

## TWINNING FINANCES AND COSTS

There is no cost to become a Twinning Partner, and no financial obligation to build a relationship with, and learn about, your sister Presbyterian church in Malawi.

However, both partners can agree to share resources, according to the abilities of each congregation; work on special projects to do together; or your church can earmark up to \$500 a year to assist your partner church financially. The possibilities are endless as God works to strengthen both churches.

### Demographics

Population: 15,879,252 (July 2011 est.)

#### Age structure

0-14 years: 45.1% (male 3,586,696/female 3,571,298)

15-64 years: 52.2% (male 4,140,874/female 4,155,015)

65 years and over: 2.7% (male 182,304/female 243,065) (2011 est.)

#### Life expectancy at birth

total population: 51.7 years

male: 50.93 years

female: 52.48 years (2011 est.)

#### Religions

Christian 82.7%, Muslim 13%, other 1.9%, none 2.5% (2008 census)

Languages: Chichewa (National), Chitumbuka (north), English (official)

Literacy: definition: over age 15 who can read and write total population: 62.7%

male: 76.1%

female: 49.8% (2003 est.)

#### Climate:

May-Aug: Cool and Dry

Sept-Nov Hot

Oct-Nov thru April Rainy Season

Temp Range 40-95

Source—2010: [http://www.indexmundi.com/malawi/demographics\\_profile.html](http://www.indexmundi.com/malawi/demographics_profile.html)

Brochure revised Dec. 2011

## MALAWI WISH LIST

*Here are some on-going needs. Whether you are in twinned relationship or not, your contributions will make a difference.*

Scholarships as follows: Sponsor a child or youth, thru the Synod of Livingstonia, and young adult at University of Livingstonia.

- School Fees for Orphans - \$30/ mo, \$350 per yr.
- College of Education—\$210/ mo, or \$2500 per yr.
- College of Theology- \$300/mo or \$3500 per yr.
- Or, support a partial Scholarship

Clean Water—Shallow Water Wells- \$400 ea.  
Orphan support—\$100.

Visit “Wish List and Special Projects.” at the EOP web-site below for more ways to participate.

### DONATIONS TO MALAWI

If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable through your church or to Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery. Indicate the designated project to which your contribution should be credited on the check memo line or a cover letter.

You can also donate to Malawi General Fund which provides support of exchange visits, special projects, and



*Please send gifts to EOP and Earmark the designated Project.*

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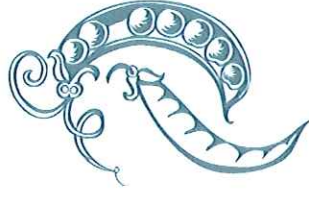
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**EOP Web Site:** <http://www.eokpresbytery.org>

**Welcome to Malawi**

**The Warm  
Heart  
Of Africa**

**Malawi  
Twinning  
Partnership**



EOP- Malawi Partnership  
Committee

## WHAT IS TWINNING?

Twinning is the process whereby each congregation in the Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery (EOP) can "twin" or pair with a sister congregation in the Synod of Livingstonia, Church of Central Africa Presbyterians (CCAP), Malawi, Africa

Called twinning, rather than adopting, this process affords our congregations to build relationships with their partner church, sharing needs and concerns and joys.

The EOP Congregation can customize the partnership based on mutual agreements, projects and goals set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). A sample MOU will be provided to each church as a starting point.



## What Can We Do with Our Partnership Church?

Build a lasting relationship church to church! First and foremost, pray for each other. The congregations have concerns regarding availability of food, money, gasoline, pandemic illness, and orphans. They want a better life for their children and to have them educated. Education is the key to reducing poverty!

By the same token, ask your "Partner" to pray for your church. Malawians have a spirituality and trust in God that can help us in our own faith journeys. Let them know you through email, letters, photos. Share your gifts and talents with them.

## BACKGROUND- SYNOD OF LIVINGSTONIA, CCAP

The Synod of Livingstonia covers the northern one-third of Malawi. Mzuzu, the third largest city in Malawi, is the home of the Synod.

Transportation is difficult. Buses, bicycles, and motorcycles are the cheapest form of transportation and the Malawians use them creatively!

Women may walk several kilometers for water. Many health problems are water-related, and this is especially true in the rural areas. Jobs are difficult to find. Gasoline is scarce, as well as medical supplies, food and other commodities.



No family in Malawi has been left untouched by the AIDS pandemic. When children are orphaned, family members take them in. This adds to the scarcity of food in the family. Many times, there are no family members left to take care of the children. Presbyterian Crisis Centers step in to take care of children until family members are located or children are adopted.

Despite challenges, Malawians are loving, spiritual people. Churches over-flow every Sunday morning as congregations praise God in song, prayer and the Word.

They bring their offerings to God humbly, and also with praise and dance. They depend on God each day to provide for their needs. They are involved in their church despite their hard work and long days.



## THE CHURCH AND PRAYER HOUSES

Each Church may have one or two prayer houses. Prayer houses are important to shorten the walk to church. Each community is encouraged to grow the membership to 100 communicants, collect MK 10,000 per month (\$100) in offerings, and build a permanent church building, before a minister is provided. There is a severe shortage of Presbyterian pastors; with the current ratio of one pastor per 8,000 members. Transportation becomes critical when the pastor has one church, several prayer houses, and only a bicycle or motorbike for travel.

### Children's Ministry

The children enter the church at 7 am, where they learn Bible lessons, memorize Bible verses, and learn to sing as a children's choir.

### Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF)

These young people ages 14-25 are fully aware of the needs in the church and they serve with energy and enthusiasm. Activities include choir festivals, sponsored walks, evangelism, brick molding, preaching in rural areas, HIV/AIDS training, assisting the needy, youth conferences and mentoring troubled young people.

### Women's Guild

Despite her long day, the Malawian woman finds time to be active in the Women's Guild, Malawi's version of Presbyterian Women. Every Friday at 2:00 pm, the local prayer houses fill with women wearing their special uniforms. Women gather for Bible study, visit the sick, comfort the bereaved, provide meals for orphans, elderly, and all special meetings. They prepare communion and sing in joyous church choirs.

### Men's Guild

The Men's Guild is also active; although its membership is one-third of the Women's Guild. The Men meet weekly for prayer and Bible study. They are also involved in assisting the ministers with Evangelism, care of new Christians, and men's choirs as well.