

Malawi Dossier



HIStory

The e-mail, marked urgent, came from a brother in Christ and included a plea for help. It was a Sunday night in Malawi, Africa. "I am writing this night because one hour ago a thief came and broke the room where we keep food for the orphans, and he has robbed all the foods that were there," Pastor Duncan Nyozani of Searchlight Orphan Care wrote on Oct. 25, 2009. "There is nothing left for the orphans."

Duncan's small orphanage is in Migowi, a village in the deep southern part of this South-Central African nation. Landlocked Malawi is one of the world's most densely populated and least developed countries, with 85 percent of the population living in rural areas and relying on agriculture. As a result it is one of the poorest countries in the world with an average annual income of US\$900 per person (ranking 217th out of 229 nations in 2012, according to the CIA World Factbook).

"We used to care for 40 orphans in the past, but due to financial problems we reduced to 15 orphans," Duncan said about his Searchlight ministry.

He sent an inventory of what was stolen: 7 bags of maize, 2 bags of beans, 5 liters of cooking oil, and 20 packets of sugar. And kitchen utensils. The food, he said, was worth MK68500 (or less than US\$500).

“We need \$450 to feed them for a month,” he said about the orphans.

We asked our members to pray for the children. And for those who have stolen from them. As Duncan said with a forgiving heart, “I pray for them to receive Jesus.”

A week later, the children were fed with food purchased with what God had provided through Climbing For Christ. We have been feeding the children ever since, providing monthly support – and slowly adding to the number of orphans cared for at Searchlight.

Malawi was the beginning of Climbing For Christ’s Project 1:27, which is based on James 1:27, where we are called to “look after the orphans and widows in their distress.”

Trip Planner

FAST FACTS

Malawi in a Word: *Moni* – Good morning!

Area: 118,484 sq. km.

Borders: Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia.

Languages: English, Chichewa.

Capital: Lilongwe.

Population: 12 million.



Visa: Free for 30 days; issued at point of entry.

Departure Tax: \$20US – Payable in US Dollars in cash.

Vaccinations: Routine; Hep A; Hep B; Typhoid; Rabies; Malaria – **NOT Chloroquine.**

Money: Malawi Kwacha – US \$1 = Mk 140 (as of September 2012).

Weather: Cool and dry (May to August), Hot and Dry (September to mid–November), Hot and Wet (mid-November to April).

Time Difference: GMT/ UTC +2 – 6 hours ahead of Climbing For Christ world headquarters in Rochester, NY, USA.

Culture: Malawians are some of the friendliest people in Africa. But remember...

- Walking around in revealing clothing is inappropriate for both men and women.
- Public drunkenness and open displays of affections are frowned upon.
- Great respect is accorded to the older generation, who should always be treated in a courteous manner.

People: Half the population is under 15 years of age. Eighty-five percent of the people live in rural areas and are farmers and fishermen or working on commercial farms and plantations.

Food & Water: The staple food in Malawi is *nsima* (nsee -ma), which is a thick maize (corn) porridge. The porridge is molded into patties and served with either beans, meat, or vegetables in a tomato-and-onion sauce, collectively called *ndiwo* (ndee 3 -wo). Malawians also eat rice, cassava, and potatoes, though rice is considered a luxury and potatoes are often used as *ndiwo*. **Do NOT** drink water that is not purified or not bottled!

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is important! Check your health insurance coverage and send us the following information: Health insurance company name, policy number, and phone number. *Please note that Climbing For Christ will not pay for any insurance or medical treatment you may require as a result of your participation in the mission trip.*

Gear List: Will be provided to team members.

First Aid: A medical kit will accompany the trek. You should bring your own personal first aid kit consisting of the following: A broad spectrum antibiotic, antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhea treatment (Imodium), altitude (Diamox), painkillers, plasters (band-aids) and blister treatment, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite). Glucose tablets and multi-vitamin tablets are also a good idea.

Suggested Reading List:

- *True Religion*, by Palmer Chinchon
- *Radical*, by David Platt
- *Before You Go – A 40-day Devotional*, by Jack Hempfling
- *Revolution in World Missions, By: K.P. Yohannan – Gospel For Asia*

Communication: The team will have a Satellite phone and will send daily Dispatches to allow our friends, and family to follow along our trip.

Before You Go:

Return the following list of information to info@ClimbingForChrist.org:

- Acknowledgement of Risk
- Certificate of Physical Fitness
- Paper copy of Passport
- Travel insurance information
- Membership Profile

Note: This paperwork will be emailed with team updates.



The Project 1:27 orphanage is located near Sapitwa Peak, the highpoint of the Mulange Massif in southeastern Malawi.

Embassy contacts:

Canada: Tel: 01-651450; Accord Centre, Limbe

USA: Tel: 01-773166; Convention Dr, City Centre, Lilongwe.

