



# Alabaster Ministries

*He shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work." 2 Tim 2:21*

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*Roz Heyns*

## OCTOBER 2017

Dearest Partners,

What a wonderful trip to Africa! Probably the best I have ever had!

As usual it was a race from the time I arrived. I had made an error with my booking and arrived a day in the week later than I usually do so we scrambled to purchase everything.

The first week we had the Bible school and following that the wedding. That was so exciting for the twenty-two who got married I am going to include an insert to cover it.

I taught on spirit, soul and body which for me was enlightening. As I taught I thought that the pastors were never going to get it. I kept stopping to ask if they were following or if they had questions. They said they had none and to continue. Only the Holy Spirit could have truly opened up that teaching for them! I tried to use picture analogies for them and painted the truth with stories – much like parables – because it seems they can identify so much better that way. We had also purchased a chalk board which definitely helped.

We had a manifestation the first night by one of the wives of a pastor. Almost all agreed that she could not be Born Again. By the end of the week they could see just how she could be oppressed by a devil. Needless to say, she was delivered and confessing the Blood of Christ cleansed her and purified her. Afterwards she stood up and testified how a great weight had been lifted and for the first time in her life she felt totally free.

As I explained to them that when we become born again our spirit becomes pure and clean and carries in it the gifts and attributes that Christ died to give us they became more and more excited as it began to take root. The thing that holds us back is our soul area because that is the area that we can best operate in because we can feel, touch, taste, hear and smell. We cannot experience anyone of those things from the spirit realm – only by faith and faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God – Rom 10:17. The more we plug into the Word along with the direction of the Holy Spirit the more we will tap into that spirit realm and all that it holds for us. The Spirit of God is the most amazing teacher we could ever have, and it is He that opens up the scripture to us. Until we open that life force and allow it to flow through

our soul we will continue to operate in the “old man.”

*“Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

My spirit is the new creature and it is that that needs to reprogram the souls and following that – the body. Our bodies will never be perfect until we get to heaven, but our souls can change as quickly or as slowly as we allow our spirits to change them. I can water my garden with a spoon, in which case much of it will be wilted by the time I reach it or I can use a hose, getting around faster and seeing more flowers and greener grass or I can use an irrigation system in which case I will have wonderful plants and grass all through the summer. The only reflection of our spirit man is through the looking glass of the Word.

I remember reading about Michael Phelps and what he ate each day when he was in training. The greatest swimmer of our time consumed 12,000 calories a day. Imagine where we would be if we consumed the equivalent in the Word.

Ezekiel 3:3 *“Then He said to me, ‘Son of man, eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.’ So I ate it and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.”* We should never feel that we have had enough of the Word. It is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. He is the Word and as long as we are consuming the Holy Scriptures He will be working in us and through us to change everything that we were and are to perfect us for the work of His Kingdom.

Peter’s six month old son “eating the Word”



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### REPORT FROM FRANCIS

Please acknowledge our hot summer greetings from the warm heart of Africa. The Lord has truly been good to us this day as He's blessed us with life and a purpose; we are grateful for the privilege He has bestowed on us to reach out to the lost and dying.. We are right in the middle of summer and the land is very dry and arid and thirsty for another rainy season. We are praying to the Lord to give us a gentle rain that will soak the ground and will make it heavy with enough moisture for the farmers to have healthy crops and a bumper harvest this year.

We noticed that we have a great shortage of trees from Bangula to Nsanje. The land is completely bare and is too dry to allow anything to grow on it and can barely support living communities. We are compelled to do something about this predicament because we look back to the 2015-2016 flooding that devastated the area and deforestation is a contributing factor. We have contacted the ministry of forestry in Zomba and they are going to give us seeds which we can propagate and distribute in these areas. Our beautiful old ladies and handsome grandfathers will help us in this joint tree planting effort throughout the region. It was a marvel to work with the old people this time and what a journey. I believe some of you have read our Facebook feed on how we got stuck in the sand because a certain driver was busy thinking of some young lady instead of focusing on the road. Well, that wasn't the only highlight of the trip. We usually start distribution in the Tengani and Nsanje town areas and then travel to the border with Mozambique and combine Chimombo and Marka. The trip is usually long because of the road and by the time you get there you want to go through half a gallon of water. This time was different because as soon as we arrived four amazing old ladies stood up individually and each sang a song of praise to the Lord as they were given the words by the Holy Spirit. We have never before experienced this, and all were touched. I was in the kitchen and it was a lot less quiet than usual when suddenly there was silence everywhere and all you could hear were these four women praising God. It certainly showed us that the elderly are meeting and encouraging one another in their groups as they should be.

Pastor Peter Kankoche used to cover a wide area to get to the old people and fellowship with them in their homes and he's been doing a wonderful job, but it was taking some time for him to go through all the centers. We thought it was time we introduced two people to help Peter with the job and what better place to look than from within our own Bible school. Pastor Mandala Zongoloti will be helping Peter in the Shire Valley and Shadreck Kamchira will be overseeing Chididi and beyond – into Mozambique. These are both wonderful men and they are truly passionate about the Word and working with the old people. In addition, Martha Kankoche – Peter's wife - will be overseeing all the women's meetings. I know that some may think the elderly are left out, but these meetings are not only for the young women in the church but the elderly as well. We would like their presence in all of these meetings because in Africa we believe the elderly are a goldmine full of wisdom and knowledge to be passed down to the next generation

We had a beautiful wedding ceremony at Chididi last month and from the 22 couples married on this day and from the Alabaster team, we say a special thank you to Mrs. Martha from Virginia in the USA for the materials for the wedding dresses and Mrs. Julie Yiannakis from Blantyre Malawi for the wonderfully decorated dresses. You made this wedding a beautiful and exciting day. Heaven rejoiced with us and we rejoice in the blessing of such wonderful friends as you. May the Almighty God continue blessing you.

I am particularly excited that we've got a brick making machine which will help reduce the tiresome work of traveling long distances to buy fire cured bricks which are not really environmental friendly. BUT now we have got the best solution, we will make the bricks from cement and gravel which we can dig on our property and wherever we will be building old people's homes at a cost of 40 cents per brick. These bricks do not need wood to be cured so we will be preserving our forests in the process as well as inspiring others to get with the program and do the same thing.



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**We're on the Web.**  
**See us at: [rozheyns.org](http://rozheyns.org)**  
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### MARTHA KANKOCHE

I would like to thank God in heaven for the opportunity to serve alongside the love of my life, my husband Peter Kankoché. I would like to thank you for all the support and for encouraging me to speak up even in times when I never believed I had a voice or the gift to serve others in the kingdom of God.

I would like to extend this vote of thanks to all our Supporters and friends in the body of Christ who made the wedding we had in Chididi possible. A Special thank you to you my namesake, Mrs. Martha from Virginia, may the Almighty God Bless you. Thank you too, to Mrs. Julie for the beautiful decorations on our dresses.

God has also blessed me to be able to head up the Women's ministry for Alabaster and I look forward to serving the Lord in this area. We will have a women's meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November in Chididi at Pastor Joseph Gume's church. We would like to ask for your prayers to make this meeting a success. May the almighty God bless you always.



Peter and Martha

### PETER KANKOCHE

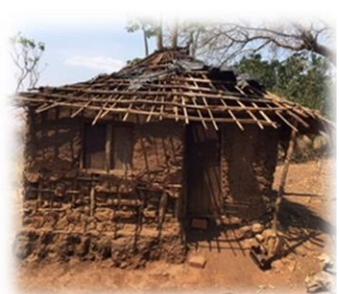
My family and I are all well and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our friends out there for all the support we get. Often times as humans we seem to disregard the little things that others do for us when it is those simple things that really do matter. We are truly grateful and thankful for all that you do. It was wonderful to have Pastor Roz in Malawi. Every time she visits she brings something new and of course she always puts a smile on our faces. I can go on and on describing what her visits do to me personally but that would be very selfish of me. I always marvel when I look at how the elderly are excited to see her. Some shed tears, others dance but what amazes me is that some of these people are so old and they call her mother Roz. They do so because of the love and compassion she gives them and they sense that. We always try to emulate the same example as Christ commanded us to Live one another. The greatest message that is left to be taught all over the world I believe is Love, not just love as the world gives but true Agape love.

Solomon preached on the Love of God and repentance during distribution and there was a fine young man who lives about half a mile from my house present. He's 67 years old and he stood up to say that he'd been addicted to marijuana for years and wanted to quit so all the old people prayed for him. I went by his house yesterday and sure enough he testified that it's been three weeks since he last smoked, and he no longer has the desire. It was wonderful to see all the old people praying for each other as it should be.

We prayed during the convention and with the elderly that God should give us a gentle rain. This is often the prayer when the elderly get together. We not only pray for ourselves but Malawi as a nation for it is only through prayer that God can heal a nation in distress. We are overjoyed and happy that God has answered our prayers; the first early rains came this week and we've had a gentle rain across the country. We pray that God Almighty should continue gracing us with such rains throughout the season. Finally, is the concerns that we have received from you our friends across the world regarding the vampire like activities rumored to be devastating most of the Southern region in Malawi. We have not heard of anything of this sort in the Lower Shire area. There's been incidents of protests reported in Blantyre and other places but there's been nothing concrete proven. We pray to God that He intervenes and gives us peace in the name of Jesus Christ our blessed Savior, Amen.

### HOUSES FOR THE ELDERLY

Her name is Janet. She had 10 children and they all died so she now takes care of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. No one will help her fix her house which is falling down. She does not know her age which puts her over 70 years.



**SOLOMON**

Not every preacher is a pastor, and neither can anyone pastor without preaching. The pastoral office comes with the responsibility of feeding Christ’s sheep through the teaching of the word of God. I was finalizing Homiletics One which we started studying over a month ago.

I decided to have an intensive discourse with the students to make sure that they all get the importance of teaching the word in a proper fashion. Not many pastors in rural Malawi have the training needed to come up with Biblical messages for the building of Christ’s church. While most pulpits are plagued with heresy, we believe even the simplest training goes a long way in the effort to make the preaching of the pure and undiluted word across the region we are working in.

I was overjoyed to receive some positive feedback as the pastors expressed great joy over their lessons and improved their understanding of the word. The students got a chance to catch some skills that will help them perfect their delivery of God’s word which is an essential discipline for effective witnessing.



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We have received the breakdown for the Tengani church which is as follows:

The building will measure 33 x 100 feet (10m x 30m).	
Bricks 80,000	\$1,000
Roofing 85 X16 ft	\$3,800
200 bags cement	\$1,700
Transport	640
Timber	\$1,400
Window frames/doors	\$1,200
Nails, mosquito netting etc	\$1,000
Contractors	<u>700</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,440</b>

**BREAKDOWN OF MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR 2017**

Support for each elderly each distribution x 4	: \$20 x 420	\$8,400
Support for girls (education and clothing)	5 x 10	50
Alabaster Bible school students	10 x 25	250
Alabaster Students attending PAOC school	30 x 2	60
Support – 8 pastors (13 months)	15 x 8	120
2 pastors (13 months)	20 x 2	40
3 staff members total (13 months)		<u>570</u>
	Monthly	\$5,290
<b>Building costs for 2017:</b>		
10 houses for the elderly	\$5,000	
Upgrading pastor’s homes	2,000	
Bible school dormitories	6,000	
Roofing churches (grass to corrugated iron)	1,750 four churches	
Church at Tengani	12,000	
Staff housing	30,000	