

A TRIP TO MALAWI & MOZAMBIQUE

Adventuresome ... This one word is a summation of my recent trip to Malawi and Mozambique, along with Africa/Europe Area Director Bryce Whiting, Director of Communication Justin Nash, Jason Boyette and Pastor Ken Perkins (Bear River Advent Christian Church, Nova Scotia, Canada) and his family. Over 17 days, we had three cars to breakdown, three phone mishaps (all ended well), two trips to the Mozambique border, three visits to the Mozambique Embassy in Blantyre in the same day, constant conversation/education around the use of salt and saw approximately 150 patients in six days of clinic.

After some reflection and storytelling about the myriad events of this trip, the words from 2 Peter 1:3–8 resound deeply within me. In verses 5–7 we are told to

“... do your best to add goodness to your faith; to your goodness add knowledge; to your knowledge add self-control; to your self-control add endurance; to your endurance add godliness; to your godliness add Christian affection and to your Christian affection add love”
(Taken from the Good News Bible).

This trip started out with my conducting check-ups for our Advent Christian brothers and sisters in Malawi and Mozambique (adding goodness to my faith). During the trip, my knowledge increased in many areas, in particular in learning about the integrity of some Malawians with the first phone mishap, issues with visas and crossing borders (knowledge to my goodness). In obtaining the visas for Bryce and



me to cross over into Mozambique, we had to meticulously do every task asked of us. Go to Blantyre to the Embassy, leave the Embassy to get paperwork about bank statements, proof of hotel bookings, passport photos for visa, deposit money in their bank account — hence the three trips in the same day and the second phone mishap. Then, fill out the application, submit it with all of the above and wait 45 minutes to see if the visas will then be approved (self-control to my knowledge). Then travel back to Nsanje, the third phone mishap, pick up the translator along the way to the village to let everyone know we were headed to Mozambique and then get to the Malawi border by 6 p.m. (endurance to my self-control). Upon arriving at the border of Malawi at 5:50 p.m., calls were made to see if the Mozambique border officers would allow us to pass at that time because their border closed at 6 p.m. as well. They agreed to wait. After paperwork and fees were paid in Malawi, we went to Mozambique, again paid fees and finally entered, all the time being appreciative to the same people who the day before treated us harshly (godliness to my endurance). In Mozambique, we had two days of medical clinics and teaching with only a few glitches. Returning to Malawi felt like we had come back home to be among family (Christian affection to my godliness).

And with each parting from friends in the village, the Perkins family, Ammon (driver, mechanic, detective and translator), Joseph (trip coordinator, dear friend to the late Samuel Sosono, translator/vice doctor to me) and Bryce, my heart enlarges and my world expands (love to my Christian affection). Each trip I have taken teaches me something about myself, affirms my passion to care for others and deepens my call to ministry opportunities.

This trip was about well-checks; about conversations regarding salt, sugar and their effects on health; about sharing in the mourning of a loss; about encouraging continued ministry; about making new friends and about helping do the Father’s business.

Ready for my next adventure to do kingdom work.

(Submitted by Dr. Cynthia Lee)



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PRAYER & PRAISE

*Christmas in October
Pastor Appreciation
Berkshire Institute for Christian Studies — 22nd*

October 2017



“Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.”
(Jeremiah 3:15, NIV)

**Join in united prayer with
other Advent Christians**

**Advent Christian
General Conference**



PRAY

1. For the ACGC senior staff as they work on strategically planning how they can best serve our churches and ministries.
2. For our Kids' Ministry leaders in all of our churches to spend adequate time on lesson preparation and to be guided by the Holy Spirit as they teach. May many children grow closer to the Lord this month!
3. Penny Crusade giving continues to drop this year. Pray that the last quarter of this year will help us reach our mission needs.
4. For Rev A. Jerald, conference president of the Fellowship of Blessed Hope Churches (India), as he endeavors to unify the churches within the fellowship.
5. For the Cristo Salva ministry team headed to Honduras on October 16 – 23 that as they minister, many will open their hearts to hear God's word.
6. That the Agape House staff in Mati, Philippines will have commitment and ever-increasing love for God.
7. That the Agape House will have sustainability for the Sunday School Extension (children's program for low-income families) and for the orphanage.
8. For the Agape House elementary school teachers as they participate in the School of Tomorrow's upcoming Educators Convention held in Manila on October 17 – 23.
9. Agape House Philippines is planning to climb to the Salumayag Tribe in Bukidnon to celebrate Christmas in October with 300 children. While there, they plan to distribute slippers and small gifts and hold a feeding program for the children. Pray for protection and provisions for them.
10. For Ministry Leader Rowena Cabrizos as she prepares for the 2018 Agape House Reunion in Indonesia.
11. For revival and salvation among the Japanese Agape House ministry leaders.
12. For a safe delivery in October for Ministry Leader Sarah Aby and the sustainability of the Agape House core group in Australia.
13. For the ministries and leaders in the Papua New Guinea Agape House.
14. For the outreach ministry of Enos and other possible ministry openings in Indonesia.

PRAISE

1. God for innovative servants like Mexican Conference Pastor Jaime, who is holding discipleship training in order to cover communities without a church.
2. God for the new registered social workers, Rochan and Chipay, for Agape House, Mati, Philippines.
3. God for the Christian Academy in Davao Oriental Technological College, Inc. as the school celebrates its founding anniversary on October 8.
4. The Lord for the success of three Mission Celebration banquets that were held this year by the Word Outreach office. Give thanks for those who help to host these events.
5. God that the AC Burundi Conference held a women's crusade in Ngozi where nine women came to Christ, 16 members came to Christ and three renewed their lives in Jesus.
6. The Lord that the Burundi Conference opened two new churches in Ruyigi in August and baptized 60 new members.
7. God for Fellowship of Blessed Hope Churches Conference in India and for their 12 pastors and over 1,600 members.

Please pray for the following ACGC Directors' and Coordinators' Activities

Meredith Broadway, Coordinator of Educational Ministries

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.

Beth Larkin, Coordinator of Women's Ministries & Event Operations

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.
- October 6 – 7: Extraordinary Women's Conf., Roanoke Va.

Matt Larkin, Director of Student & Family Ministries

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.
- October 17 – 23: Eastern Region Convention

Steve Lawson, Executive Director

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.
- October 19 – 21: Eastern Region Convention

Justin Nash, Director of Communication

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.
- October 7: Natural Church Development Training
- October 15 – 24: Eastern Region Convention

Dawn Rutan, Director of Finance

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.

Jeff Walsh, Director of World Outreach

- October 2 – 3: Senior Staff Retreat — Strategic Planning, Black Mountain N.C.
- October 15: Crouseville Advent Christian Church, Crouseville, Maine
- October 18 – 21: Eastern Region Convention
- October 22: Sunshine AC Church, Deer Isle, Maine
- October 29: Torrington AC Church, Torrington, Conn.