



INDIGENOUS TRAINING MINISTRIES, INC.
REVC'S NEWS & VIEWS
by
RevC
September 2023
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!
Malawi Part 2: Church Dedication



This is another of the new churches we have provided for our CTC graduates. Bishop James Pukutani, the graduate who pioneered this congregation, was present for the opening dedication. He has already gone on to pioneer two other locations and has installed Mary Dinesi as the pastor. Mary has had some Bible training



and will attend the new CTC program we are planning in Makwete village. I was greeted with singing and celebration by the young people.

After the greeting, we walked to the front of the church where a ribbon was draped across the opening. They asked me to cut the ribbon and then hold the bow into the air for the celebration to begin. Bishop Pulutani is on my right in these two photos.

There was a piece of cloth above the entrance hanging from a wire. I slid



the cloth to the left to reveal the dedication plaque. To my surprise, the plaque indicated that I had dedicated the church,

donated by ITM, on May 23, 2023. Later, I learned the church was launched on May 23, 2021, just two years to the day they were in a new building! Neither Stephen Tambuli, our director nor I had any idea of God's timing in this or that I would be there on that exact day for the dedication. They had the plaque made after they learned that I would be there that day to minister. It's just like God to show us that His presence is always with us and going before us!



When we entered the church, much jubilation followed us with dancing, shouts of praise, and an overflowing of joy in the presence of the Lord. After more greetings and things settling down, some of the folks left the room to re-enter with more praise and celebration. I have some of the celebration on video and all I can say is that these believers, including men, women, and children, know how to praise the Lord with every ounce of their being! To God be the glory! They were so excited and thankful for God's provision that they just couldn't stop praising His name. After the time of praise, the church recognized a couple other pastors and members of their congregation. I was blessed to see others rejoicing with them in God's blessings!

Next it was time for me to share God's Word, with Howard Phaiya, one of our CTC grads, translating into Chichewa. When it came time for folks to make a decision for Christ, many hands went up. I knew most of these people had been properly evangelized and most likely had already received Jesus as their Savior. Thus, I did a short teaching on the assurance of our salvation. I explained that once saved, we need only to confess our sins before God and repent and our sins would be forgiven. Sin for the Christian breaks fellowship with God but not relationship. We are still His children. When I provided another opportunity, six or seven stood to their feet to receive Jesus in front of their



peers. I had everyone then follow me in a short prayer to receive Jesus and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit.

Once I finished, the congregation

received an offering for me which included a rooster, some cash, vegetables, a big bag of charcoal which is vital to many of them, some cloth, and eggs. I later presented the cash to Mary and prayed God's blessings on her ministry, challenging her to preach the Word of God. Stephen kept everything else except the piece of cloth that I brought home for Vicky.

We finished the service with prayer for God's blessing and presence to always be felt by those who enter and that this building would



be a house of prayer and place of salvation. I had everyone find a place along the walls and lay their hands on the walls and pray accordingly. I could tell they were not used to praying in that way as things started out rather quietly. As we tarried awhile, however, they really began to lift their voices. By the time we ended the prayer, I felt like God had heard us!

We ended our time there by taking some photos of everyone outside the building.



Then we posed for a photo with the pastors and the four local chiefs who attended

the dedication. The female chief next to me was the chief who gave permission for the church launch in

2021. The next three men you see to her right are the other chiefs. The man in the back in the light blue shirt is Mary's husband. How-
ard, my translator, is



on the right end of the photo.

The man on the far-left end of the group is Pastor Rodney a CTC graduate who has land and is praying that we will help him with a building. Though we have not yet had any problems with church buildings we funded falling into the wrong hands, we are looking into the process of having any land set aside for a building being registered with the government as land dedicated to religious purpose forever.



Pastor Rodney may be among the first to do so.

It was a great time with these wonderful people! I am looking forward to telling you about the tremendous move of God on day three, but that will have to wait until next month.

I could sense there were folks praying for me as I was ministering. Thank you for your faithfulness to pray! Know you are in my prayers, too. Vicky and I count it a great blessing to serve the Lord and to represent you on the mission field. Multiplied blessings to each of you!!

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TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!!

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