

Hello friends and family!

We trust your new year is off to a great start. Our year started off warm with plenty of rain still coming down. We are sorry for those of you that have suffered through so much snow and ice with power outages and school closings. Recently we learned that tornadoes were making their way through Oklahoma, in the middle of winter!



NATALIE WITH CHURCH MEMBERS AFTER A SERVICE IN THE VILLAGE.

Our kids started back to school a few days into January. They are participating in swim meets and soccer games while studying their times tables and spelling words. Unfortunately, they will be thoroughly confused when we return to the US and they are told by friends that color, neighbor and favorite are not spelled with the letter 'u' following the 'o'. There are other things that will seem strange to them as well, such as the principal of the school is not referred to as the headmaster, soccer is not called football and no one has to wear funny little sun hats when they play outside.



The feeding center in Bodza is beginning to look like a real building in spite of all the rain that has made the process a challenge. Danny has made several trips to the center and is excited to see things coming together for the kids there. Thank you for your help and support in this project.

*“Cause me to hear your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust;  
Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift my soul to You.”*  
Psalm 143:8



**The director of Bridge to Malawi poses with some of the children from the feeding center as they show off their new clothes**

In our last update we discussed an orphanage in the southern part of Malawi. We asked for prayers concerning how we could assist this couple in their overwhelming task of caring for so many orphans. Since that time our friends asked Natalie to help out with some of their sick babies. When babies become very ill there is no medical facility in the area of the orphanage that can assist. So, a caretaker is sent with the sick baby to a hospital in Blantyre (this is where we live and about 3 hours from the orphanage). Unfortunately, the hospital that the orphanage's small budget can afford is not a facility that makes one feel very confident upon entering. The first baby Natalie went to visit was admitted with a diagnosis of pneumonia and malaria. We walked around the facility looking for a place to put the baby. As we stepped over the women sitting and lying all over the

floors we could not find a bed for the baby. Finally we were able to find a caretaker from another orphanage who was willing to share the small bed she had her baby in. The room was one big open room with beds and people lined up. The next day we brought the caretaker a small mattress hoping she could find a spot in the floor to make a bed for herself. The doctors are few and the nurses are even fewer. The odor of so many sick bodies was overwhelming. The crying and groaning was heartbreaking and the look of indifference was found on too many faces. Sanitation is of utmost importance in a setting like this, yet the ability to maintain a clean environment seemed beyond anyone's grasp.

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**Psalm 143:8**



It has become a great concern for us to help with this aspect of orphan care. We are praying that God would provide a house we could use as a clinic for these sick babies.

We also need a few doctors willing to make house calls to the clinic to advise us on how to care for the little ones until they are well enough to return to the orphanage. This is just the beginning of how we would like to help. It is a prayer request for all the resources to be in place as soon as possible, finances, people, building, etc. Until that time we will continue to assist through the hospital here in Blantyre.



Many of you know that Danny just returned from an amazing ten day trip to Zambia. He was invited to work alongside Water4 in a project to place two water wells and pumps so that the people in the community could have access to clean water. We hope to be able to implement the same program here in Malawi.

Thank you for your prayers for the teams while they traveled, worked, and ministered. Both teams were successful in placing wells, one with a solar pump and one with a hand pump. It was a lot of hard work for everyone, but the results are well worth it!

Thank you also for remembering those of us at home during the team's absence. As for me and my gang, we enjoyed a week of school break with some afternoon swims and a relaxed schedule. We were without electricity quite a bit and therefore no internet. There were times of no water as well, but the kids felt that a dip in the neighbor's pool was equivalent to a bath for that day. Unfortunately, on the Sunday before Danny returned, my wallet was stolen. Besides money and credit cards, my driver's license was inside. It seems that this is going to take a bit of time and effort to replace so in the meantime Danny will have to be the family taxi driver. We are praying for a speedy resolve to this problem.



MICHAEL MILLIGAN, DANNY GREGORY, KEVIN JOHANSON, DICK GREENLY, STEVE STEWART AND FRANK FRANKINI OF THE WATER TEAM IN ZAMBIA .



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Dick Greenly with volunteers from the community placing a pulley system for the well drilling system.

People from the community assisting the **water4** team.

If you would like to learn more about water projects please go to [www.water4.org](http://www.water4.org)



### As we look forward...

- We anticipate continued work with the School in Nyangu where we have nearly completed two classrooms and are well on our way to putting desks in the third classroom. Thanks to some generous donations we should be able to move on to the fourth classroom soon. I am sure that the carpenter we are using feels that his prayers have been answered to receive so much work at one time. He will be able to feed his family for several months now! Of course the students and teachers are also happy to have somewhere to sit and a desk to write on during lessons.
- *The feeding center at Bodza will be completed soon and we will enter into discussions about other needs for these children and orphans. Thank you to all of you who supported this project.*
- We will continue to keep you updated about the partnership we are considering with the orphanage in Bangula. We received word recently that they are receiving a high number of sick babies. Natalie visited three babies last week as they were admitted to the hospital in Blantyre. All three had feeding tubes in place and were not doing well. Yesterday we learned that one of these three had passed away. We are thankful that she was cared for and loved for the time she was here.
- **Danny will be assessing the needs and exploring the possibility partnering with Water4 to place water wells and pumps here in Malawi. Of course the need is huge so we would appreciate your prayers that we will have wisdom in setting priorities and helping as many as people as possible.**

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*Thank you for taking this journey with us. You are always such an encouragement. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers as you make your way through uncertain times there at home; prayers for peace and provision.*

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**PRAISE REPORT:**

After we typed this update and before we were able to get it sent out to you we received a call from the bank we use here in Malawi. It seems someone returned Natalie's stolen bank card to the bank in hopes of receiving a reward. The lady at the bank asked him to see if he could find the rest of Natalie's missing items. By the time we reached the bank she had managed to retrieve the driver's license and credit cards as well! Yea! Several friends had been praying for a miraculous return of the missing license and cards so we want to say a BIG thank you! The other items and the wallet itself are still at large... but the important documents are here. ☺

*\*\*More pictures are coming from the water4 project in Zambia and the Nyangu school desk project. We will let you know when they are posted to our website.*

Danny Natalie Sydney Gabriel & Hope Gregory  
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[www.crossingsokc.org/ministries/missions/missionaries](http://www.crossingsokc.org/ministries/missions/missionaries)  
[www.itdinc.org](http://www.itdinc.org)

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