

the church of Christ in **MALAWI** the warm heart of Africa!

Vol. 4 Num. 2

FEBRUARY 2008

Jerry's Report

Linda and I were in the States from the 27th of December until January 25th due to the passing of her father, brother Melvin Crouch of the Green Oaks church in Arlington, Texas. Linda's father died on December 26th, and due to his age (88), and declining health, his passing was not unexpected. To many in the brotherhood, Melvin Crouch is a well-known name having, among many other things, written the tract "Words of Life." This tract has been distributed in several languages throughout the world by the hundreds of thousands. This is a work that will be continued by the Crouch family.

Brother Crouch performed the wedding for his daughter Linda and me in September of 2000. Linda and I lost our spouses to death several years ago, but long before that I was acquainted with the Crouch family, dating back to 1954. The Crouch family's great love for the work of the Lord is well-known. In fact, brother and sister Crouch have supported me (and dozens more) in some way in every foreign work I have ever done.

Brother Crouch came from a very humble farm family background, but managed to rise from that difficult beginning to become acquainted with some of



the most prominent men in Texas. Brother Crouch worked for 28 years as a Certified Public Accountant in San Antonio, TX. He then worked for 28 years for banker and rancher, Governor Dolph Briscoe, and was a close friend of the governor. He moved to Uvalde, TX, as senior vice president and trust officer at First State Bank of Uvalde, and was a member of the bank board, retiring in 2002.

As a young man, before brother Crouch was a member of the church, he entered the armed services in the early 1940s (during World War II) and beginning as a private, first class, soon rose to the highest position possible for the office he held in the armed services. He lived and worked on an air base in Texas throughout the entire war.

Brother Crouch established the Nacogdoches Road church of Christ in San Antonio, TX, in



the 1950s and was a leader there until the 1990s. Brother Crouch was married for 59 years to his wife, Marjorie, who is now living in an independent living establishment in Arlington, Texas, being 90 years old. Sister Crouch is one of the

most intelligent, pious, and remarkable women I have ever met. She is still active and her mind remains strong. Her love for the church is as great as that of her husband.

Linda and I arrived back in Malawi on January 25th, where we were met at the Lilongwe airport by our co-workers and friends, Doug and Debbie Edwards and Bill and Daisy Davis. We had a joyous reunion and all overnighted in Lilongwe, they turning south the next morning to Blantyre (200 miles away) and we north to Mzuzu (225 miles away). Thus, our work now continues in Malawi.

We send our sincere thanks to everyone for their expressions of sympathy in this difficult time for the family. The love and kindnesses expressed to us while in America are beyond words.



THE MALAWI BRETHREN

"How beautiful are the feet of those that preach the gospel of peace..." Rom. 10:15

My name is James Harrison Taulo. I was born on 15 February, 1968. I married to Edina in

1988 and we have six children. In 1979 its when I converted under the preaching of late Wochi of Monekera Church. The same year I was baptized by him while I was 11 years old. And he was also the one who helped me to understand the truth. Since 1994, I was ordained as a full time Preacher. Currently I am working with three churches. I do make plans of preaching during the week by reading the Bible. As a Preacher I

always used to go out to see and encourage lazy Christians. Each Sunday the attendance is always good, the number which have each church is about 145 Christians the other church is about 82 Christians. Problems are being solved by discussing. For my future plans are still coming in my head, some of those plans are to plant other churches and to teach young men so that the work of God should be growing. Last few months was not hard for me. It was quiet and the work was just moving very smooth. I ask the Lord to add more wisdom in my head so that I should be stepping ahead spreading the good News to areas where they did not relieve. God bless the whole world, Amen!

A New Brother in Christ



1 Peter 3:1-2 - A sister has won her husband to Christ. (...so they may be won without a word from their wives as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.)

Doug's Report

I am beginning to understand, in a small way of course, how Noah must have felt after a month of solid rain. I am writing this on January 31st and it has rained almost every day this month. Each day brings a different shower. One day we had 3 inches, and other days we have had much smaller amounts. According to our rain gauge we have received over 22 inches this month. That does not include November and December's totals. It has certainly caused all of the vegetation to spring to life. Malawi is so beautiful and green during the rainy season. It is a shame the rains could not be spread out over the year.

Staying close to home has allowed me to spend time with the Blantyre congregation. Blantyre has a nice group of Christians and good leadership. I have been studying with the leaders on Saturday morning and then preaching on Sunday. Our theme for this short work is "Building a mature congregation." I hope to encourage the brethren to work within the local congregation to make it stronger.

One of the projects that I finished this month was a brief concordance of the Chichewa Bible. When I say brief, I mean very brief. The brethren here have no reference works. There are no Strong's or W.E. Vine's translated into Chichewa. So I picked out about 150 Biblical words that I think are important and then located about 10 Scriptures for each word. I have now passed the project over to Lester Kasambwe for him to translate. I imagine that there are going to be some difficulties in trying to go from one language to another. Lester will have to look up each Scripture to make sure that the word is contained in that Scripture. Sometimes



Chichewa uses more than one word to describe an English word. That may present a problem with some of the Scriptures that I have chosen. This is a project that can be continued in the future. More Scriptures can be added to the words and more words can be added as well. I plan to spend a little time during each study this year explaining how to use a concordance.

Linda and Jerry arrived back in Malawi last Friday. They had flown out of Blantyre, leaving their vehicle with us. They flew into Lilongwe so we took their truck there to meet them. Bill and Daisy went with us as Bill needed to visit the American Embassy in Lilongwe and get more pages for his passport. We spent the night together at a rest house and had a very enjoyable time. It is always good to see fellow Americans.

I must tell one on myself though. Lilongwe is fours away from Blantyre. When we were about an hour out of Lilongwe it suddenly hit me that I had left one of the Cutter's suitcases back in Blantyre. Of course it was the one full of financial and other important

records. So I had to transfer Bill over to the vehicle the ladies were driving and head back to Blantyre. My leisurely 4 hour trip suddenly turned into a 10 hour Nascar trip. I would love to blame it all on Debbie and say

operation catering to the public here and beyond, they also have a cafe where they serve deep dish chicken lasagna and quiche among other delicious entries served in pottery dishes. Don't think

real men don't eat quiche because Bill and Doug did. The cafe and pottery barn are nestled in beautiful flower gardens surrounded by rolling hills. It was a nice treat. Even the sinks and fixtures in the restrooms were made of their pottery.

DEBBIE'S EXPERIENCE

We are glad to have Jerry and Linda back in Malawi. Daisy and Bill went with us to greet them. It was going to be a short stay, sweet visit, but long trip so to make the most of it Daisy and I planned a lunch stop at Dedza Pottery on the way home Saturday. A good size



Dividing & Conquering



W R I T E R



T R A N S L A T O R



T Y P I S T

Doug, Lester and Muthowa working to get the publications done for the year.

it was her fault. Surely it was her fault. But sadly I know better. Chalk it up to old age. Maybe I should call it a Senior Moment. I seem to be having a lot of those lately!

I would like to again thank all of those who help with this work. I know there are many scattered all over the world who pray for this and similar works. Please continue this great and important practice. "Pray without ceasing." God has blessed us in so many different ways. You are truly co-laborers in every sense of the word.



Doug Edwards:
churchofchrist@broadbandmw.com
 21st Street, OKC:
d_m_cutter@juno.com
 Jerry Cutter:
ntchurchofchrist@africa-online.net
 Green Oaks church of Christ:
jlorton@tx.rr.com