

David & Pamela McCULLAGH

MALAWI

Location: Lilongwe

Mission: Youth & Children's Ministry and Teaching

After a busy few months at the start of the year, April has been quieter. As a family we were on holiday for the first two weeks and enjoyed some time of rest and relaxation. Family from Ireland came to join us and it was lovely spending time with them.

While we were away our volunteers in Blantyre organised a teacher's conference the weekend after Easter. Around 100 teachers attended and took part in Bible teaching, training sessions, games and activities. Amon Chanika, along with our team from Tearfund, played key roles in facilitating the conference. This was a good opportunity for the team to get to know teachers in a residential setting and also see Southern Malawi.

With the positive response from those trained in Lilongwe to conduct Bible Reading Promotions in churches, our staff organised another training in Nkhatakota. Over 30 churches took part in the training and those trained were observed as they promoted daily Bible reading in local churches. The feedback has been very positive.

As we look forward to ministry activities in May, our field staff will be busy organising school rallies and putting plans in place for the winter camps. This will be a month of lots of meetings with organising committees and communicating with supporters the different needs for the camps. Teachers will also be responsible for advertising and encouraging children to come to camp through the weekly Bible Club meetings.



Our focus this month in our staff devotions has been on Luke's gospel. Recently we took time to study the Lord's prayer, as recorded in Luke 11:1-4. Reflecting on this passage we have been discussing how we can make our staff prayer times more in line with what Christ taught. We have been particularly conscious of how we pray "Father, hallowed be your name" as we pray for Scripture Union ministry activities and future work. It has been good for us all to focus on this and see prayer, whatever it may be for, as glorifying God rather than simply petitioning him for what we want and need.



Photo: The Tearfund GO team and teachers at the conference in Blantyre.

Prayer Points

- Pray with thanks for the opportunity we had to enjoy time as a family together.
- Pray with thanks for the teacher's conference in Blantyre.
- Pray that teachers will put into practice the training they received while at the conference.
- Pray for Bible Reading Promotion activities that happen each week in different churches, that Christians will take seriously the daily reading of God's Word.
- Pray for the planning of activities for the winter camps, that they will go well and that plans will be finalised in good time.