



## Namikango Updates

### Construction Everywhere!

Namikango is in the middle of a season of construction and growth. It seems that every aspect of the Mission is impacted, from new soccer jerseys for the Namikango team to a new Mission sign at the main entrance. Bigger construction projects include the administration building on campus, which will provide much needed office space. There are also new classrooms being built at Ntonda Primary School following storm damage. [Eric Gephart](#)

### Admin. Bldg.

Construction on the Administration Building continues to progress. The second level is coming in nicely and changing the face of that part of Namikango's campus.

We're looking forward to the day when staff will be able to move in and open up space for the **New Bible School**.

### Soccer Pitch

The football field (soccer pitch) is level and we're getting ready to host the first match in the upcoming weeks. Besides being used for the campus school students, this will also provide a nice field for the Malawi league teams in our area to host games, something that is desperately wanted. Soccer is a sport that many rally around. We sponsor a local team called Namikango Football Club. It has done well - winning a championship our first year. Plus, it has provided another avenue for us to build relationship with our community. This will continue to grow as we provide a place for these soccer matches to take place on our campus.

### Ntonda Classrooms

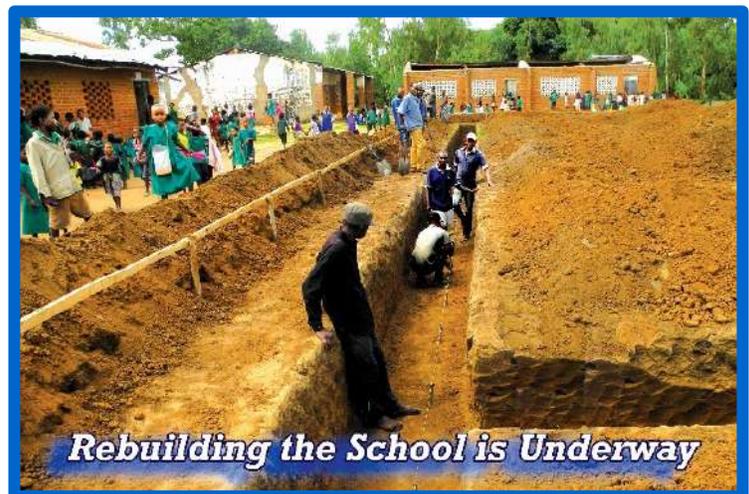
Construction on the new classroom block at Ntonda school is underway. In order to use the funds we received in the best way, we decided to build a five-room classroom block. It will have three complete classrooms in the center; the classrooms on each end will have half walls. We don't have enough funds to completely finish all five classrooms at this time. This solution will allow the rooms to be used now and will also allow for expansion in the future where the end rooms can be finished.

In addition to the school, we will need to help re-build one staff house at Ntonda that was destroyed in the floods. This will be in partnership with the community. They will provide a portion of what's needed to re-build and we will help with the rest.

All in all, we're excited about the development as these five rooms will replace the classrooms that were lost. And, these will be much nicer classrooms, with better ventilation and a better environment for learning. Students are currently meeting outside, so we're hoping to have this done by the end of June.

We are so thankful for the generous response that has made all this possible.

[Ben Hayes](#)



## A word from the Editor

*For 45 years I have stood on the sidelines, overseeing the Namikango Mission work and cheering on godly men who were willing to go to a foreign land and raise their families there and to actually carry the Great Commission to the lost. I stand in awe.*

*Now I see in a new generation of saints those who want to do more than tell people about Christ. They want to help people **be like Christ**. That means doing more than preaching; it means getting close to people in their daily activities and daily needs. They like to use a term that is somewhat new to me; "Holistic." I looked it up and it means 'to reach and convert the whole man, to impact all his needs.'*

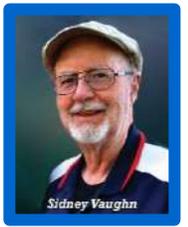
*These youngsters of ours at Namikango want people to know the real Jesus, the complete Jesus. And, as they see Jesus feeding the poor, healing the sick, and doing good wherever He went, they want to do the same. Out of this heartfelt desire came the plans for the Christian Health Education, (CHE) teaching better health and better marriages and the Village Saving & Loan (VSL)*

*program where people are taught ways to save and to plan for their own financial needs; money for seeds, for fertilizer, etc . . . and how they can do this without looking for outside help. They are now preparing to expand the Mission Clinic to include not just maternity, but all their neighbors' medical needs. Plus, there are plans to have an English Bible School at the Mission. These are just some of the amazingly successful efforts our team is accomplishing.*

*And you know what else? When our team sends someone to a village to preach the Gospel . . . people come . . . people listen . . . and they want to be just like this Jesus they have learned about.*

*Wow! I salute the missionaries and all of you who have supported this work through the years and I thank God that I have lived long enough to see His mighty hand at work this way! I truly do to stand in awe!*

*Sidney Vaughn*



## Growing Mighty by Small Steps

Greetings,

I am Styford Blazio. I work under the supervision of Ryan Hayes at Namikango Mission as a Village Savings and Loan coordinator. I teach people how to save and how to honor God with their money.

**Let me share with you the special story** about the Kasenga Church of Christ.

A team from the Mission went to Central Malawi to visit farmers and some of the Village Savings groups we had helped begin three years ago. It is so uplifting to see how Jesus Christ is working through these programs.

This church there had an old, mud building with a sagging, straw roof. It was not in good condition. The church felt they could do better. (This is according to Felix Mhone, the church's Preacher.) He was very excited as he narrated their story to us. We had taught the people how to work together and save their monies through the VSL program, and the church decided they wanted the church to do this, the same way individuals do, so they could improve the condition of their sagging building and they wanted to honor God in this way.

They began first by saving their monies, at the same time they prepared to make their own bricks with Malawian clay soil. To cure the mud-bricks, they needed a lot of wood for fire and they did not have access to wood. So, through the VSL, they borrowed a small amount of money to allow them to purchase wood from a distant location . . . and the process of firing the bricks began.

After a period of time they repaid the loan and the church borrowed another, larger sum. This larger sum they used to pay the bricklayers to build the new church. At the end of the last VSL cycle, they had paid out all their loans, and they received 68,000 Kwacha for their share-out. (This amounts to \$93US dollars ) This

money will be kept by the church's treasurer and they plan to use it to buy windows for the church.

In looking ahead, the church plans to join the VSL group again this next cycle. The preacher said they next want to buy bags of cement to cover the dirt floor. They also plan to buy chairs and to have a nursery school where they can teach the children around the church.

We do not have close contact with this church since they are so far away, but when we *do* see them, the reunion is great, filled with joy and praising God for His goodness.

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full...John 10:10.*

*Styford Blazio*





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## Shaping the Next Generation by Ben Hayes

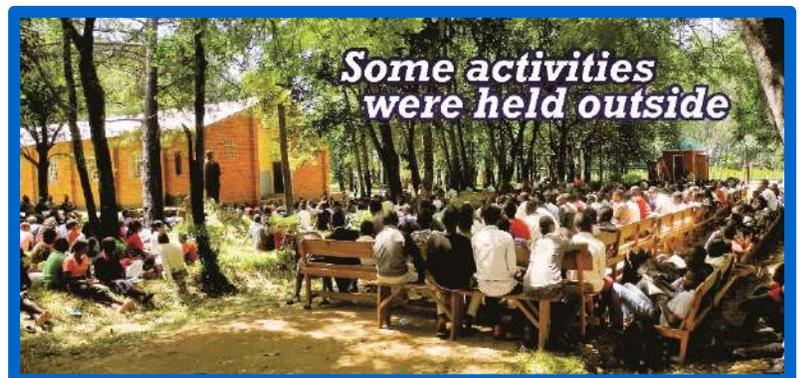
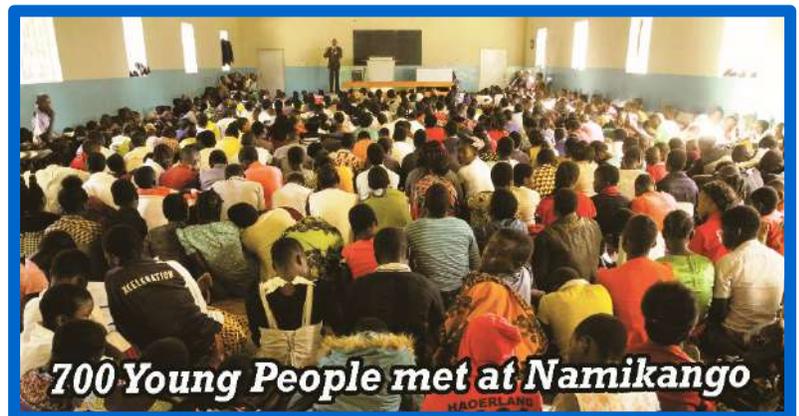
In recent years, churches in the villages have wanted to involve their young people in Christ-centered activities. Since the churches are rather small, they do not have a lot of means to do this. Often, they will work together with other churches in the area and plan a youth activity.

We were recently asked if they could hold a youth activity at Namikango. Leaders from 9 different districts had the complete oversight for running of the event, but we were to provide the lodging and classrooms.

### Lots of Young People to Warm Your Heart!

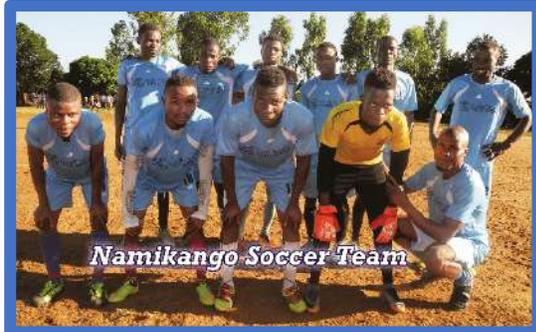
We anticipated about 300-400 students . . . **700 showed up on the campus!** This inspired some quick action finding lodging anywhere we could; on the verandas, in staff houses, in the church building, classrooms, etc. It looked like a miniature version of the women's meeting we had just last year.

This was an encouraging event and the young visitors had a great time. The reports from our staff was that these young people were well disciplined and very eager to learn. The next youth event is already being planned for this coming May. It's good to see this increased focus on youth. [This is the next generation of Jesus' followers being shaped in Jesus' image.](#)





<p>In memory of <b>Durwood Lewis</b> Rock Creek Church of Christ</p>	<p>In honor of <b>Truman Hayes &amp; Benjamin Hayes</b> for their birthdays. Kalith &amp; Vaughn Brown</p>	<p>Brothers &amp; Sisters, Please use these funds in any manner the Lord directs you. Prayers for Ben and Ryan and their families and Eric as they work with the amazing people of Malawi. Shawn Tyler and I have had many conversations about the work. I have traveled to Kenya a few times to work with Jim Beck and someday hope to travel to Malawi. In the meantime, use these funds to help the Brothers and Sisters with my blessings. At His Feet, <b>Gary House</b></p>
<p>In loving memory of <b>Thelma Mize</b> Danny &amp; Peggy Mize Darleen West</p>	<p>Blessings on you! <b>Ann Gilbreth</b></p>	<p>Dear Bro. Vaughn, Enclosed is my monthly tithe. I have enclosed an additional donation to be used as you see fit. I see by the Newsletter that there are many needs at the Mission. I continue to pray daily for the missionaries working there. May God continue to bless the work there. <b>Norma Brown</b></p>
<p>In loving memory of <b>Terry Vaughn</b> Truman &amp; Mauriene Hayes</p>	<p>Thank you! <b>Linda Hunt</b></p>	<p>Enclosed is a check to help with rebuilding the school rooms destroyed by the storm. Thank you so much for all you do! We love being a part of this wonderful work! Love, <b>Doug &amp; Mary Chris</b></p>
<p>Please accept our contribution for Namikango Mission for 2019. Best regards, <b>Wilma Lee &amp; Ralph Phillips</b></p>	<p>This is to help with the repairs needed for the school. <b>Jim &amp; Shirley Shelburn</b></p>	<p>Sidney, this is to go toward rebuilding the school. God bless, <b>Nelan Bahlman Family</b></p>



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If you'll use [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select "**Namikango**" as your designated NGO, whenever you make online purchases there, **Amazon will donate** a percentage of the sale to **Namikango Mission**.

Be sure to watch the amazing Mission video!  
<https://vimeo.com/174889961>

***Ongoing Prayer Requests***

**We ask for your continued prayers.**

- Pray for the team in Malawi
- Pray for the Board of Directors
- Pray for the 2019 Capital Campaign Fund Drive
- Pray that every outreach effort will result in the salvation of souls

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