

#### Informative Edition 01 First trimester

2024

MISSIONARY - GUGA AND RAY



#### GOOD NEWS

VOLUME 1 | PRIMEIRO TRIMESTRE DE 2024

EDITION #1



#### Grace and peace!

With much gratitude to you and also to each maintainer, we want to share our first quarter of 2024 newsletter! We started the year 2024 with great grace and joy, certain that in this new year you will continue to do much more! We had a very peaceful New Year's Eve, we miss our friends and family, but the Lord is our strength and everything went well! We deliver the year 2024 into the hands of the Lord, so that he fulfills all the plans he himself dreamed of for us here in Malawi!

We started the year in the capital of Malawi – Lilongwe, where we bought the car, after a lot of research and waiting, the blessing has arrived! We stayed at the home of a Malawian family that we met and it was a very pleasant time.









## Beginning of the year

When we returned to our little town (Nsanje), we had meetings with our pastors about the project and we also received pastors from Mozambique. We are organizing the churches we serve, painting, adjusting and caring for them. There are three churches that we serve. every Sunday there is a rotation and Guga preaches, I sing and so we gather here. Pray for the local pastors, we have had some challenges with two of them, we started the Theology course and only one of them has shown interest. Unfortunately, the Theological Base of pastors is very shallow and this influences the character and conduct of pastors.







We are loving living in Malawi, although we have faced some challenges, especially in the area of children's health. For example, while I'm writing this newsletter, Ana is sick for the second time in the same month! But the same God who has done wonders will also complete the blessing of healing and spilling health to our children, we believe! But we are all fine, the children are adapting well, we are learning the culture, the local language and God is careful!

### About our family -

We have completed 9 months in Malawi and we are grateful to God for everything He has done here, grateful for the privilege of serving and loving this nation!



Thank God we are adapting very well, the Lord has blessed us with trustworthy people to work with us, we have also known the beauties of Malawi, our children will certainly have good memories here!





#### About the project

OUR OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES ARE:
WE WORK IN THREE AREASWITH CHILDREN AND WOMEN
WITH AGRICULTURE AND
TRAINING OF LOCAL LEADERS WITH A
THEOLOGY COURSE AND SUPPORT FOR
CHURCHES

# Discipleship with children

In our first discipleship of the year with the children of the Ngabu Community, they came in droves (it's actually not that difficult to gather 500 children in a matter of minutes in Africa, we were impressed!) =)

The Lord has ministered in our hearts to take care of these children, giving love, showing love through actions and this has happened every month at the community center and at the end we serve a small snack!

WE PRAISE, LAUGH, MAKE PLAYS TO ILLUSTRATE A BIBLICAL STORY AND THEY LOVE IT!







### Discipleship Challenges

One of the biggest challenges has been teaching them to wait and obey, as the vast majority do not have basic education, so when we deliver the snack at the end, it always becomes a little chaos, they are afraid of not winning, but little by little we are improving, it's an ant's work. There are around 550 children in each discipleship, not just children from our churches, but we open it to the community, as we always say, it is "a sea of children", it is not easy, but it has been a gift from God, a privilege, and in the future, we will see a new generation in this community, we believe!



## Support for mothers and babies

The project provides a formula, milk for mothers of newborns who, for health reasons, cannot breastfeed.

This is an area of the project that is very special, as these women have no means of buying milk to feed their children, so God with his mercy has blessed these families!

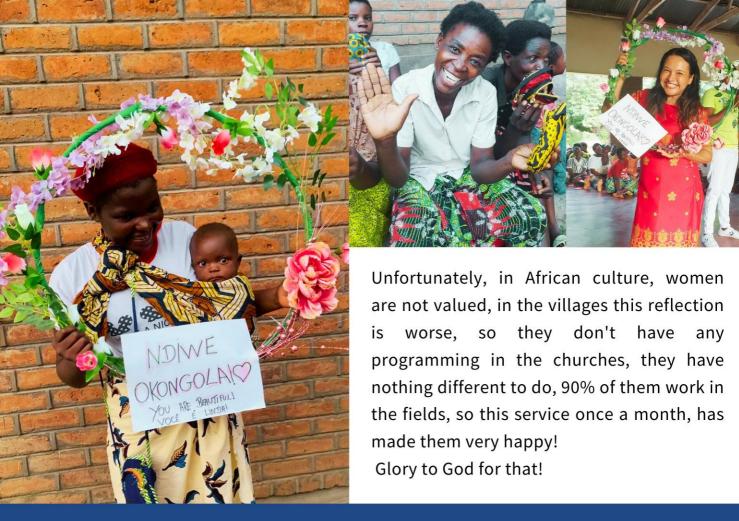
This way, these babies can be cared for and have the opportunity to develop well and with





the necessary milk.

MANY WOMEN IN MALAWI
HAVE HIV, MAKING
BREASTFEEDING UNFEASIBLE,
OTHERS HAVE OTHER
DISEASES AND ARE ALSO
UNABLE TO BREASTFEED, SO
SEE GOD'S CARE THROUGH
THE PROJECT IN OUR
COMMUNITY, WHERE THESE
BABIES CAN DRINK MILK IN
THE EARLY STAGES OF LIFE,
IT'S A BLESSING FROM
HEAVEN!



### Worship with women

As for women's worship, we only do it with those who are members of our 3 churches, on average 100 women, it has also been a precious time!



We celebrated
International Women's
Day and they received a
little gift, it was very
special to see their
smiles!



## Agriculture and support for churches

When working with agriculture, Guga has strived to help farmers with planting techniques. For the Glory of God, we managed to obtain resources to buy the irrigation system, the pump and two solar panels, since this region is very hot and dry and this year it didn't rain as much as necessary.

We are still in the testing phase of the plantation, unfortunately due to the lack of rain the first attempt did not work, but we started a new corn plantation and with the irrigation system we have faith in God that everything will work out!

GOD SURPRISED US, HE HAS ALL POWER!





CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALL AT THE COMMUNITY
CENTER IS UNDERWAY, IT WILL BE A BLESSING AND
LITTLE BY LITTLE WE ARE IMPROVING THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE PROJECT AND SUPPORT FOR THE
CHURCHES.



IN MARCH, WE RAN A CAMPAIGN TO HELP FAMILIES WHO WERE FACING EXTREME HUNGER, IT WAS A RELIEF!
OUR CORN PLANTATION IN THE TEST PHASE HAS NOT YET BEEN SUCCESSFUL, PRECISELY DUE TO THE LACK OF RAIN. SO, GOD PERFORMED A GREAT MIRACLE USING SEVERAL PEOPLE AND OUR CHURCHES IN BRAZIL AND THE USA TO SEND THE RESOURCES AND WE PURCHASED ALMOST 3 TONS OF CORN FLOUR. WHICH WE DISTRIBUTED TO 277 FAMILIES!

To conclude, one of our biggest challenges in the project is to disciple/train our pastors and local leaders so that they live The Genuine Gospel, so that they live without lies, without adding "cultural things" to the Christian life, which is why we started the Theology Course Basic for pastors, where the majority are lay people in this area and consequently church members too!

## Theology course and conclusion

Louvamos a Deus pela vida do nosso tradutor, o Alfred Michene que tem nos ajudado nas aulas e pregações em Chichewa.

The Bible says in Hosea 4.6 "my people perish for lack of knowledge" and this is a sad reality in African churches, may the Lord have mercy and help us to take this knowledge! Little by little, we will see the transformation that only the Gospel can make, we are believing and moving towards it!

So that's it, this was a "small" summary of our first quarter of 2024, continue praying for us here in Malawi, so that the Lord will free us from all evil, and that we may continue On The Path, being salt and light!

We sincerely thank the support of our churches, partners and friends, who have walked with us, beyond borders! God bless you greatly!

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5.16

