



# Mobility Ministries, Inc.

— an Indiana Affiliate of Mobility Worldwide

WINTER 2017

## Ministry Highlights

- + Our third container for Malawi was loaded early in December
- + The 6th grade class from DeMotte Chr. School spent one morning packing Blue Bags for our cart boxes
- + Our Shop will be producing 7 carts a week (instead of 6) in January, 2018

## MM Board of Directors

Rob Schurman (Pres.)  
Bob Gabrielse (Sec.)  
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Ken DeVries  
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## Wilson Tembo: Someone you should know!

**Malawi**—The Malawi Project is trusted by foreign governments and the Malawian government for its impartial distribution of aid to people of one of the poorest nations in Africa. So the Malawi Project is the recipient of numerous Container shipments of aid supplies from Canada, the U.S., and European countries. **Wilson Tembo** oversees all the workings of the Malawi Project, reaching out to the entire country. As a trusted Country Director and ministry leader for the past 15 years, Wilson receives all shipments, keeps

track of all inventory, and meets with government officials, hospital directors, village chiefs, and community councils to provide encouragement and assistance to all of Malawi, a country 160 miles wide and 530 miles long, with a population of 19 million. Now Wilson is developing a new focus for the work of The Malawi Project: locating the leg disabled and fitting them with Mobility Carts; he does this personally, and, he coordinates efforts with many other reputable ministries to reach out to the million or more people in



Malawi who cannot walk on two legs. Wilson Tembo was born, raised, and educated in Malawi and he holds professional degrees in Logistics and Supply Chain Management from his university, and an Advanced Diploma in Purchasing & Supply. Wilson is serving as the hands and feet of

Christ on the ground in Malawi, for the Malawi Project, and for our ministry in Wheatfield, IN.



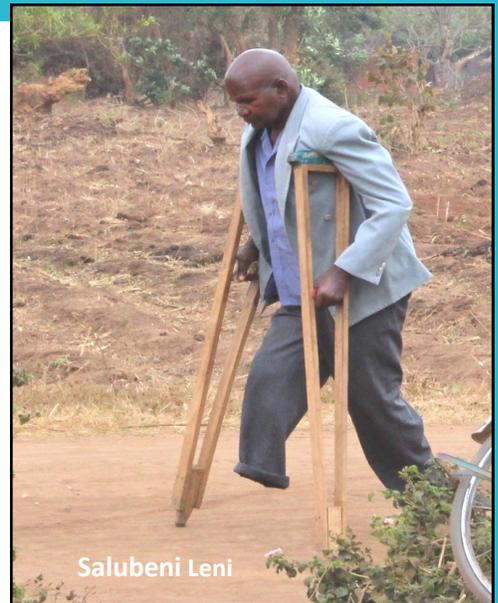
**Dick Stephens**, Executive Director of the Malawi Project, notes: *“With certainty, the success of the African Expansion Initiative being developed by Mobility Worldwide, will depend on partnering with skilled and trusted Africans like Wilson Tembo, born and raised in Malawi, to help guide and implement our efforts.”*

## A God-Appointed Sunday Meeting

**Dzama, Malawi** — After an exhausting, teeth-jarring drive for 16 kilometers, Wilson Tembo and Dick Stephens (the Exec. Director of the Malawi Project based in Indianapolis) were the first to arrive at the new church. Their motorized vehicle seemed to signal that church was to begin; soon more than 200 people gathered. Dick had been asked to bring the message that day.

When finished, Dick took a seat next to a distinguished older gentleman who was smiling at him. Dick and Wilson were to later learn from the tribal chief of Dzama that this man was the key person responsible for the establishment of this congregation in 1980. ***“He is a hard working, well respected man, and he does a lot for this community,”*** said the chief.

The first thing Dick noticed after taking his seat, was that the gentleman was missing one leg below his knee. Later, outside on the ground, in very good English the man told Dick that in October of 2016 he had a small cut on his



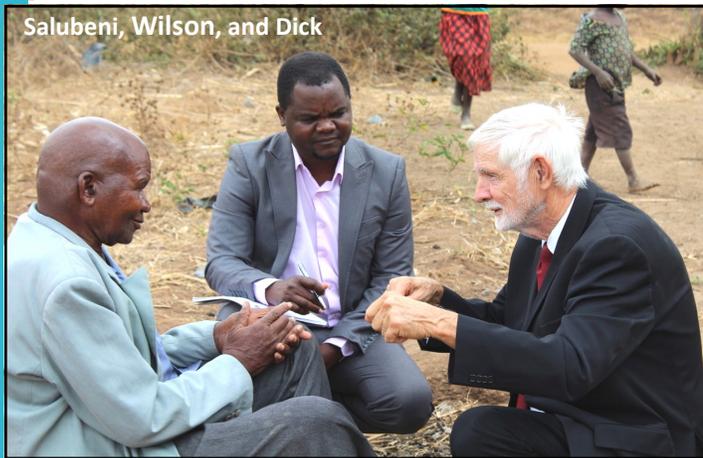
Salubeni Leni

lower leg that became infected, and due to poor medical care, his leg had to be amputated. He spoke with no animosity or bitterness.

As they sat together, Wilson learned that the crutches were hurting Salubeni, so Wilson said he wanted to offer him a mobility cart. The man smiled . . . and then he laughed as he grasped what had just been said!

In excellent English, he looked at them and said, ***“You are my brothers!”*** Salubeni had a Cart in 3 days!

**Can YOU be a BROTHER to others like him?**



Salubeni, Wilson, and Dick



Supporting Church Visitors

Members of the Crown Point Christian Reformed Church spent a November evening touring our Workshop and then presented us with a check to build 7 Mobility Carts! Bob Decker (center, white shirt) is one of our painters.

Every Tuesday morning these guys are making a joyful racket in the Steel Processing room! Jon Huisman, Scott Van Vlymen, Bob Bennett, and Dan Blaney are responsible for cutting, drilling, and grinding the 35 pieces of steel that go into every Cart. (Pat Sullivan and John Wallace missed this photo op!)



Steel Processing Volunteers

# No Longer 'Glued to His Village'

Chitera Village, Malawi — One of 12 children, Charles Mpunzei was never able to go to school on his own, nor were his parents able to carry him to school. His mobility problems started with birth and plagued him every day thereafter — he was “glued to his village.” When he was old enough, he set out to find employment and provide for himself. He was able to gain skills through a program of the *Malawi Council for the Handicapped (MACOHA)* and in the year 2000, he started mending shoes to create an income.

*“I used simple tools I made myself and have been using them ever since,”* he said, as he sat on the front stoop of his house and mended shoes for people in his village. When asked if he had ever had a means of ‘transportation,’ he responded with a big *“No! I had many organizations promise to help, but none ever came back to help me.”*

Upon receiving a mobility unit, supplied through The Malawi Project and Mobility Ministries, he told us this was the first time he was ever given something to help him get around.

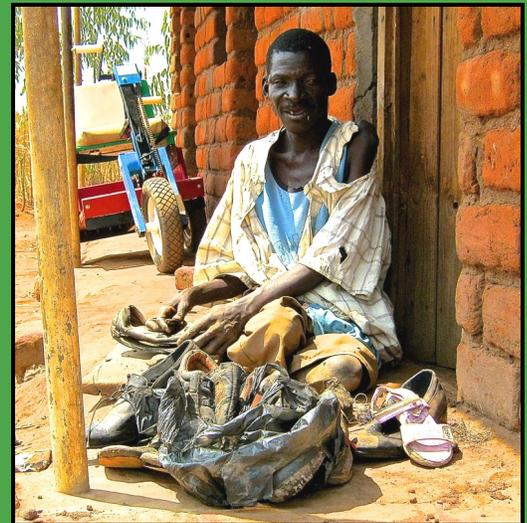
## Four Days Later

Just four days after delivering the mobility cart, Wilson Tembo was visiting a nearby Trading Center where people came from villages throughout the area to buy and sell. Entering the Trading Center, Wilson discovered that Charles had set up operations and was repairing shoes, miles from his village. Unlike many of the physically challenged who spend their days in towns and cities begging for a hand out, Charles does things differently. He feels the responsibility of taking care of his wife and four children, and believes he can earn a living through hard work.

Using his handmade tools, Charles is also able to make new shoes, belts, wallets and travelling bags. *“I can make a range of products. The only challenge is that I do not have the required capital to buy my raw materials such as animal skins, threads and equipment,”* he said, as he welcomed another customer who brought three pairs of shoes needing repairs. According to Charles, a small capital infusion into his business could expand the business, and transform his family’s life.

*“I am extremely happy that someone has sent me this tricycle. I really appreciate it. I will cherish this gift forever!”* Charles smiled as we said good-bye . . . . and he rode away; he was now 4 days into his new mobile life!

Told by Dick Stephens for the Malawi Project





## Thank you for “packing supplies”

Ruth Peterson and Bonnie Sanow, are displaying a fraction of the school supplies and health care items collected by members of American Reformed Church; these items serve as packing in our Cart boxes, specifically requested by the Malawi Project, our distribution partner.

# Veteran HONOR Flight

## — Sharing a Special Event

Lafayette, IN — Two of our volunteers were members of an Honor Flight to Washington, DC on October 23, 2017. Joe Zellon (woodworker), a Viet Nam war veteran, was accompanied by Bonnie Sanow (painter) on this thrilling day. They were part of a group of 90 veterans from WW I, the Korean War, and the Viet Nam War. Twenty-five Shop Members greeted their return!



### Our Mission Statement

*To reflect the love of Jesus Christ by bringing MOBILITY and DIGNITY to those in developing countries who are unable to walk.*

Dear Donors,

Your contributions are vital to this ministry! We are very grateful!

\$300 will cover the cost of building and shipping one Mobility Cart to bless one deserving person — to get that person off the ground and to school, or to a job, or to church — independently and with dignity!

### Mobility Ministries, Inc.

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We accept  
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