the lives of these little ones...money cannot dictate our decisions. We must always do our best to follow Holy Spirit's nudges. How easy it is to say we have faith now give us your money. So we release this fully to His grace and leading. Please pray and join us in this ... if it is your heart and within your ability ... His grace and great love to you and out from you is our prayer thank you Will n Pam