



Melody, Bill
Hannah & William

Missionaries To The People Of Malawi, Africa

The Ashbury Family

Sending Church:
Dr. W. Melvin Aiken, Pastor
Tabernacle Baptist Church
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Proverbs 4:18
"But the path of the just is as
the shining light, that shineth
more and more unto the
perfect day."

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September-October, 2006

Dear Pastor & Church Family,

God has given us a great opportunity to give the Gospel out to 300,000 people in the city of Ndirande. Ndirande is a suburb close to the city of Blantyre. It is known for its large population, and it is well known for its sin. But praise the Lord, Jesus is a friend of sinners – He saves sinners. A group of Christians contacted me about six months ago and they asked me if I could help them build a church in Ndirande. I told them that I would like to help them, but they would have to fill out some forms for us first. They properly filled out our forms, and then I had a meeting with the church leaders and their church family. After I explained our Baptist doctrine to them, one half of their church members decided that they didn't want to work with us. Their main problems with our Baptist doctrine were eternal security, that we didn't speak in tongues, and that we didn't have women preachers. But the other half of the church members have decided that they do want to work with us.

We are presently in the process of buying some land for this church in Ndirande. Dr. Danny Whetstone has already raised this money for us. And we have a private land owner, who wants to sell us a large piece of land in a great location. But as you well know, when God gives you a great opportunity like this, the devil is going to oppose you. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 16:9, "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." Three weeks ago, the pastor of this church fell off of his house roof and hurt his leg. And two weeks ago, I severely strained a ligament in my left ankle, and I have had to stay off of it for three weeks. The owner is holding this land for us, and we are planning to buy this land in about a week or two. We have also been teaching the Word of God to three men from this church every Wednesday for six hours.

We wanted to thank our supporting churches, our dear family members, and our Christian friends for praying for us. Your faithful prayers have given us the power to overcome our adversaries and our problems, and they have helped us to victoriously move forward for our Lord. Your gracious giving has given us the funds to provide our National Pastors and their



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church workers with the proper tools, and has equipped them to diligently do the will of God. Thanks so much for being co-laborers with us in the work of our Lord.

Our great and mighty God has blessed us with much fruit during these past two months. Our gracious Lord saved 36 people in my Sunday A.M. worship services. A lady was saved on Sunday A.M., October 1st, and then she died the next week. Another lady was saved at Naveya Fundamental Baptist Church, who was the wife of the village chief. A pastor from Mozambique came forward to be saved at my meeting in Ngabu. He told the altar worker that he did not have any peace about his salvation. After the altar worker explained God's plan of salvation to him, the pastor bowed his head and asked the Lord Jesus Christ to save him. We praise our Lord for saving these people, and we thank you all for your prayers. God has been answering them in many marvelous ways.

God has given me many godly, National Pastors, who can carry on our work even when I can't go. Four of our National Pastors conducted a one week Bible College in Ngabu. The temperatures were 120 degrees F. during the day, and the drinking water had a high content of salt in it. Our Lord saved 21 people during this week, and 60 pastors and their church workers were taught the Word of God. We gave out 40 Chichewa Bibles and 10 English Bibles to the men who did not have one. We also gave out several reading glasses to our people that you all have kindly sent us. Two other National Pastors have just recently held a two day revival meeting at Namphero Fundamental Baptist Church. From the main road, they walked seven miles to get to the church. During this two day revival, 47 people were saved, and 85 people were baptized, who had been previously saved. Our National Pastors gave me their monthly church reports stating that 50 people were also saved through their local church ministries. We wanted to thank Dr. Coles and his church family at Good News Baptist Church and Roberta Morrow for helping us with our truck and our car repair expenses.

Please remember to pray for the growth of these new believers, who have been recently saved. Pray for the planting and the establishing of our new church in Ndirande. Pray for the healing of the strained ligament around my left ankle. And pray that our God will send us a good rainy season which should begin by the 15th of November. Our Malawian people are very poor and a good harvest can be a matter of life and death for many of them. May our God bless you abundantly as you diligently serve him there in the States and throughout the whole world.

Laboring for our precious Lord,

Bill, Melody, William, & Hannah