

Fifth Grade 'Drop-Out' Back in Action

Nkhotakota, Malawi — On this warm summer day children were walking in and out between the small houses of their village. Today there was cause for a special happiness as they saw their school mate, Saul Matchado Nkhoma, given a new way to move around: one of the colorful Mobility Carts. Filled with excitement and curiosity, they could not hold back their joy as they stood behind Saul and shared in his happiness, thanking God for this gift given to their friend.

The Beginning is the End. Saul, a grade 5 dropout, developed his crippling problem three years ago. It happened suddenly as Saul unexpectedly fell down repeatedly. Healthy feet and legs stopped working, so his knees now served as his feet—in grade 5 he reverted to crawling. In medical terms his mother could not explain what had happened, but what she did know was her son could no longer walk. The *beginning* of this problem was the *end* of his educational journey—he could no longer walk to the school. Each day he would spend (continued on Page 2)

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almost all of his time in the house. When his friends ran around playing various sporting activities, Saul was no longer able to participate. Alone, isolated, depressed and discouraged, he spent most of the past three years away from everyone. There was no future for him; what did he have to look forward to? Then suddenly everything changed!

Many Have Promised. "I am happy now, my son will be able to proceed with his education," Saul's mother said as she saw Saul with the new Mobility Cart. She said many organizations promised to help her son, but none of them had been able to fulfil their promise. "I am really thankful to God for directing this NGO to me. God must guide and bless them!" Saul's mother concluded.

Mr. Graystone Alindiamawo, the Education Manager for the District,



joined the school pupils in thanking The Malawi Project for bringing this gift to Saul. He said, *"This NGO is*

making a long term investment in the district and the nation as a whole, since Saul will be educated and the district will benefit from him." Also present at the 'handing over' function were the District Youth Officer, the Social Welfare Officer, and the village Headman.

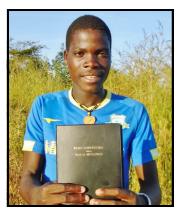
Many areas of Malawi have children who suffer in silence. "We have vowed to help these children with mobility support so they can have access to education and become producing members of our community," concluded Wilson Tembo. —Report by Wilson Tembo (Malawi Project)

Newest Church Partner

Lowell, IN — It was hard to tell who had the most fun riding the mobility carts at Hope Church's Family Game Night. Our newest Church Partner highlighted Mobility Ministries during their game night by first gathering to see video footage of legdisabled kids and adults receiving their carts; then everyone took turns riding or racing the carts.

While these colorful carts provided lots of fun, the comments expressed an excitement and renewed desire to support this unique ministry.





God's Words in the <u>Heart Language</u> of Malawi

Last fall, a high school senior asked about sending Bibles to Malawi with our Mobility Carts. Our partner in Malawi recommended that English Bibles would not be appropriate for the people in the rural villages; many speak only the *Chichewa* language and having the Word of God in their own most familiar language (their "heart language") is of utmost importance to understanding the nuances of God's love for them. Excited, Abby Bennett invited classmates and church members to support her dream to fund Bibles printed in Malawi. In less than 2 months, Abby collected over \$4,200 to purchase 470 Chichewa Bibles. Felix (pictured here) was grateful to receive his own personal Bible — but it is one he will share with possibly up to 25 other church members, since his church has only 3 Bibles!



New <u>Distribution Center</u> in Malawi Will Benefit Many

The *Malawi Project (MP)* and now it's African counterpart *Action for Progress (AfP)* focus on assisting Malawians in taking over their own future—be it sanitation, clean water, better agricultural practices, job training, medical care, better education, meeting mobility needs, and so much more. *MP* and *AfP* are cooperating to build a new *Distribution Center* in the capitol city of Lilongwi. This will be a 10,000 sq. ft.

facility operated by AfP; all of the supplies and equipment sent by MP from the US will be handled more efficiently by AfP through this distribution center. Africans know better than Americans what Africans need, and AfP is operated by a distinguished board of Malawi citizens, not by a US organization.

One of the first benefits of this project is a <u>new deep well</u> for the distribution center—<u>pure clean water</u>, <u>available free to everyone</u> in the surrounding area. Here blue uniformed construction workers draw water for the foundation and block laying, and then for the concrete floor soon to be poured.





A shipping Container was sent last September from the DeMotte Shop filled with Carts; now empty, it was moved to the site to serve as a storage unit for construction after the Mobility Carts were distributed.

Within about 60 days the new center may be completed, with steel beams and a 20 foot high ceiling. This will be where the Carts from DeMotte will be delivered—and from here they will be placed wherever needed in Malawi and surrounding areas.



<u>Our Mission Statement</u>: To reflect the love of Jesus Christ by bringing MOBILITY and DIGNITY to those in emerging countries who are unable to walk.

Goodbye (for now) to a Faithful Servant

Marge Fase was our longest painting volunteer. She began painting shortly after our shop opened in 2012, accompanying her husband, Marv—they both worked on Tuesday mornings. When Marv passed away in 2014, Marge soon came back, and painted until she passed away in May.

She was known as "the Birthday Cake Lady" because whenever a volunteer was having a birthday, she would make sure there was a cake, usually it was a chocolate cake, waiting on the table for Tuesday's break time.

We will miss Marge's humble, kind, and caring spirit in our Shop, but we will not forget her! We are genuinely thankful to the donors who have given gifts to this ministry in her memory. And ... we will see her again ... in Heaven!





Wheatfield, IN — On June 5 about 65 volunteers and spouses gathered to celebrate **Cart #2000**! This cart and a second cart displayed the 2 new colors being introduced. We re-lived the 7 years of our shop's history by watching a couple of delightful videos from the past. Then a slide show featuring our newest volunteers brought us up to the present. Finally, we were inspired to carry on with our work as we witnessed a compilation of video clips of people who were first seen struggling to get around on their own, and then we could see the joy on their faces as each tried out their very own Mobility Cart! It's been a good 7-1/2 years! The Lord has blessed this ministry!



Malawi — Bob Gabrielse shakes hands with the man who spoke for the 7 people in his village who received Mobility Carts. Through an interpreter, this man profusely thanked the volunteers at Mobility Ministries and the people of the Malawi Project for their love and compassion for all of them.





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