Winter 2009

## **QUOTE DU JOUR:**

Do not protect yourself by a fence, rather by your friends.

CZECH PROVERB

## RADIO AFRICA – "VISION FOR CHRIST"

As we so often have before, we continue to thank you for your financial and prayer support for this vital broadcast. Responses from across Africa are represented in the following excerpts.

I want to thank you for helping me grow strong in the Lord and in the Christian faith because of your ministry. These messages have been the real backbone in providing answers and sanity in a totally disturbed world. The more one listens the clearer everything becomes. May the Lord bless your hard work. Kelvin Mwenda

Chogoria, Meru, Kenya

Thank you indeed for the good work that you do on radio East Africa. The teachings have a lot of impact on many Ugandans and Kabale in particular. The teachings are heard by many Ugandans who listen to you with the soul aim of getting spiritual nourishment. Bahati Prosper Kabale, Uganda

I listened to your programme on Radio East Africa and because of its greatest significant impact in my life, and I would like to acquire more knowledge if given a chance.

Pythias Mupatay Livingstone, Zambia

I am happy to tell you that I have already become a Christian through your gospel broadcast I regularly listen to the programme over the Radio Africa Two. I thank you very much I thank God for such a programme. It's really inspiring. The more I listen the more I understand the word of God and my life is transformed. Alima Mova Chiwara School, Zvishatane, Zimbabwe

I heard your program on Radio East Africa and have been blessed as a result. My life has changed for the good message of hope. Kasiringi B. Alison Rwenzuri Region Uganda

It has been a year since we started our listening club for Radio Africa in our community. We enjoy your programming very meaningful. Marriatah Nes Kadona, Zimbabwe

## REFLECTION: GOD DEY

By Dan Hayhoe

In 1976, with my wife Christine (Taiwo is her African name), I visited a village in south-eastern Nigeria, the entire population of which were lepers.

I asked one of them the standard question, "How are you?" She was an older woman seated on the ground, clearly showing the ravages of many years of suffering with leprosy. She lived with not only the physical deformity, but also the social ostracism and total isolation from society that accompanies the lifelong stigma of the disease.

"God Dey" was her instant reply, with her hands held together towards the sky. This expression is loaded with poignancy, pathos and faith of a purity which I have never seen exceeded anywhere. It is spoken in a form of local patios known as Pidgin English. The word "dey" is actually a verb form of "to be" and without past, present or future tense, simply indicates "is" or "exists."

So, her answer to my question, "How are you?" was simply to look heavenward with her hands raised and say, "God is." Is this raw fatalism? Absolutely not, since it links the speaker with God himself through an utterly dependent faith, stripped of all pretension or thought of self.

Her wellbeing and all her hopes and dreams existed entirely as a result of the fact that "God dey."

A popular song in Nigeria (not just a Sunday School song enjoyed by a few!) has this chorus:

"Tell them say God dey,

Tell them say Baba dey,

Tell them say God dey,

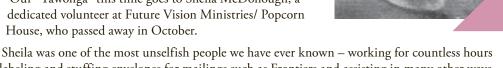
And He no dey sleep o."

You can fill in the meaning yourself.

## TAWONGA

"Tawonga" is a Chitumbuka word from Northern Malawi meaning "We are grateful." This feature of Frontiers allows us to say thank you to those who have partnered with us in a significant way - either financially or through encouragement and support to "keep pressing on."

Our "Tawonga" this time goes to Sheila McDonough, a dedicated volunteer at Future Vision Ministries/ Popcorn House, who passed away in October.



labeling and stuffing envelopes for mailings such as Frontiers and assisting in many other ways. She will be missed by all of the staff who knew and loved her.

Even though she had never been to Africa, her passion for God's work extended from Popcorn House to include the people of Malawi.

At her memorial service at the Popcorn House, it was mentioned that she demonstrated Jesus to us all in a quiet way through "the fruit of the spirit" listed in Paul's letter to the Galatians found in chapter 5:22-23.

"Love – joy – peace – patience – gentleness – goodness – faith – meekness and self-control." We miss you Sheila.

# Annual Golf Tournament



On Saturday, September 19th, we hosted our 5th annual golf tournament – this year at Savannah Golf Links in Cambridge. What a great day!

- 48 golfers
- 70 guests for dinner
- possibly the most gorgeous day of the entire summer
- a fabulous steak dinner
- great silent auction
- generous hole sponsors

The bottom line? Well over \$11,000, after expenses, raised for the Popcorn House Community Resource Centre. A huge thank you to

Next year – Savannah Golf Links – Saturday, Sept 11, 2010 See yow there!

## MALAWI UPDATE:

By Stephen Lauer

Last spring Dan Hayhoe and Stephen Lauer held key meetings in Malawi to start the ball rolling as to New Malawi Development with a focus on providing eye care and

We believe that it is God's desire that we make a difference in Malawi by centering on a critical two-pronged approach:

- 1. Children in a remote region of southern Malawi will obtain quality education at an early age so that in the future they are prepared to make a positive contribution to Malawian society.
- 2. Eyesight for people of all ages is improved through enhanced community eye-care service both at our partner hospitals and through expanded village-based service providers.

Based on very positive dialogue with local government officials and with community leaders, this fall we moved out in faith to the next step by starting to conduct a comprehensive assessment and plan that would lead to effective and locally-based eye care and early education programs in Zomba District in southern Malawi.



We are very excited that we were able to bring on a Malawian, Newton Sindo, to conduct this assessment and development plan. Newton, who lives in a nearby town, is an experienced community development worker and a committed Christian. Previously Newton worked for several

NGO's in Malawi including World Vision and FVM at Matunkha. As well, Newton is a college graduate in Rural and Community Development from a well respected post secondary institution in Malawi.

During October Newton was extremely busy dialoguing with key government officials and community leaders as to determining where FVM Canada can make its greatest impact. As Newton just wrote in an update, "the LORD is opening the way into the community from His heart." This community that Newton is referring to is an area called Taulo, in Zomba District. The government agency responsible for district development programs is thrilled with FVM's vision for eyesight and early education. In November, Newton will have completed all the research as part of the area's baseline study. Based on input and guidance from FVM Canada staff, Newton will oversee the preparation of an implementation plan early in 2010.

So keep your sights on the next issue of *Frontiers* for the exciting steps that God is leading us in Malawi.



# TOP TEN 2009 LIST

- #10: Warm and friendly Family Fridays ably supported by a committed volunteer crew from Grandview continues to draw record numbers. Mill Crossing is now assisting in this and will carry on this very exciting
- #9: Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation funds After School Tutoring Program as well as facilitating funds for camp subsidies from the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation "kids to camp" Fund.
- #8: Recipient of a grant from the Sunrise Rotary Club of **Cambridge** for our "staircase project" helping our pre-teens overcome obstacles by introducing skills and workshops in leadership, events and activities.
- #7: Successful implementation of Hespeler's Community
  Outreach Program funded by the Region of Waterloo including a Community luncheon for pastoral care givers hosted at Popcorn House this month.
- #6: City of Cambridge continues to be our top funding partner for our Recreation Program Director, playground and youth drop-in grants.
- #5: Garth Brooks Teammates For Kids Foundation grant facilitated After School Adventures for 30-40 children daily plus camp subsidies throughout the spring and summer months.
- #4: Our 2nd Annual Storytime Reading Event sponsored by Rogers which celebrates our Breakfast Program funded by Nutrition for Learning will be held on November 20th which is Universal Children's Day – please join us!



- #3: Family Resource and Reading Room with the wonderful interior design done in love by Big Footprints offers a family-friendly facility where we continue to offer literacy, tutoring and guitar
- #2: Numerous New Canadian women getting more engaged in Canadian society while having fun through our English as a Second Language and cultural cooking classes.
- #1: Many pre-school aged children from atrisk families are educationally and emotionally prepared to enter the school system because of the Get Ready for School Program sponsored by the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation.

Thank you – from the Popcorn House Team!

# Prayer Points

By Dan and Chris Hayhoe

### **MALAWI**

- Pray for Newton Sindo who is conducting baseline surveys and collecting relevant data in a new area of Southern Malawi.
- 2. Pray for Dan and Chris Hayhoe who will travel to Malawi at the end of November for two weeks to work with Newton and assess the potential for ongoing work in this area.
- 3. Pray for our official registration in Malawi as an international NGO which is still pending.

### POPCORN HOUSE

- Pray for staff burnout with so many clients and families accessing funds and services as they face the harsh reality of the economic downturn.
- 2. Pray for the staff and families as we have seen an increase in health and safety concerns which could have serious consequences for our
- Pray for increased funding for all aspects of Popcorn House programs and management.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Our American friends can receive a tax receipt by making your check payable to:

Messages of God's Love-Multilingual 1234 SW 304th Street Federal Way, Washington 98023

Please specify that the funds are for Future Vision Ministries on the check and note any specific area of ministry you wish to support.