CMC Magazine

A Publication of the Central Malawi Conference of Seventh Day Adventist Church

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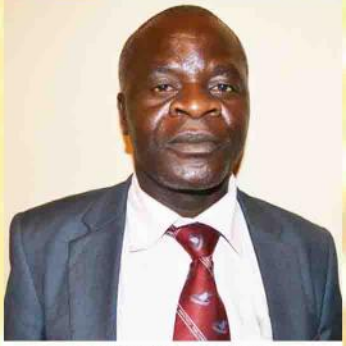

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to this first edition of the CMC Magazine. We regard this as another breakthrough of the Conference,having launched a Website two years ago. So many developments have taken place in the Central Malawi Conference, and a lot more are expected to happen.This magazine promises to highlight all these events in a way that you can appreciate them, get involved and where necessary provide necessary support.

The Communication department has established a very good network of communicators in the whole Conference.Every church communicator is involved in this network.The idea behind is to make sure that we get news from all corners of the conference so that the world knows what is happening in your area.Your news is an encouragement,an inspiration and a motivation to others.You don't light a candle and put it under a table.Lets keep the light shining. We therefore need to encourage and motivate our church communicators to cover our activities and send them to this Magazine.

The Lord Jesus Christ is coming soon.Perhaps sooner than we expected. Signs of the times are everywhere for us to see.We all need to spread this message to all corners of the world.Its our hope that this magazine will revive us and draw us closer to Christ. May it prepare us for the Lord's second coming. Wishing you a happy reading,

Yunos Kamba, Editor

HOW FAR?, HOW NEAR?

By John Phiri

A 'Janus' Moment

In their book, Spiritual Leadership Henry and Richard Blackaby argue that the business for spiritual leadership is moving people towards God's agenda so much so that the first task for any spiritual leadership is searching for God's agenda for their organization. That raises an important question that needs to awaken our consciences and reverberate in all of us who profess Christian leadership and followership every day of our lives both at individual levels and corporate levels.
That question is, how far from or how near to God's agenda are we?

Roman mythology has left us a legacy of a two faced god whose name was Janus from whose name our first month of the year in the Christian calendar, January originate.
This mythic god was believed to have the power or ability to look not just in front but also in the rear at the same time. He could tell the future just as he could tell the past.
This was an iconographic way the Romans used to communicate the wisdom and need for an individual to reflect on their past as they face and plan for their future.

Since then, and of course, even before, from time immemorial, it is the practice that humans use the first days, and months of each year to reflect on what they have done, what they have liked, disliked in their past and what they would like to see done or accomplish in their upcoming months in the year.
They are days of reflection and introspection. I call them 'Janus moments.'

I would like to grab on this wisdom and use these early months of this beautiful promising year of 2017 to reflect back on what we have accomplished and or experienced in 2016 and draw a picture of what we envision in 2017 and attempt to answer the question, how far or how near are we to God's agenda for our territory.

First, allow me to proceed by reminding ourselves that when we met at the CIVO Stadium in Lilongwe a year ago, we chiseled out and cast our vision of what we would like to see our Conference and all of us become.

It is now a year or more into the wilderness, matching towards this noble aspiration and the question all of us would love to know to hear answered is: how far are we into our vision?

Where are we?

The past year has been a year both of blessing and tragedy. A lot has happened. We have had sweet moments and bitter ones as well. We had our joys and sorrows. But outstanding among the memories we cherish is the finishing and launching of our 2015-2020 strategic plan which we did in the month of April 2016 at the CIVO stadium. The eerie of that function still inspire our blood with thrills of ministry. The taking off of our evangelistic strategies, the GO 150 initiative which is targeting the five least entered political districts in our region (Central Malawi) was amazing.

A total of 300 public evangelistic campaigns were conducted in 2016 and out of this 175 campaigns were conducted under the Go 150 initiative in the focus areas while 125 campaigns were conducted as regular campaigns in the remaining parts of the Conference.

This has resulted in 11, 566 new members joining the church. Out of this number 8,724 converts were a direct reaping from the Go 150 initiative. Fifty new churches or congregations were planted, bringing our total net congregations at the close of 2016 to 810.
Our membership skyrocketed as our gains beat the losses in our statistics and raised our net membership to 81, 957 up from 76,874 in December of2015.We praise our God for this!
While these figures could comparatively not churn your bowels, you may wish to appreciate our past in this regard and the unique challenges our territory offers when it comes to evangelism. And we praise the Lord for that achievement. It was big enough. It is significant to observe that we have registered for the first time in our history as a Conference the largest number of new converts joining the church in a year and at

the same time a high level of membership retention.
Compared to our sister fields, the South and North Malawi Fields, respectively, at least percentage wise, we were honored to be on first position both in membership growth and member retention.
That is good news, indeed! Over the long past, our greatest challenge has been keeping the converts in church. We have been baptizing great numbers while at the same time we were losing masses of the same something which undermined our efforts. But we thank the Lord that this challenge seem to be sliding down towards the extinction line.

On the infrastructural development line, in 2016 we commissioned three key steering committees to work on the three respective major projects we have embraced in our strategic plan namely, M'bwatalika Mission development, Thete (where we want to construct a modern secondary school and a clinic) and one on the development or founding and planting of a complete brand new mission station in Dowa.
The great news is that all these committees have taken off and are already doing a great job. For instance, with help from some well-wishers (Creative Global Relief, a nongovernmental organization from the USA but with its branch in Malawi), construction at M'bwatalika is as at the time of writing this under way. The master plan for the mission is completed.

As for Thete, we have completed development of our master plan and architectural designs for the proposed infrastructure. The committee is now in the process of raising funds for commencement of work.
Similarly, the committee on New Missions has already zeroed in on a site in Traditional Authority Msakambewa 1in Dowa where we intend to establish ourselves.

There also have been sad moments in the gone year. Death has been the worst enemy who visited us and contributed to a loss in both our membership and leadership. We have had to lose some of our dear colleagues, a departmental director, Mrs. Rukshan Kunkanga, a Shepherd,Pastor Evans Jumbe and a Shepherdess, Mrs. Gomani, in the same year. Painful indeed! And there were several other challenges on the way.
But we know that this is part of the discipline and process it takes to get to the dream land, our vision.
Therefore, we will not lose faith because of any of these hurdles on the way.

"The most important thing and good news is that we have departed Egypt and we are now on our way to our promised land."

But all in all, 2016 was a great success in our history in Central Malawi Conference. For instance, our financial returns improved significantly compared to the previous year. We have managed to buy three houses for our pastoral staff (one at Mchezi, another at Chilinde and one at Kanamwalikwao in Dedza). We have also bought land along the lakeshore at Ngodzi in Salima for infrastructural development in the near future.

Not there yet, but moving on

Yes, we are not there yet but we are moving. The fact is, we will be there sooner than later! We are moving on and forward in faith. The most important thing and good news is that we have departed Egypt and we are now on our way to our promised land. It may take us a while, even forty years that is quiet alright. What is important is that, whatever the case, we are more than determined to live our dream and vision and reach home soon. Challenges are only meant to add value to whatever we are fighting for and doing and so we shall not back off.

Yes, while the boarders of the Promised Land may not be in sight yet, we still can thank the Lord for the mileage we are gaining everyday towards the Promised Land in spite of the challenges here and there.In this newsletter we will share with you some of the highs and lows of our journey so far.
We need and expect your total involvement as this quinquennium is a quinquennium of Total Member Involvement in our Global family as Seventh-day Adventists.

Lessons from Old Israel as our Inspiration

We have a lot to learn from the history of the children of Israel in their trek from Egypt to Canaan. There were set backs and discouraging experiences—sometimes they were even tempted to doubt the capabilities of their very leaders who had charted the vision for them. Sometimes they nearly stoned them to death and deserted them (Numbers 14:1-10). But that did not change the fact that God was bringing them closer to their dream land.

And so it will be with us. There will be moments of frustrations and discouragement; moments where the enemy will infiltrate our camps and attempt to instill a spirit of fear, distrust, doubt, rebellion and even divisions. Beware and prepare. We are not to be scared by his tactics just as we should not be oblivious to the same "so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs " (2 Cor. 2:11) .

R.G. Ingersoll said, "The greatest test of courage on the earth is to bear defeat without losing heart. " And so we shall never lose heart when we encounter set backs on our way. We will keep the fight tough and sure.
We will declare war on every side of the enemy territory and ensure that we are advancing at any cost! We will continue to promote intentional ministry, mutual trust, Total Member Involvement, total commitment and professionalism in our ranks. We have a loyal banner to carry on the match.

We will attack and never retreat and we know that the God of Heaven will give us success. We are his servants..."(Nehemiah 2:20).

We have cast our vision for our Conference and it is crystal clear we want to be among the best in the Adventist family characterized by service to all with an infrastructural outlook that matches our ambition for the Lord. We cannot doubt our own dream. We can only wait for the right time for it to come true.

We are a ministry that is motivated by the love of Christ, integrity and service for humanity. Intentionality defines our strategies and actions. We don't pommel the air.
We have a mission to accomplish and a vision to answer to. We will not allow anyone to dissuade us from this course for we believe it is God's agenda for our territory for this time.

It will not be easy

We know it will not be easy but hard work for God never said it would be easy. And we are ready to scale the mountain and win the land to ourselves. So let none of us lose heart! Let none begin to waver. We'll remain resolute and focused come what may! We believe in our vision and we believe in hard work and so will do whatever it takes to get there where we want to be.

Steve Jobs once said,
"My job is not to be easy on people. My job is to take these great people we have and push them and make them even better." And he further noted that
"Those who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world usually do."And I that is what I as your leader see as my role: to make you, our great men and women and our youth become the best for the Lord as we prepare ourselves and our neighbors for our Lord's soon return. I strongly believe that if we are 'crazy enough'as a church "to think that [we] can change the world" we can change it!
Together we can make it happen. With our God on our side, together we can bring about the change we so desire in Central Malawi Conference-change in our attitudes to the Lord's work; change of attitudes toward each other; change in the welfare of our pastors and staff and how we treat each other; change in our approach to ministry and change indeed in everything we want to see change!

I am looking forward to that day when we shall be able to sit down together and say, this is it! This is what we had prayed for. And above all, together should loudly, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him...This is the LORD; we have waited for him" (Isaiah 25:9)

A Call to Total Member Involvement and Courage

But for that to happen we need unity and Total Member Involvement. We need everyone's effort and commitment.
We value and need your contribution. We need to constantly re-empower ourselves and refill our zeal tanks as we match towards this noble goal.

Just remember this: Life does not lack in coaches. When you try to chart any course, there will always be someone who will think he or she knows better than you do and will try to force their opinions on you. Such was the case in Nehemiah's time (Neh 1-3). Sanballat, the Horonite was the epitome of what the arch enemy does.
In the days of Moses, it were the Reubenites and company. People who make themselves believe that the Lord is also speaking to them on what israel should do.
They dare say,
"Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? He has not spoken through us also? " (Numbers 12:2). Beware of such. Dare trust your instincts.
In the words of Diane Mariechild, "Trust the still, small voice that says, this might work and I'll try it." And so try out your most passionate convictions without being apologetic about it knowing that at the end of the race, you will be responsible for what you did and so live your script and not that of others.

To do this you need courage. As Ralph Waldo Emerson rightly so observed, "Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising that tempt you to believe your critics are right."
And as some unknown writer put it, "Don't get discouraged; it is often the last key in the bunch that opens the lock."
Remember that failure is an event, not a person and in the words of Winston Churchill, "Courage is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm."
And the good news is as Anais Nin observes, "Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage."

Do Your Best

Lastly, remember as Steve Jobs said "We're here to put a dent in the universe. Otherwise why else even be here?" Therefore, do your best. Dare your best and God will do the rest for you. In the words, of Steve Jobs, once again, "the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle." God bless you! I am proud of you all and I love you all!

Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby, Spiritual Leadership (Nashville, Tennesse: B &H Publishing Group, 2009), Unless otherwise stated all Scriptural quotations are taken from the English Standard Version.

LILONGWE WOMEN MINISTRY HOSTS PRISONERS TO A LUNCHEON

Female prisoners receive food from the women

Authorities at Maula prison in Lilongwe have commended women from Lilongwe Seventh day Adventist (SDA) city zone for the donation of various food items to the institution and for hosting the prisoners to a luncheon on Sunday June 25, 2017.

Speaking after receiving the donation, Maula prison Chaplain Joseph Chisimba commended thousands of women who had come to donate food items to over 3000 inmates. 75 of the inmates were women.

Chisimba said the gesture had alleviated food shortages the prison faced. He however appealed to other churches to emulate what the women had done which he said was an indication of love among people.

"The donation that has been made will alleviate food shortage problems at this prison, and we therefore ask other churches to emulate this gesture that apparently shows love, " said Chisimba.

Sponsor for the women, Potiphar Chigona said the donation was made by members from 16 districts in Lilongwe city zone. Chigona said as a church they have the duty to assist the government to reform prisoners to become acceptable members of the community.

He added that they made the donation to the prison after hearing about problems the institution faced.

The women donated rice, meat, vegetables, beans and msima, all were valued at about 3 million kwacha.

"We believe we need to help the government to reform prisoners and that's why we have prepared this luncheon for them, we will not even take the plates back because we have heard that the institution faces plate shortages as well," said Chigona.

He also encouraged the inmates not to fear that they were lost. He said as Jesus showed love for the prisoners, they would one day be released from the dungeon and be united with their families.

Director for women in the Central Malawi Conference Chimwemwe Guluka said by hosting prisoners to the luncheon they were following Jesus example, who fed the multitude and commanded people to feed the needy including the prisoners.

"You should know that God cares for you, regardless of where you are and the situation you are in". Said Guluka.

Concurring with Guluka Lilongwe City zone women's ministry President Rose Magola said "sharing the inmates with food for the soul and the body was aimed at making the prisoners appreciate God's love"

Magola said the event was not the first of it's kind the had done..

She said previously they got engaged in similarevents at places like Maula prison.

> *"You should know that God cares for you, regardless of where you are and the situation you are in".*

"Through the food distribution we have made, we have preached to the prisoners and ministered to their bodies and souls, if we want prisoners to be transformed full we need to show them love" Said Magola.

Male Prisoners receive their share of food

M'BWATALIKA MISSION WEARING NEW FACE

Old M'bwatalika Classroom blocks

M'bwatalika school, one of the Seventh-day Adventist Schools in the Central Malawi Conference which is at M'bwatalika mission,is wearing a new face.

"M'bwatalika Mission is one of our old mission stations along the Mchinji road and it is 22 kms from Lilongwe town. There is a primary and secondary school on the mission.
However, the infrastructure is now dilapidated.
The good news however is that the mission is now putting on a new face. A modern primary and Secondary schools are being built. Plans are already out and work has already started.

The new look M'bwatalika will see new hostels, hall, new road networks, four classic new laboratories and a self-contained girls laboratory constructed. These dormitories will surely boost the enrollment of girls at the institution. Since the launch of the master plan, a lot of work has been done. For example, the road networks have already been

paved while the other infrastructures are almost completed.

Thanks to the help from some well-wishers (Creative Global Relief, a non-governmental organization from the USA which has a branch in Malawi).This project needs your support.

DOWA PROJECT

The committee on New Missions has already zeroed in on a site in Traditional Authority Msakambewa in Dowa where the Central Malawi Conference wants to establish itself.
The land boasts of 41 hectares or about 66 acres,some 12kilometers or about 66 acres, some 12kilometers away to the North from Dowa Boma. We are in the process of paying for the same.
Meanwhile our health ministries' department is planning to start running a mobile clinic in the area anytime soon.

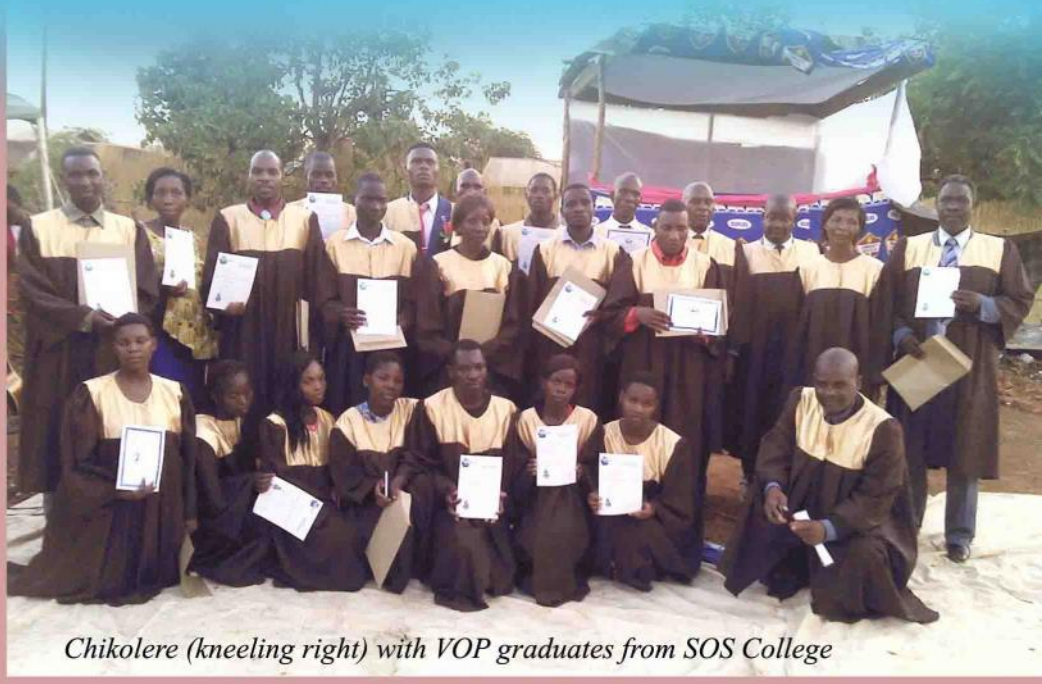
THETE MISSION PROJECT REVAMPED

Central Malawi Conference has 9 hectares of land which has lied dormant for decades at Thete in Dedza The mission is being revamped now.

A modern secondary school and a clinic will soon be built at the mission. A task force has been commissioned to manage this project.

Plans have already been drawn and have already been approved by the Malawi Government too. We need funding for these projects.

Voice of Prophecy Regains Momentum



Chikolere (kneeling right) with VOP graduates from SOS College

The Future of Voice of Prophecy Bible School in the Central Malawi Conference is very promising.
It's like a lion that has been caged for some time and has just been released.
According to the Chairperson of Voice Of Prophecy in Malawi Central Conference, Mr. Everson Chikolere, since the relaunch in June 2011 at Central Church, VOP has been performing very well as many people are now supporting it.
"We have registered so many students and held graduations in various areas like Kasungu, Salima, Mchinji, Ntcheu Dedza and Lilongwe" Said Everson Chikolere..
Chikolere said that he hopes that after the leadership trainings which they recently conducted,

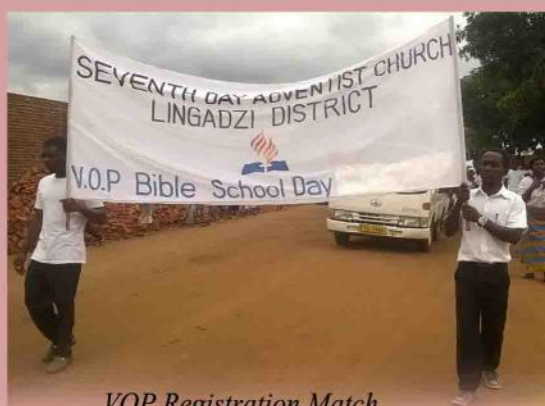
leaders will sensitize the members in their churches on how they can take part in VOP programmes.
"We expect every Pastor, church member including those on Bible class to take part by reaching out to neighbors, colleagues at work and students. It's not the job of leaders only. We want to reach out to rural areas too. If everyone can take part in spreading the gospel, we can evangelize Malawi in a very short period of time. If people can't do this work, then we are losing focus and vision of the church". He said.

Chikolere cited an example of an Assemblies of God church member, Chancy Karambo who gets lessons from him and distributes them to members of his church. Though he is still a member of Assemblies of God Church, through him we have graduated one hundred and sixteen students.
"If a non Adventist is taking part in this initiative, does anyone have an excuse of not working?" he said

At Biwi church, Charity Kunjawa, a student at SOS College has been instrumental in registering her fellow students in the VOP programme. She started with those in her classroom and then went further to register students from other faculties. Last year thirty students from SOS College, who included the head prefect and his vice graduated at a colourful ceremony that took place at Biwi.

This year the Voice of Prophecy is working hand in hand with the Saturation 2017 team.
"We have partnered with organizers of saturation 2017. Currently CMC is printing 25000 copies of lessons which will be used by Bible workers and we hope this will make the job of spreading the message easier and faster". Said Chikolere.
Chikolere who has worked in VOP in Lingadzi for over eighteen years, observed that one thing that prevents people from reaching out to others is fear and shame
"I feel happy when serving God. through VOP. I make sure that every day I talk with someone about God. In 2014 I reached out to 214 students from Dzenza Secondary School. I was singlehandedly distributing and marking lessons till they all graduated.
If I alone could do this, I believe our combined efforts can achieve greater things. We don't need to be ashamed of the gospel". He said.

Chikolere said he wished every department in the church could do according to their slogans.
"Dorcas, AMO, the Youth, have good slogans that urge them to spread the gospel, but unfortunately most members do little on the ground. The youth should really a rise and shine and be involved in salvation and service, Dorcas should really " Arise and run with the message' while AMO needs to ensure the message is spread everywhere.



VOP Registration Match

Tips on Parenting

Tips On Parenting pt. 1

With Dingani Kazgeba Mfune

What on earth am I here for? It is a question that we all may ask at some point in our lives. It is a question that parents must ask, especially when it comes to the raising of children. So many times it is easy for couples to bring a child into the world but soon after the baby is born they ask, "What next?" I think it is easy to father or mother a child but that does not necessarily make you a parent. Some have defined a parent as one who "cares" for a child (offspring) or any young person. When you take into consideration the idea of caring for someone then you see that not all who bear Parenting is an important part of loving and caring for your child.

Good parenting is about providing a warm, secure home life, helping your child to learn the rules of life (e.g. how to share, how to love, respect or others, etc.) and to develop good self-esteem. You may have to stop them from doing things they shouldn't be doing, but it is just as important to encourage them to do the things you do want them to do. I like how Kerby T. Alvy puts it in the article "What is Effective Parenting?" where he says,

"Effective parenting refers to carrying out the responsibilities of raising and relating to children in such a manner that the child is well prepared to realize his or her full potential as a human being. It is a style of raising children that increases the chances of a child becoming the most capable person and adult he or she can be."And so it is with this in mind that I say not all who bring a child in the world can be called parents for many do not play the parental role. There has to be a connection between the parent and child, a bond that grows with each passing day. This way the child is able to learn by way of imitating and grasps certain mannerisms and traits that will carry him or her through life. The sad reality however is how we are overly busy with personal pursuits that we do not have time for self, let-a-lone raising a child.

In the opening statement of the second chapter of her book "Child Guidance" Ellen White states that parents need to understand their responsibility. The father and mother need to be the child's first parents.

We are living in a world where there are many traps set out for the young.

The pleasures of the world are many and very attractive and many times people do not see the hidden dangers or the true ending of a path that actually seems the way of happiness.

The thing here is, the children cannot run from all this and parents must remember that these temptations will be encountered at some point in life. It is interesting to note that even before child birth; the preparation to fight against the evil forces should begin. I like what Ellen White says, "More than human wisdom is needed by parents at every step, that they may understand how best to educate their children for a useful, happy life here, and for higher service and greater joy hereafter." So truth be told, the parents of this child are not only preparing the child to make it in this life, but ultimately preparing the child for heaven. That thought reminds me of the title of a book my dad, Dr Saustin Mfune, authored, "Parenting for Heaven." It was the plan of God from the very start that a child should be trained thus demonstrating the power of Christianity . Parents then, knowing this, should not take lightly the work of training their children.

They need to educate themselves and find the best ways in which they can deal with their children so that they can impart to them, "sound minds in sound bodies." There should be no running away from that responsibility for it will either make or break the child. Parents are to look upon their children as entrusted to them of God to be educated for heavenly home.

Dingani Kazgeba Mfune
serves as a Pastor of Area 3 District of SDA Church and is also a Patronof Children Ministries

Face to Face

With

Chimwemwe Guluka

Director of Communication Children and women Ministries

The Central Malawi Conference recently appointed Mrs. Chimwemwe Guluka (CG) as the director of Communication, Women and Children Ministries.CMC reporter , Yunos Kamba (YK) caught up with her.

YK: Congratulations for being appointed the director of communication, children and women Ministry. How did you receive the news of your appointment?

CG:I wasn't expecting to get anything from CMC. It came as a shock. It was a surprise because I wasn't expecting to get such a message, and I wasn't even thinking about it. I was far; I had gone to Salima to look for land for farming. It was when i was seated, chatting and relaxed, that I got the message.
So it was a shock to me, because I wasn't expecting it. However had it been that you do an application, you do expect that you are going to get something out of your application.
But in this one, someone appoints when you are not expecting it, so it came as a shock, because I wasn't expecting it's that's how I got it.

YK : Did you see it coming?

CG: No, I was not thinking about it. You know when I was retiring, I was thinking of working for the Lord, but not in such a way. My plan was to retire and serve the Lord. I was planning to be a lay Pastor, but then I said, no, I don't need to be a lay Pastor. I should go to the Pastoral Schools and do the Pastoral work. That was my ambition. So I didn't see it coming. I wasn't even imagining.

YK: It's not easy to combine the three portfolios. How are you managing?

CG: Yes, it's not easy to combine the three portfolios but we have a very good team that assists Me that's the Executive. I am working hand in hand with the executive team of Children, Women ministry and communication departments. The Dorcas seems to be easier because I have been part and parcel of it. But leading it is a different thing.
In Children Ministries there is a lot that is being desired, I believe the Lord is going to help us.
In Communication department, the team is just very vigilant, very cooperative and hardworking, so they are the ones who are equipping me with knowledge and communication skills.
Since we started they have never left me alone. We are able to see the light and soon we shall be somewhere.

YK: What are your visions and goals for the departments?

CG: I will start with the Women Ministry. The Women Ministry is a very big organization and it can stand alone without combining it with any other. However, my vision is to see Women Ministries grow j ust like any other department.
I would like the department to have its own equipment, For example, at the mean time we have started to source our own chairs. We have a lot of activities which need to be done but we have financial problems.
If we are going to have our own chairs and other things, I think we won't have problems to reach out.
We are also planning to have our own means of transport that can even be hired by other departments whenever they have trips.
With the Lord's help I believe its possible.
I would like to see the Communication department grow bigger, Everybody should be able to talk about it. People should know about our website and they should be able to access it everyday and read stories about what is happening in various places to an extent that everybody will appreciate the job being done by the communication team.
In children Ministry we have already started implementing various programmes. However, its surprising that It has been active in town only but if you go in the rural areas you won't see much. So my vision is, to see each and every child in the Adventist church, whether in the city or villages participate in the children ministry.

what will you do to make the rural Children Ministry become vibrant?

CG: We have put structures in all the districts. There are zone committees in the rural areas and in all these zones; we have a President, treasure secretary, and other members.
We will have meetings in the districts and the zones to update the people about children Ministry. We have asked them to plan their programmes, and they should call us. We will empower them so that they are able to carry out some of the programmes on their own.
However we will be sending Executive members from the city to help those in the rural areas.It may take time, but we believe with the Lords help we will be there

YK:.What programmes would you love to see happening in these departments?

CG:I would like to see more outreach programmes being implemented. The Women's ministry seems to be more active as they are reaching out more than any other department but I would like to see women themselves growing spiritually,they should be able to stand and talk about Jesus without any shame, and they should be able to reach in within our church and within themselves.
I would like to see them more equipped. Most of the women are shy to stand in front of a group of people and say how much they know and love Jesus.
Through programmes like leadership and evangelism seminars I would like to see them have the courage and talk about Jesus.

YK Todate most people have problems distinguishing between Dorcas and Women Ministry. Can you explain the difference?

CG: They work hand in hand. Women Ministry is broad. It encompasses all activities carried out by women in the church, whereby Dorcas is just part of it. Dorcas mainly focuses on charity works that women do in the communities In women ministry we look at all areas concernrd with reaching in, reaching out and reaching up with God. Activities of Dorcas are limited to charity works, helping the needy.

YK: What is your favorite Bible Verse and hymn? Why?

CG: My favorite Bible verse is Psalm 91 which says He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I see victory in this verse. It's a powerful chapter. The opening verse strengthens me.
There is nothing one can do without the help of God. When we abide by His shadow, we find strength, and victory. When we are weak,when we are in fear, He promises us that He will lift us. He will order his angels to bear us up.
I also like Psalm 23 which says the Lord is my Shepherd. My favorite hymn is 78, "Seeking the Lost". It gives us a mission, to serve the lost. There are many who are suffering and dying before they know the Savior, but if we go to serve Him, to spread the gospel, many will know Jesus and will be saved.

YK: Who is Chimwemwe Guluka?

CG: I am a second born child in the family of four, and am the first born daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiwa of Ntcheu.
I was born on 6th December, 1975. My father's home is Champiti and my mother's home is Gungulu, but we now settled at Kings Foundation at Ntcheu, and we now regard it as our home.
I am married to Clement Guluka, an Adventist too and together we are blessed with two kids, Pempho and Thandizo, a son and a daughter respectively. I have been a teacher for twenty years, and I retired from teaching in February this year.
I love to associate with people in rural areas as well as in the city I love to mix up with both older and younger people because I know there is something I can learn from these people.

YK: Most people know you as an evangelist. How will this skill help you in this leadership position?

CG :I I believe this skill is going to help me reach out to other people so that they know God more.
I believe it is a God given talent, and God is the one who knows how best I can use it.
It will help me to reach out with other people, reach in and help myself to reach up with the Lord.
.

YK. What is your message to the church in Malawi?

CG: We need to realize that Jesus Christ is coming soon. We therefore need to work diligently in His vineyard We all need to evaluate ourselves.

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CMC MASTERGUIDES HOLD THEIR FIRST CONVENTION.

"Read Reflect, Experiment"
Busi Khumalo,SID Youth Director

A three day Master Guide Convention which was taking place at Nalikule College of Education closed on Monday,15th May 2017 with a call to Master guides to exercise servant leadership and to read hard if they are to succeed in life.

The call was made by the Southern Africa Indian Ocean Division Youth director, Pastor Busi Khumalo when he addressed the convention delegates. Pastor Khumalo advised the Master guides to always read, reflect and Experiment what they have read.

''Successful people are great readers. They read, reflect and experiment what they have read. As Master guides you need to read the Bible, the Spirit of prophecy books, and other books if you have to impact on the lives of young people.

You can only know what is happening around you, if you read'. He said.

Delegates to the Convention

Pastor Khumalo said the reason we have problems in our unions and churches is because people don't read, they just share propaganda.

You can claim the mountain, only if you read'. He said in reference to the theme of the Convention, 'Give Me This Mountain'.

Pastor Khumalo advised the delegates that they have a huge responsibility of training young people.

'Master guides are trained to carry on the work God has entrusted you with, to ensure young people are properly trained .We can't let the devil train children for us when God has left them in our care'He said.

The Convention, which was the first of its kind in the Central Malawi Conference, drew together one hundred and forty delegates from various churches in the Central

Busi Khumalo, SID Youth Director

Malawi Conference who included some Pastors. the Malawi Union Youth director, Dr. Elfis Luwani, the Youth directors from the Southern and Northern Malawi Field attended the convention too. Main highlights of the event were the orientation and adoption of a new Master guide curriculum.

Another programme that excited the delegates was the house of Comrades which had a setup of Parliament. There was a speaker, two clerks and leader of the house, and the "President". The President, who was the Youth director, Pastor Chancy Mchewere Banda gave a State of the Youth Ministry address which was debated by delegates and later adopted. The following day the "Ministers", who are heads of various subcommittees in the Youth Ministry, gave reports which were also debated. They answered questions from delegates. Afterwards the house was adjourned to sine die by the speaker, Rodgers Chilemba. The guest speaker during the convention was Pastor Dwine Wright from Blantyre whose sermons centered on claiming the mountain.

Pastor Chancy Mchewere Banda, Youth Director of Central Malawi Conference appealed to the Master guides to exercise servant leadership when they go to their churches.

'You are not above church leadership. Respect the church leadership. You need to be a blessing and not a curse to your church.

120 Lay Evangelists Trained in Lilongwe North-West District

Personal Ministries director Pastor Davie Kanjadza (Left) presenting a Certificate to one of the participants

Participants to a one week evangelism seminar which took place from 4th May to 11th May in Lilongwe North West district have been challenged to use the knowledge, skills and resources acquired during the training to win more souls for Christ.

The challenge was given by the Director of Personal Ministries in the Central Malawi Conference, Pastor Davie Kanjadza on Sunday, 11th May during the closing ceremony of the course which, which was attended by one hundred and eleven people.

"I am happy that this training has produced a very powerful team of evangelists who will go out to evangelize in fulfillment of the great commission, 'Go ye unto the world and spread the gospel to all nations' we have so many un entered areas, we need these evangelists to go into those areas. We need them for efforts revivals and campmeetings.

Churches should not only rely on Pastors to preach, laymen are instrumental in the propagation of the gospel" Said Pastor Kanjadza.

Pastor Medson Mazengera who is the district Pastor for Lilongwe North-West told the participants that they will all be sent out to evangelize from the month of July.

"We expect each one of you to win at least a soul. If you can't go public, use a personal evangelism or VOP method. Your neighbors, workmates, school mates need the gospel. You have been prepared to bring the gospel to them" Said Pastor Mazengera.

On the closing day, twenty five participants took turns to present ten minute sermons each to demonstrate what they had learnt within the week. Among them was a twelve year old girl, Hazel Chinthenga who was the youngest participant. They all gave very powerful presentations, testifying that the training prepared them enough for the work.

Several participants who were interviewed described the training as an eye opener. Mr. Mustapha Julius, one of the participants said the training had motivated him to go and preach with confidence. "Ihave always wanted to preach but I lacked confidence, but now am very ready to go anywhere to preach". He said.

Another participant, Mr. John Ngalawa from Sector 7 SDA Church said he was satisfied with the content and quality of speakers.

"The speakers touched all areas of a person's life. From now I am going to practice what I have learnt, share it with others and serve them too. I have realized that I was lacking in so many areas". He said.

Course facilitators included Pastor Dr. Ernest Khonje, Pastor Dr. Joe Gumbala, Dr. Nelson Msiska, Pastor Mhango and the host, Pastor Medson Mazengera. Each participant recieved a certificate, handbook with 21 sermons prepared by Pastor Mazengera . They also received Identification cards signifying their membership into the lay preachers association of Lilongwe northwest which was formed on the same day.

Participants show off their Certificates

"GO AND WIN SOULS" MASTERGUIDES TOLD

Masterguides in the country have been urged to live an exemplary life wherever they are. The call was made by the President of Malawi Union Of the Seventh day Adventist Church,Pastor Frackson Kuyama during the investure of hundred new Masterguides which took place at Area 3 SDA church recently.
"You are the ambassadors representing Heavenly kingdom. Therefore the way you dress, celebrate, eat should show that you are children of the Heavenly kingdom Do not put the name of God and the church into disrepute" He said.

Pastor Kuyama encouraged the Masterguides to take an active role in winning souls to Christ.
"Do not just be proud of your uniforms and become a burden to people in your churches.
The uniforms should empower and motivate you to spread the gospel. Do not be ashamed of the gospel. Use every opportunity available at your disposal to proclaim the gospel, at workplaces, in buses, in schools and everywhere".He said.
On his part,the Director of Youth in the Central Malawi Conference,Pastor Chancy Mchewere Banda said it was encouraging to note that every year the number of Masterguide candidates is increasing.
"Masterguide award represents the highest ideals of SDA youth organization.More people are beginning to realize the importance of getting Masterguide award.We urge the Masterguides to hold the ideals in words and actions. The more Masterguides we have in churches,the brighter the future of our church". Said Pastor Mchewere Banda.

One of the new Masterguides, Precious Byson from Area 22 SDA church expressed happiness for attaining the Masterguide awards.
" I am filled with joy that having worked hard I can now be called Masterguide.I thank God for being on my side.I know I will serve him better". Said Byson.

During the event,Professor kuthemba Mwale,a masterguide,received special award for his interest and support in youth work. "For years I have been teaching Masterguide classes at Falls and I get involved in most youth activities.I am happy to receive this special recognition".Said Professor Kuthemba Mwale.Someyouths were also presented with Pathfinder Leadership Award for their dedicated service to the youth Ministry.

A second contingent of Masterguides was invested at a Masterguide Convention which took place at Nalikule College of Education on 15th May 2017.

Great Harvest!!

SATURATION 2017

Malawi Vice President and First Lady attend Meetings

Thousands of souls have been reaped during the saturation 2017 crusade that took place at Bingu National Stadium in Lilongwe from 3rd September to 30th September,2017.

Saturation 2017 is a mega evangelistic campaign which was organized by the central Malawi conference with an aim of reaching out with God and at the same time penetrating the areas in Malawi where the gospel message has not yet reached.

The function was being broadcast live for an hour every evening on major television and radio stations of the country.
Thousands of people turned up to the stadium every evening to listen to the powerful sermons preached by evangelist Tony Y.Nyirenda.
Many more people gathered in satellite centres to watch the sermons on big screens,while others watched the sermons in their homes.
Close to four hundred Bible workers had been recruited. Each bible Worker was attached to a satellite Centre.
During the day they were going around inviting people to the meetings and registering students for Voice of prophecy lessons.
Banners and billboards of the crusade had been erected in most strategic places of the capital city,Lilongwe.
The crusade attracted the attention of many religious and political leaders who came to the stadium.

The Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr Saulos Chilima and First lady of Malawi, Dr. Gertrude Mutharika were some of the high profile figures who attended the meeting at the stadium on different occassions.
The Vice President who attended the meeting on 28th September, 2017 urged christians to be imitators of Christ and not just be His admirers.
He commended the church for various development projects in the country and for successfully hosting Saturation 2017 Multi Million Kwacha Crusade using its own resources "we encourage this self help spirit" He said.
In her brief remarks, the First lady said she had been following the sermons on television, and she felt compelled to attend in person.
"I have been watching the sermons on television,and I wanted to experience more power right here. tonight I have been blessed by pastor Tony Nyirenda's teaching on prayer and fasting.
She said after receiving e gift from the church leadership.
The first baptism took place on 23rd September at Bingu National Stadium and in all satellite Centres.
The second baptism took place on 30th September. Thousands of people got baptized.

Nsewa Dorcas Celebrates The Life of GOGO GOME NYASULU

A lady who has composed most songs sung by Dorcas women in Malawi and neighboring countries.

Members of Nsewa Dorcas from Nsewa Seventh-day Adventist Church, led by their Pastor,Pastor Dingi Mfune on Sunday 26th March travelled 365km from Lilongwe to Mzuzu city in the Northern region of Malawi to honour and pay tribute to Gogo Catherine Gome Nyasulu, a lady who has composed most songs sung by Dorcas women in Malawi and neighboring countries.

The women who arrived at Gogo Nyasulu's home at 9 O'clock in the morning, were welcomed by Gogo Gome's group. 'Match On To Heaven' group who kept singing a song 'Yenda nkuunika', (Keep walking in the light) a song Gogo Nyasulu had just composed specifically to welcome Nsewa Dorcas. The women all rushed to the room where Gogo Gome (as she is affectionately called) was eagerly waiting for them.

Nsewa Dorcas Celebrate with Gogo Gome and her son (far right)

Thank you for honouring me Gogo Gome tells Nsewa Dorcas as they sing together

Overflowing joy could be noticed among the visiting women, who had sung these songs for a long time, but were seeing the composer of the songs for the first time. Gogo Gome too could not hide her excitement upon seeing these ladies. She joined them in song before saying 'I welcome you my daughters. Thank you for coming to honour me. My days are numbered. Soon i will be gone. I pray that God should raise one among you who should be able to write songs. I know with prayer it's possible. God gave me these songs when i prayed. When you pray, He will also give you songs'.

The celebration then moved to the nearby Kanyika Seventh-day Adventist church where Nsewa Dorcas dished out songs from their album, most of which are Gogo Gomes compositions. Kanyika Dorcas and March On To Heaven also sang songs.

One of the ladies from Nsewa said that when her child died in a well last year, she was very heartbroken, but she was comforted by one of Gogo Nyasulu's composition.

Dumisani Mfune, one of the family members said that Gogo Gome had contributed a lot to the SDA music

Gogo Gome with Nsewa dorcas and family members

in Malawi. "Every society is identified by its music. The church in Malawi is easily identified by the music Gogo Nyasulu composed. She composed songs of hope, encouragement advice and love", he said.

The celebrations were attended by members of Kanyika SDA church,family members who included Gogo Nyasulu's two children,Frazier and Tapiwa who reside in the United States of America, and had come to witness the occassion.Tapiwa narrated the history of Gogo Gome Nyasulu and expressed gratitude at Nsewa dorcas for honouring her mother.

"My mother wrote all the songs from the depth of her heart.She wrote songs for all occasions,funerals, weddings, worship and She composed a song for me when at one time i felt lacking. She composed the popular 'Matenda adzagonja mmwamba'(death and diseases will be conquered in Heaven) when she lost her third born son, Donald,and several other songs when our other two siblings and . our dad died She continues to compose even in her feeble state'. Nsewa dorcas presented assorted gifts to Gogo Gome. Pastor Dingi Mfune said it was important to honour the great composer while she was still alive."We didnt want to scatter roses while she is gone, but to give her while she is alive,so that she could see our appreciation'. He said.

At the end of the event, all the goups, and family members joined together to sing one of Gogo Nyasulu's well known songs 'Yesu Akubwera Posachedwa' (Jesus is coming soon), a song of hope reminding us of the soon return of our Lord.

Gogo Gome was born on 28th August,1928 and got married to late Pastor Kennedy Nyasulu in 1948.

In 2011,Gogo Gome received an award from the former President of Malawi,late Bingu wa Mutharika in a Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) event called Our People, Our Pride. So many recording artists in Malawi continue to include Gogo Gome songs in their albums.

Pastors Wed & get Engaged

Pastor Dingani Mfune of area 3 District tied a knot with his sweetheart, Evelyn Mzingwa of area 3 SDA Church on 20th August, 2017. The wedding was officiated by Pastor Saustine Mfune, his father at Area 3 SDA Church.
Pastor Mfune Senior is serving as Associate Director of Children Ministries at General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

"I feel honored to officiate my own son's wedding. Many Pastors have married other people's children, but never had the opportunity to marry their own.
I advise the youth to be responsible and faithful so that one day you become a pride to your parents." Said.Pastor Mfune Senior During the officiation Ceremony The reception took place at Peak Gardens where thousands of friends and relatives from all walks of life, including Zimbabwe and South Africa gathered to celebrate their union.

Pastor Jones Chimbwanda of Mchezi SDA church got married to his sweetheart Tadala Moyo on April 30th, 2017 at Salima SDA church. The Central Malawi Conference President Pastor John Phiri was the officiating Pastor.

Pastor Moses Mpingangira of Chipoka district gets engaged to Patience Cynthia Makuluni on 10th September at Khwidzi Village near Mthawira SDA church.
Pastor Mpinganjira comes from Chagwa momwe village T/A Kwataine, in Ntcheu while Cynthia comes from Khwidzi village T/A Ndindi, in Salima.

MALAWI GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES SDA CHILD PROTECTION EFFORTS

Mrs. Egoret Banda receives a Certificate from First Lady Dr. Getrude Mutharika (Right)

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Children Ministries department was last year awarded with a Certificate of recognition for the role it plays in protecting the Children in Malawi.

The Certificate was presented by the First Lady of Malawi; Dr. Gertrude Mutharika during the commemoration of the day of African child at Capital Hotel in Lilongwe the Malawi Union Director of Children Ministries, Mrs. Egoret Banda child representative received the Certificate.

The first lady commended the church for its efforts in combating child abuse.

"Child protection is not the job of government alone. Churches and other stakeholders need to fight against child abuse. I am encouraged that the Seventh day Adventist Church implements child protection programmers". She said.

Mrs. Banda said she was happy that the government of Malawi had recognized the efforts of the church in child protection. "This is a motivation to us. We shall continue to fight against all forms of child abuse". She said.

Several other churches, Non – Governmental organizations and individuals received certificates too for their efforts in protecting children.

Children Ministries Department Trains Child Coordinators

Training participants show off their Certificates

Sixty Children Ministries Coordinators from various churches in Lilongwe City Zone attended a one week training that took place at Chatuwa Primary School in March..

The coordinators were trained in Communication, Music, evangelism and puppet making among other lessons.

Pastor Davie Kanjadza, the Personal Ministries Director for the Central Malawi Conference and Pastor Dingani Mfune, the Patron for Children Ministries were some of the facilitators for the seminar.

The Associate Director for Children Ministries, Wezzie Kaunda said the training was aimed at giving the coordinators skills necessary for teaching children.

"These are people have been entrusted with the training of children in our churches; they therefore need to have necessary skills."She said.

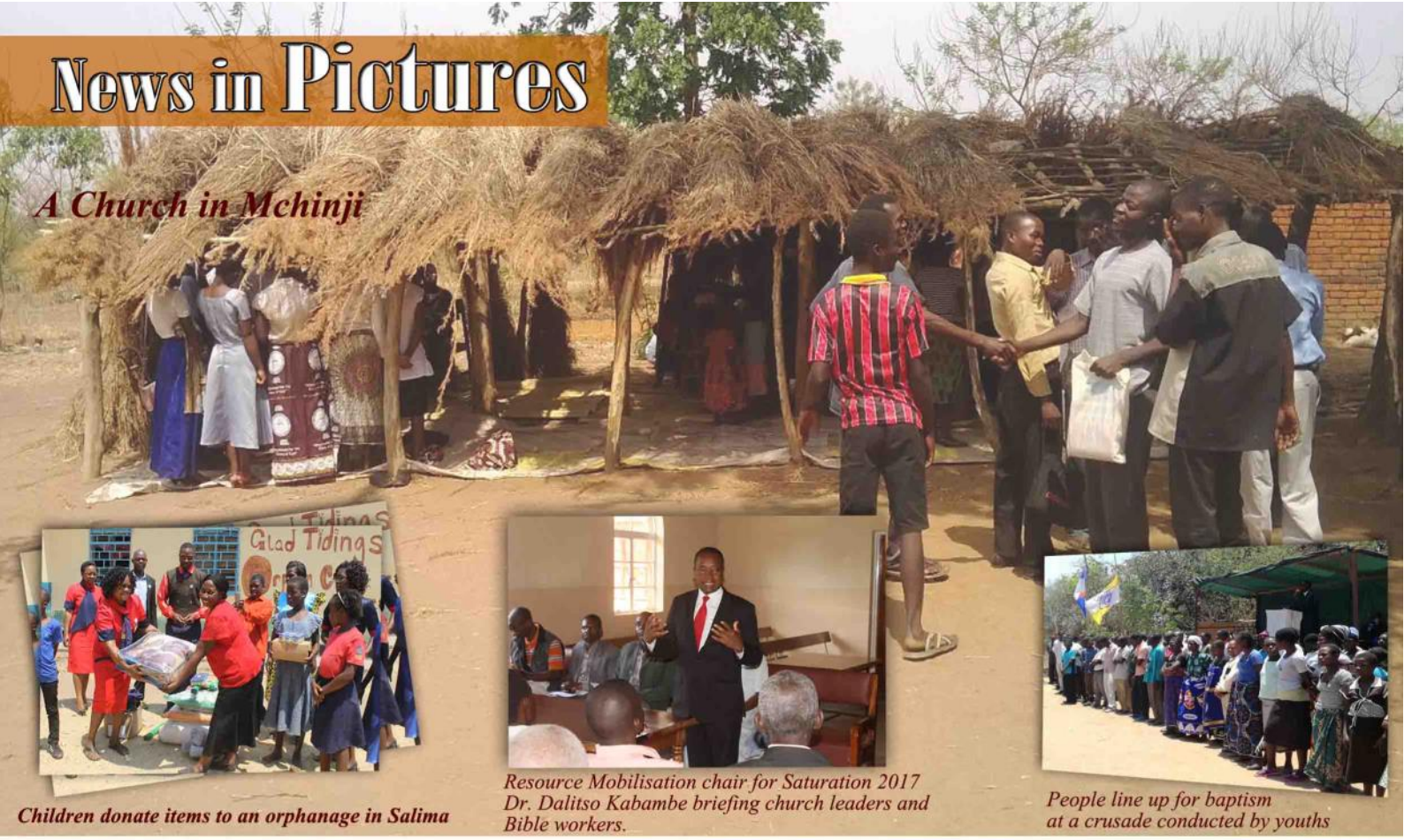
One of the participants, Margret Kachulu said the training was an eye opener to her as she will now impart relevant materials to the children. "The training has benefitted me very much and I know through me my church will also benefit.

I now have confidence to train the children ".She said.

The participants were drawn from various churches of Lilongwe City zone.

News in Pictures

A Church in Mchinji



Children donate items to an orphanage in Salima

Resource Mobilisation chair for Saturation 2017 Dr. Dalitso Kabambe briefing church leaders and Bible workers.

People line up for baptism at a crusade conducted by youths

S A D MOMENTS

Late Rukshana Kumkanga

Late Pastor Evance Jumbe

The Central Malawi Conference experienced sad moments in the year 2016. Death robed us of our membership and leadership.

We lost some of our dear colleagues, Mrs. Rukshana Kunkanga, who was the director of Communication, Children Ministries, and Women Ministries departments, a former Youth director, Pastor Evans Jumbe, who was ministering in Dwangwa district,and a Shepherdess, Mrs Gomani who passed away in Dowa. It was a painful moment for the Conference.

And there were several other challenges on the way. But we know that this is part of the discipline and process it takes to get to the dream land, our vision. Therefore, we will not lose faith because of any of these hurdles on the way.

CMC President Pastor John Phiri and MUC President Pastor Frackson Kuyama laying wreath on late Kumkanga grave

SDA CHILDREN GIVE HOPE TO DZALEKA REFUGEES

Mughogho (second from right) receives the donation from CMC Officials

Over five thousand children from various churches in the Central Malawi Conference invaded Dzaleka Refugee Camp in July with a message of hope "God Cares" to over twenty eight thousand refugees residing in the Camp as part of activivies marking World Refugee day.
Business around Dzaleka camp came to a standstill when the children went marching while singing around the camp,holding placards with different messages against child abuse.

The messages read,'Child trafficking is a crime', 'Stop Child abuse','Child at risk', 'protect the albinos', and' Send us to school'.
The Executive Secretary of the Central Malawi conference, Pastor Dr.Joe Gumbala who was the guest of honour at the function encouraged the refugees at Dzaleka not to loose hope because God has not forgotten them. In his sermon during divine service, Pastor Gumbala reminded the refugees that this world is a temporary camp to all of us and Jesus went to prepare a permanent place for us ,hence they should not despair. "God knows your situation,don't feel that He has forgotten you.He says you may suffer for a period , you may feel He has forgotten you as the Israelites felt in Egypt.
He hasn't for we are His Children and He loves us.People of this world can forget you, but God cannot ". He said quoting Isaiah 49 verse 15 and exodus 3 verse 4.
Pastor Gumbala urged the refugees to keep trusting the Lord.
"The same God who took care of you as you fled from your countries, will take care of you here and He says 'These Egyptians you see today,you shall see them no more."

"The same God who took care of you as you fled from your countries, will take care of you here and He says 'These Egyptians you see today,you shall see them no more."

The Children department later donated assorted drugs to Dzaleka clinic. Presenting the drugs to the clinical officer,Director of children Chimwemwe Guluka said that the children had decided to donate the drugs to the clinic to ease the drug problems being faced by the camp.
"we are here to give the children hope and encouragement.There are so many things that put children at risk.One of them Is diseases. We believe these drugs will help alleviate drug probles here'.She said
Receiving the drugs on behalf of Dzaleka clinic,the clinical officer for Dzaleka clinic Joseph Mughogho thanked the Children Ministries department for the timely donation of the drugs.
"This timely donation will alleviate drug problems faced by the clinic and will save lives.We hope you will continue helping us".Said Mughogo

CMC Executive Secretary, Director of Children and Pastor Pachanya join the match

Exert a Positive Influence On Children. Coordinators Advised

Children Ministries Coordinators from Lilongwe City Zone have been urged to exert a positive influence on the children they lead. The appeal was made by the executive secretory of Central Malawi Conference, Pastor Joe Gumbala when he presented certificates of achievement to children coodinators and leaders who gathered at falls church on Sunday 22 January 2017 to celebrate their achievements.

"You are role models to the children. You are a letter of commendation to children.You are a certificate of excellence to them. You need to guide them through songs, action and Bible.Guide them well so that you meet them on one bright morning". He said.

Several churches, subcommittees and individuals received certificates of excellence for their dedication, commitment, and support to the Children Ministries department.

Children Coordinators pose with CMC Executive Secretary Pastor Joe Gumbala

Pastor Dingani Mfune receives a Certificate from CMC Executive Secretary

Pastor Dingani Mfune, the Patron of Lilongwe City Zone appealed to coordinators to impart right things to children.

"As leaders, we need to instill the right things to children. Remember it is not what you leave for them but what you leave in them that is important". He said.

Pastor Mfune, Shepherdess Tsoka the matron and mrs. Philemon received certificates of recognition for their commitment, support and dedication to Children Ministries.

Mrs. Wezzie Kaunda was elected the Associate Director for Children Ministries on the same day.

Lilongwe City Zone Children Ministries Department recently donated assorted items at Good tidings Orphanage in Salima among other activities.

LEARN FROM AN EAGLE

The Eagle does not fight the snake on the ground, it picks it up into the sky and changes the battle ground, and then it releases the snake into the sky. The snake has no stamina, no power and no balance in the air. It is useless, weak and vulnerable unlike on the ground where it is powerful wise and deadly.

Take your fight into the spiritual realm by praying and when you are in the spiritual realm God takes over your battles. Don't fight the enemy in his ccomfort zone, change the battle ground like the Eagle and let God take Charge through your earnest prayer. you'll be assured of clean victory.

Pray without ceasing.

Lilongwe Children Hold Choral Sabbath

Music has the power to change character. Music has the power to deliver one from demons. Music can completely change the way one thinks. This is the message that was delivered by the Director of Children's Ministry, Mrs. Chimwemwe Guluka on Saturday 27th May at the Children's choral Sabbath which took place at the IG Stadium in Lilongwe.

In her sermon entitled 'God Can use children too', drawn from 2 Chronicles34:1 and 1Sam 16:14 -23, Mrs. Guluka appealed to children to be faithful and reliable so that God can use them to spread the gospel.

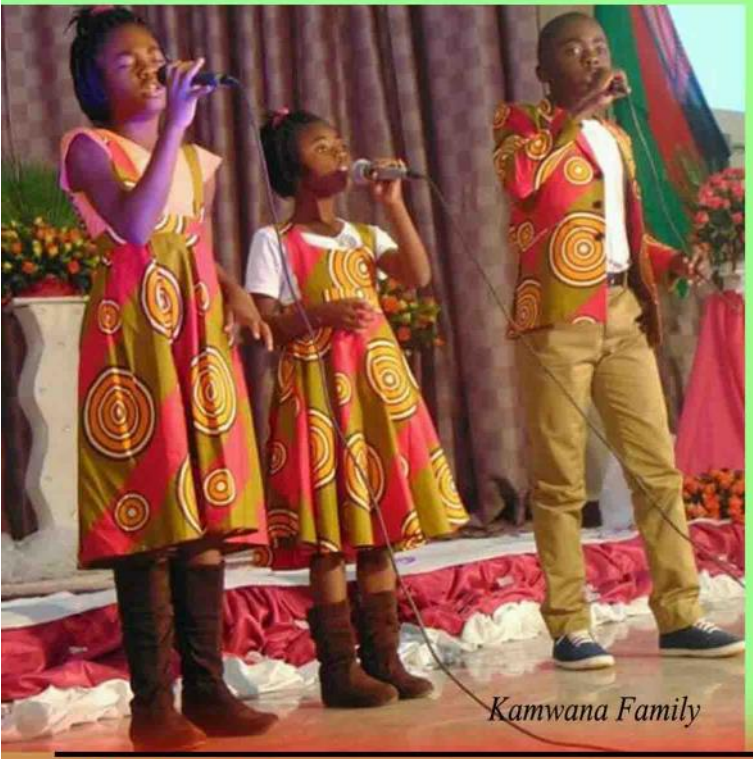
"God wants to use you,His children to spread the gospel through music. You therefore need to be obedient, reliable, humble and faithful for God to use you" She said.

She urged parents to encourage children to work hard and serve God.

"Parents have a role to encourage children to serve God and take part in church activities.

They should encourage children to sing gospel music. Music changed the character of Saul; it can also change our children's character, because singing is part of worship'. She said.

The choral Sabbath which drew together children from all churches in Lilongwe City was graced by the President of the Central Malawi Conference, Pastor John Phiri. The president commended the organizers for coming up with such a good programme.



Kamwana Family

The Power Of Music

"We need more of these events in the conference. I urge parents to support the children's ministry financially, materially, and morally so that the department should fulfill its plans to help children grow into reliable citizens of heavenly kingdom'. He said.

During the event, Mrs. Guluka was officially inaugurated as the new director for Communication, Children, and Women Ministries. She was given a scarf for children Ministries and batches representing Communication and Women departments. "We pray that the Lord should guide you as you take up these challenges". Said Pastor Dingani Mfune, the patron of children ministries.

In a related development, the director of music for Central Malawi Conference, Pastor Chancy Mchewere Banda has said that his department has organized a series of choral workshops to improve the quality of music in our churches, while at the same time maintaining the standards of Adventist music. The director said this at the close of a one week choral workshop the Conference organized at Biwi district. "Music is the universal language that is understood by all.It appeals to all groups of people. It's a powerful tool for spreading the gospel". He said. About three hundred people attended the workshop.

ACHINYAMATA 22 AKUMANA NDI YESU KUDZELA MNYUMBA YA MSWAMPHANJE.

M'busa Brazilio ndi ana

Mwezi wa April chaka chino, bambo Bazilio omwe amagwira ntchito ya U Mswamphannje (Global Mission Pioneer) ku Chikhwiri Mchigawo cha Mponela adawona ngati kutulo pamene tsiku lina anyamata ndi atsikana okwanira 8 osapitilira zaka 14 adafika kunyumba kwake atangomaliza kudya chakudya cha madzulo. Achinyamatawa anati akufuna adzapemphere nawo. Bazilio akuti atamva izi anali wokondwa kwambiri.
"Poyamba tidapemphera , kenako tidayimba nyimbo zitatu, No. 163, 78 ndi 29. Ndipo kenako ndidawerenga mau a Mulungu ndikuwapatsa malangizo achinyamatawa.

Ndidawona nkhope zawo zili zowala ndi chimwemwe ndipo adalonjeza kubweranso mawa lakelo", Adatero Baziliyo.
Iye akuti anawa atakauza makolo awo zomwe anamva usiku umenewo, makolowo adalimbikitsa anawo "Makolo anaonetsa chidwi kwambiri ndipo nambala idapitilira kukwera kotero kuti ena amaperekeza ana awo pa mtunda wa makilomita anayi, nkumawadikilira mmpaka mapemphero atatha pakuti kumakhala kutada".
Bazilio akuti nthawi zones anawa akafika amayimba nyimbo ndikuwauza nthano. Akuti amagwiritsanso ntchito maphunziro a VOP, ndipo amachita ndi phunziro lili lonse, pomaliza anawo amatenga maphunzirowo.
"Chiwerengero cha achinyamatawa chakwera kuchokera pa 8 kufikira pa 22 ndipo timakhala pa balasa ya mnyumba mwanga. Mwa ana 22,ana 5 ayamba Bible kalasi pamodzi ndi azimayi awiri omwe ndi ena mwa makolowa".
Mmodzi mwa achinyamatawo, Billy Molovala wa zaka 11 ndipo ndiwa mpingo wa Katolika,akuti iye akuona kuti Mulungu ndi yemwe namusakira ku mapempherowa.
"Ndimamva kukoma ndi makolasi ndi mavesi amene timaphunzira kuno.
Makolo anga amandilimbikitsa kuti ndizibwera".Iye anatero.
Mwana wina, Rosemary Kayinoti wa zaka 11 ndipo amapemphera ku CCAP anati iye amakopeka kwambiri ndi nthano za Yesu.

"Nthano za Yesu zimandigwira mtima moti sindimva bwino ndikajomba". Adatero
M'busa Baziliyo akuti akuyembekezeka kuti chiwerengero cha achinyamatachi chipitilira kukula, ndipo kudzera mwa achinyamatawa, makolo ambirinso amudziwa Yesu.
Mpingo wa Seventh-day Adventist wafika kumene ku Chikhwiri ndipo Baziliyo mswampanje oyamba kufika mderali. Pakadali pano akumanga nyumba yoti adzipempherera yodinda.

Bazilio kuphunzitsa ana

SIXTY COMMUNICATION SECRETARIES TRAINED IN CENTRAL MALAWI CONFERENCE

Sixty Communication Secretaries from various churches in the Central Malawi Conference were in February this year trained in effective communication skills at Falls SDA Church.

The Communicators were trained in reporting skills, Communicators roles and responsibilities, photography, On line reporting, programming, Public and media relations.
Speaking during the training, Pastor Charles Tangalimodzi of Hope Channel Malawi appealed to the communicators to promote the church's radio and television in churches so that more people start to support it.
"You are representatives of the radio and TV in your churches.
Our media faces a lot of challenges and you need to appeal to members to support it financially so that we continue spreading the gospel where we can't physically go."
He said.
The Associate Director of communication department, Mr. Willan Mkandawire appealed to communicators to work diligently so as to achieve maximum coverage of events.
"The knowledge gained in this training should help you to serve your churches better. You have a big role to play."He said.

One of the trainees, Renock Tchongwe of Kawale said the training was an eye opener to him since he now knew what was expected of him as a communicator.
"I didn't know much about Communication. The training has greatly motivated me. I have acquired church bulletin publishing skills and we will now start publishing a church bulletin at Kawale".
He said.
The Communication department launched a website last year, and this year it has developed a mobile application.

"Our media faces a lot of challenges and you need to appeal to members to support it financially so that we continue spreading the gospel where we can't physically go".

Pastor Thangalimodzi of Hope Channel Malawi talks to CMC communicators

Senior Group Village Head Woman Msanjama Delivered from spirit of smoking

Group Village Head Nsanjama

Senior Group village Head woman Msanjama of Mponela in Dowa districts says she thanks God for freeing her from the spirit of smoking that had tortured her for a long time.

According to Msanjama it was in January 2017 when Chikhwiri congregation visited her home for a bible study session. She said at the end of the session she asked the pastor and his wife to remain behind.

During their meeting the village leader said she was touched with the scriptures that were written in the book of Mark 9: 1-29, where there is a story about Jesus delivering a person from a spirit of dumbness. Apparently she revealed that she was equally cramped in the yoke of the evil spirit of smoking, which she needed to be freed from.
She said previously she had tried to all she could to stop smoking but to no avail.
The pastor advisedher to bring all the cigarettes she had and put

them on the table, something she earnestly did. She said later the pastor advised her to be courageous if she really wanted to stop smoking because it was not easy to brush off sinful life.
She said the pastor told her that, if Jesus delivered others from evil spirits He would do the same to her.
She said after he prayed for her she felt relieved. She said from then the pastor constantly visited her home and prayed for her. She added that she no longer became interested in smoking
She thanked Jesus for delivering her from smoking.Meanwhile the village head woman has spent two months without smoking.

Young lady Delivered From Vimbuza

A young lady called Mphatso 19 says she is thankful to God for delivering her from Vimbuza demons.
According to her mother, Mphatso had been suffering from Vimbuza demon attacks since her childhood but the problem became serious in October 2016.

The mother said she tried all she could to save her daughter's life to the point that many times they visited various traditional healers for healing but they all failed to heal her problem.
She said one day she took her daughter to a pastor to pray for her

after which violent Vimbuza demons calmed and consequently left her for good.
Later the young lady who hails from Mzimba district confessed that she was no longer under the devil's bondage, because she was completely freed from Vimbuza demons. Mphatso got baptised and is now an Adventist.

Her mother who runs a beer selling place said she was determined to close the shop to follow Jesus who healed her daughter.

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2017

CAMP MEETINGS A SUCCESS

Pastor Nakaole

By CMC Reporter

Most churches in Lilongwe city have described the 2017 Campmeetings as very successful.

Powerful sermons, Bible studies,departmental lessons, Inspiring music, children displays,a good turn up are some of the things that made the campmeetings successful.Most speakers reported at their venues on time.

In Lilongwe North West district,the campmeetings which took place at Area 25 SDA church started with a revival meeting by Evangelist Nelson Mandala. Every evening the church was filled to the capacity and many were unable to enter.

On Wednesday they started outdoor meetings and the attendance was overwhelmimg.Many people were lodging at the church.

Falls district conducted its campmeeting at Kaphiri church,along the M1 road for the first time. Members of Kaphiri church were so excited to host the camp-meeting this year.

"This shows kaphiri church is growing".Remarked Pastor Paul Kamgoma of Falls district.

Pastor John Phiri, President of the Central Malawi Conference was the main speaker. It was encouraging to note that many people from other branches had come to camp at the meeting.

Pastor Chimphonda of Area 24 district said while every year the attendance during campmeetings is improving,attendance on Sunday remains a challenge.

"We start with a good attendance but on Sundays the attendance is usually low. The period is also short as the speakers have a lot to teach the audience". He said.

Campmeetings in Area 24 started on Tuesday and ended on Sunday. However heavy rains disrupted the campmeeting on Sunday during the devine service, as it pulled down the camp forcing the sermon to end abruptly.

At Kawale, they started with revival meeting on 9th April and the actual campmeetings started on12th April.The guest speakers were Pastor Kumwembe, Pastor Nakaole from Malamulo Publishing House, and Pastor Manase from Lumbadzi church. They had guest campmeeting music groups called Through It All from Zomba and New City from Mtsiriza.

Pator Nakaole told the members to be vigilant in spreading the gospel.

"God doesnot use idle people. He uses busy people. Our occupations shouldnot be an excuse to serve God, and should not be an obstacle to serve Him as God did with Amos.Amos 7:12-14. Some of us are too busy for God, because God has blessed us.

We need to revisit our time managemet and slot in God's work ,in so doing we shall be taking care of our salvation. God does not depend on our ability but our availability so He can use us." said pastor Nakaole citing Phillipians 2:12-14.

One girl Gloria Banda said during the campmeeting she had learnt how children can protect themselves from violence and abuse.

"We need to report abusers to chiefs and police.We have also learnt drawing and singing". She said.

According to the Chairperson of the Kawale camp-meeting Committee, Mr. W. Zidana, the family life

Campmeetings: time to reflect

lessons presented during the campmeetings have helped to strengthen the families.

Biwi district also registered a successful Campmeeting this year. The Campmeeting took place at Area 22 SDA church. They started on Thursday and ended on Sunday with an interruption from rains too. Pastor Denis Matekenya, one of the speakers urged the youth to get better education and careers to have a better future. "Don't just rush into marrying or getting married. Get better education and unique careers to get better jobs. A unique career sets you apart, and makes employment for you easier. The church needs educated people today and you need to get the best education". He advised the youths.

The climax of a cluster campmeetings for Area 47, Central Church and Area 18 was a baptism ceremony which took place on Sabbath at Central Church where the campmeetings were taking place. Pastor T.Y. Nyirenda and Pastor Chiwanda blessed campers with powerful sermons for a full one week.

The President of Malawi Union Conference Pastor Frackson Kuyama was at Area 3 District. A very good number of families had camped at the site. Professor Kuthemba Mwale of Fall District however observed that Most members from most churches seem not yet prepared to lodge at campsites.

"Get good education" Pastor Denis Matekenya counsels the youth

"If people don't Lodge at campmeetings, then the whole purpose of campmeetings is defeated".

Children in action at Lilongwe Northwest district campmeeting

Praising God through music at a campmeeting

"This is something churches need to seriously look into. If people don't lodge at campmeetings, then the whole purpose of campmeetings is defeated. During this period, families need to leave their homes for campmeetings. They should only come back home when the campmeetings are over. That's what I do with my family". Said Professor Kuthemba Mwale of Falls Church in an interview.

This year Lingadzi district and Area 23 district have started holding their camp meetings in August.

MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED SOULS REAPED IN DOWA

Newly Baptised members pose for a group photo with pastor Gomani

More than Six hundred souls accepted Christ as their Savior in Dowa following 21 evangelistic crusades that took place in various places in the district in 2016.

The crusades took place in places like James, Mphangwe, Thonje and Kaphasi among others.

According to Pastor Gomani who was the Pastor for Dowa in 2016, most places were being entered for the first time. "Most people were hearing about the true Sabbath and the name Seventh-day Adventist Church for the first time. But thank God the response was overwhelming". He said.

Of particular interest were several group villageheadmen who had given their lives to Christ.

These included Group Village headmen Nyundo, Kamphasi, wife to Group village headman Thomas and village headman Nyundo 2.

Group Village headman Kamphasi, a former member of Emmanuel Gospel Church said that he understood that all authority is appointed by God. "I therefore decided to follow God rather than men, since God is the supreme ruler". He Said.

Group Village headman Kamphasi further said that he had ordered that everyone in his area should identify him/herself with a church.

If one dies without a church, the bereaved family will be fined.

Brino Kachere who is Village headman Nyundo 2, said that he had now understood that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

"I therefore want to be a God fearing leader so that God should guide me when settling disputes.A God fearing leader does not accept bribes and discourages corruption.A peaceful society starts with a good leader'. He Said.

So many new churches have been built in Dowa following the crusades.

In some places newly baptized members have mobilized resources to construct prayer houses.

Dzaleka Refugee Church members mobilized resources to help build a church at James village, at a land that was donated by group village headman James after he got baptized following an effort that was sponsored by Dzaleka Church members.

The First Elder of Dzaleka church Wilson Nkundumukiza said that despite that refugee community have limited resources, they are have limited resources,they are always happy to assist wherever they can. "We now need windows and cement to complete this church" He said.

The increased number of converts has created several challenges. like lack of church structures.

In one area a chief who got baptized donated land where the members moulded bricks and built a church.

In another area, Kambewa, members constructed a grass church which stands just adjacent to a United Pentecostal Church, from which most members came from.

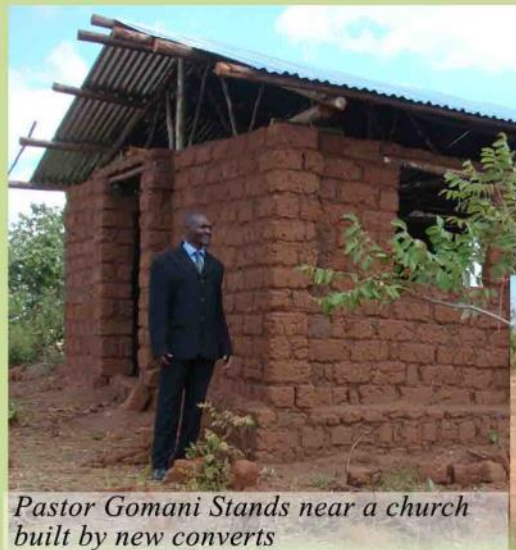
"Our former members mock us for leaving a well constructed church for a grass one. We couldn't pray whenever it rained", lamented one new convert.

At Chatambalala area, it was reported that forty people who got baptized in 2014 backslided a few months after baptism since they did not have a church nearby and they had to walk twenty kilometers to get to a church.

Maranatha International has built several One Day churches in the area but they are not enough as the numbers of converts keeps increasing. More structures need to be built to nurture the new converts.

Another challenge is lack of Bibles and hymn books.

The people are eager to learn more, to participate in church worship but they don't have Bibles. Pastor Gomani said he hoped that well wishers would come to help alleviate the challenges.



Pastor Gomani Stands near a church built by new converts

a grass Church constructed by people who were converted from the near by brick church

GO 150 INITIATIVES

The Fruits!

In April 2016, The Central Malawi Conference launched 2015-2020 strategic plan at CIVO stadium in Lilongwe.It was during this launch that the evangelistic strategy,the GO 150 Initiative,targetting the five least entered political districts in Central Malawi region took off A total of 300 public evangelistic campaign were conducted in 2016 and out of this 175 campaigns were conducted under the Go 150 initiative in the focus areas while 125 campaigns were conducted as regular campaigns in the remaining parts of the Conference.

Results:This has resulted in 11, 566 new members joining the church. Out of this number 8,724 converts were a direct reaping from the Go 150 initiative. Fifty new churches or congregations were planted, bringing our total net congregations at the close of 2016 to 810.
Our membership skyrocketed as our gains beat the losses in our statistics and raised our net membership to 81, 957 up from 76,874 in December of 2015.
We praise our God for this! While these figures could comparatively not churn your bowels, you may wish to appreciate our past in this regard and the unique challenges our territory offers when it comes to evangelism. And we praise the Lord for that achievement. It was big enough.

It is significant to observe that we have registered for the first time in our history as a Conference the largest number of new converts joining the church in a year and at the same time a high level of membership retention.

Kasiya

A formmer gulewankulu member at Kasiya

Malingunde

Mchinji

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