

WINTER 2018



Mobility Ministries, Inc.

A Ministry to the World . . . from Northwest Indiana



A Community Welcomes it's North American Brothers & Sisters

Nkhotakota, Malawi — The road trip on this warm, sunny September day from our Bed & Breakfast in Selima to Nkhotakota was about 2-1/2 hours and began on narrow paved roads that soon changed into pitted, uneven, dusty clay roads. When we arrived at the Community Center operated by Robert Chilemba, we saw more than 200 people sitting under trees gathered to greet us; we smiled when we spotted the 6 newly assembled Mobility Carts. Introductions of village chiefs, church elders, and community workers were made, each standing when acknowledged. Then Wilson Tembo, our partner in Malawi, introduced Bob & Arla as representatives of Mobility Ministries, and Dick & Suzi Stephens and three board members of the Malawi Project. Along with a number of other individuals, Bob addressed the gathering, bringing greetings from our Shop in the US. He spoke of the Shop volunteers' commitment and desire to serve Jesus as they built these Mobility Carts for people who needed them, and of our privilege to be in their community in Malawi as brothers and sisters in Christ. [Continued on Page 2]

Community . . . [from p. 1]

After the speeches and prayers, several women sang and danced a praise song to God for our visit and our gifts. Then Robert announced names of the recipients who were to receive these carts and each recipient or a family member stepped forward to accept their gift.

One of the recipients, Josem Kabweza, is age 60 and pictured on page 1. He had been in a road accident last year. Josem's right leg had to be amputated just below the knee and this made it impossible to continue his farming work in the fields. He walks on crutches.



He had been wondering what he could do with one leg missing, how he could support himself and his family. He wants to open up a small business to earn a living. The “nearby” trading center is about 3 km away, a distance which he feels he can handle because of this new cart. It was a thrill to see him learning how to pedal, turn, back up, and maneuver the cart across the uneven and rocky ground and through the people.



Another woman I spoke to, Jen Phiri, was there to receive a cart for her husband, Hassen Yusuf, who also was in a road accident 4 years ago at age 39. In 2015 he had an operation to strengthen his left leg—it was unsuccessful. After lying in the hospital for months, he was able to return home but felt completely useless because he could not walk. Jen is very hopeful that Hassan, now 43, will be motivated to try new things with this cart that will give him mobility.

It was valuable for us to see how carts are being distributed and experience the challenge of choosing the right person to be a recipient for this type of device. Back in Indiana, we talk about wanting to get the distributions “just right,”

but then we remind ourselves that we need to step back and turn that matter over to the Lord; we need to remind ourselves that ***God knows which Cart needs to be given to each person. He will use each Cart to bless the life of that person, their family, and also their community! The message of God's love will be the main message!*** This trip to Malawi reinforced this for Bob and I. —Arla Gabrielse

350 Carts **X** **\$300** **=** **\$105,000**
built in 2018 **per Cart** **needed per year**
Just our ‘friendly reminder’ that each of you is a vital part of this ministry!

*Thank
You!*

Volunteer Highlights

In the last 2 years, three of our Volunteers have taken a military *Honor Flight* out of Lafayette, IN. This time **Ron Anliker**, a Viet Nam Army vet, traveled to Washington, D.C. for a day packed with activities honoring this group of 86 vets. Ron was greeted that night by the loud cheers of fellow shop workers as he came off the plane.

“Thank-you for your service, Ron!”



Proof the Shop does not discriminate!

They were spotted in our Shop on a Tuesday morning, corralled, a group mug-shot taken, and fingerprinted. But identities remain unknown!

The Shop therefore disclaims them

and takes no responsibility for this extreme fun-loving attitude!

[but we do accept their labor!]



Motivated to Expand the Ministry!



Rensselaer, IN — *Days for Girls* assists teenage girls in emerging countries to maximize their education by providing them the opportunity to have “extra days” at school. No longer do the girls miss a week of school each month during their menstrual cycle. These colorful packs contain washable essential sanitary products necessary to accommodate the girls. Kits are sewn following strict quality guidelines

set up by *Days for Girls* [see website www.daysforgirls.org]

Gail Scott and Joanne Ziese team up to purchase and cut the material, sew the kits, and deliver them to our Shop. Over two hundred kits have already been donated.



Valparaiso, IN — Ten women from **CrossPointe Church** are finding that sewing blankets and quilts can be fun and rewarding. They were called to bless hurting people in Malawi. So far the women have made 27 baby blankets and lap quilts, some of which were delivered to Blessings Hospital (below). This is a perfect activity to cheer their hearts, especially through the long winter months, as well as to cheer hearts in Malawi year round.

We accept these donations with a smile, and trust that these recipients will be warmed by these beautiful gifts.



For Aisha, it is Back to School

As we enter we pass a number of school children walking along the dirt road. They wave to us and we wave back; we are strangers and they observe us carefully. A short distance further a group of children, under the age of 15, are playing sporting games. But we are looking for a certain girl who cannot play these games.

—**Sitting alone.** When we reach our destination, we stop in front of the house near the road. Then we see her sitting patiently under a tree nearby. Her name is Aisha, and she is 22 years of age. Seven years ago Aisha fell ill for a long period of time. Her legs grew weak and she stopped walking—it was Malaria they believe. The inability to walk meant she could not get to school—her mother had four other children to care for and could not carry her back and forth each day. She ended her schooling at grade 5.



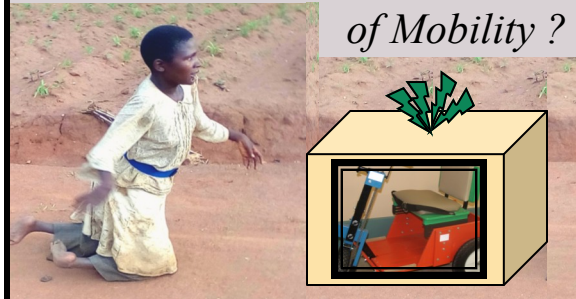
—**Mosquitoes Near the Lake.** Because Chitimbe is close to Lake Chilwa (the second largest lake in Malawi), social workers tell us there is much malaria in this area. Most of the poor are unable to take their children for medical treatment, and malaria is very serious! It can bring death to a number of them, while leaving many others disabled.

—**One of Twenty that Day.** As a result of our trip that day, Aisha was just one of twenty to receive a mobility unit. She told us, ***"I am so excited that I can now start going to school again."*** —Wilson Tembo

Our Mission Statement:

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

*Might it be time . . . for a Gift
of Mobility ?*



**WE ACCEPT
ONLINE
DONATIONS**

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