



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

DECEMBER NEWS 2015

Dearest Friends,

Happy and blessed 2016 to each and every one! May the Lord bless you as you put your hand to the plough and work to see His Kingdom extended and enlarged in this coming year. Each year we say that the time is drawing closer to His return and I believe it is, but if there is one thing I have learned, God is never in a hurry and that we should never try to out think, out run or out maneuver God. He has everything under His control and it is our business to develop our relationship with Him, to rest in Him, to hear His voice and He will give the direction and the blessing. His timing is always perfect and when we hold to this we will find that the way is open, the finances are there and so is His protection.

I am looking forward with great anticipation to what is going to happen, not only in this very small portion of God's amazing planet Earth, but also in the rest of the world. For many it has already started off badly with great floods in the Midwestern states, delays at airports because of tornadoes and heavy rain or snow in unexpected areas and in Europe and South America they are having flooding and in Australia major fires. European temperatures are amazingly high for this time of year and no snow in Red Square. Just how much does the devil control the weather patterns of the earth? I believe he has total control because we have allowed him to take the power and authority that the Lord has invested in us and use it against us. The devil resides on the earth and not in hell – the kingdoms of this world are his because we have allowed it to be so. How much control does he have over you and me? Only as much as we allow him to have because when Christ died on the Cross He gave us the power and authority against the principalities and powers of the devil. The Bible says that *the "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* Matthew 16:18 – so why is hell prevailing against the church?

When I see and hear some of what is going on in the church it is no wonder we appear to be so defeated in these days. It is time for us to examine ourselves – not look at what others are doing or how they are behaving but find out from the precious all convicting Holy Spirit

what we need to do to set ourselves right. Does that mean we should allow our brothers to do whatsoever? Of course not! We are our brother's keeper and have a right to step in and correct when there is sin but in order to do so we had better make sure that is it with the love of God and it needs to be done in accordance with the Word and God has laid out the principle.

As I have said before, it is the love of God within us that will win the lost and dying. If we have that we will have a burden for the lost God will show us how to reach out to them. This is a part of what Francis has just sent to me regarding the work. I believe it says it all.

"I am looking forward to my next trip. God is a wonderful God, He's an Amazing God, and His plans and timing are always perfect. I believe the Center at Tengani will not only stand as a symbol of good will to the elderly - NO it will stand for something greater, something much more than we see now. God has strategically decided to place the center right in the middle of a place that has its beating heart held captive by a strong grip of witchcraft, prostitution, and crime. While reaching out to the elderly, their children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and all their relatives will come to hear that there's a King and His Name is Jesus the Christ, The Son of the Living God. In healing and restoring the frail bodies and broken hearts of the elderly, God will Deliver, Restore, and build a new Tengani and Tengani will stand as a light in the darkness for so many. I believe the Spirit of God is there waiting for a people to Tap into His heartbeat so He can flood them with His Grace and Unconditional Love and by the end of it all, Tengani Will Never Be The Same Again."

CONTENT

MEET THE ELDERLY	2
MALAWI REPORT	3
MALAWI REPORT	4



MEET MR. MANUEL ANTONIO:

Manuel Antonio has no record of his birthday or the month he was born and neither does he remember the year in which he was born. He grew up around Tengani village and spent his youthful days fishing in the Shire River, which runs about a mile away from the place we took this picture. The precarious realities of fishing in the crocodile and hippo infested waters are very clear to all who live near and afar but people like Manuel Antonio, who has no education, risked it all to survive. However his fishing days are all but a memory now and what is left of him is this frail body. Mr. Antonio has six children and four wonderful grandchildren. I asked Mr. Antonio to draw a contrast between life in his youth and now that he is an old man. His words were so moving and powerful for they told a story that has touched so many families in Africa. Antonio bemoans the old days when young men and young women did not engage in prostitution and alcohol abuse, when HIV and AIDS were not the song that echoes in each corner of the Lower Shire region. The young are swept away by AIDS and the grandchildren are left with the old and frail. Mr. Antonio had a message for Pastor Roz; it is one that will encourage her to keep blessing the forgotten, the old and weak, those who are neglected and without enough strength to fend for themselves and to keep preaching the Word to them and teaching them Kingdom principles.

MR GRESHAM AND MR MASTER KAITANO

Mr. Gresham was born in 1934 and has a daughter. His wife left a long time ago and he only has the single child. Mr. Kaitano (pronounced Gaitan) has four children and six grandchildren and like Manuel Antonio, these two gentlemen spent their youth fishing and setting traps for fish in the Shire River. They are both very old and cannot afford to work the big fields so that they have food, instead, they have tiny gardens in their backyards and grow just enough food to last them a few months of the year. Nevertheless, these gentlemen startled me because when I asked them what they needed the most, they said just glasses for the light that's fading in their eyes. They just need reading spectacles so they can be able to read their Bibles. It does remind me of a story in the Book of Acts. It reminds me of Peter telling that lame man Silver and Gold have I none, but in the name of Jesus, Walk. They did not ask for food or clothing, they said what you bless us with is enough but we need glasses to read the Word. I thought wow! These are the men that turn the world upside down. We, with all our materialism and food to fill our bellies and yet many never even open the Word. These men, even despite their age are the forgotten and unsung heroes of the Christian faith. What an amazing testimony!



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We're on the Web.
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MALAWI

I know this is a month behind but what a wonderful way to end the old year and see the New Year in. Thanks to the support of Oresti and Julie and Ori Meats who loaned us their truck, the building supplies for Pastor Peter's house at Tengani were dropped off just a week before Christmas. The people had a will to work and even the Pastors rolled up their sleeves and pushed wheelbarrows to build the walls when some of the builders were warned off by another ministry. It is so sad that ministries cannot work together because of jealousy or bitterness. How can we build the Kingdom when we are so fragmented?

The following is the report from Francis:

"I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and pray that you and the family are all well. I am fine and so is Peter, Stanford and their families. I bet Mexico was so much fun and you had such a wonderful time there. Our trip to Tengani was so wonderful, so much so that I wished I had prolonged my stay there. I didn't feel like leaving and had so much fun praying and chatting with Peter and Stanford.

I remember we had a conversation about arranging a distributing food and relief items to the elderly in January. Peter will be coming for Bible school but will be done month end. I was suggesting that we should hold it till January month end so Peter, Stanford and I can leave Blantyre with everything ready. The house is almost complete; we managed to put all the walls up and finished roofing. They have begun to work on the plastering and floor today and I should get back there to see the finished work early in January. All the work will be done by then but I wanted to ask if you had any idea on the color we should use for the house. I can buy paint at a discount at Dulux Paint Company.

It is sad that I am reporting a complete change in the character and conduct of one of the young men we had thought would be an asset to the ministry. He was excited about Alabaster for a long time especially after being told we were interested in working side by side with him and that there was an opportunity that he could attend Bible School. Before my recent Nsanje trip we learned that he was in adultery and his wife found him and stabbed the other woman in her upper arm. Good thing we found out all this before we took him on as part of the staff. However, his mother is employed by another ministry and between them they caused real issues with the contracting team so that they walked off the job. No problem for us, we took over and astounded them all by completing the walls and roofing in record time.



The bricks on the right are made by the villagers. They are uneven and have to be protected from termites. Those on the left are concrete – a little more expensive but even and there will not be a termite problem. They are much easier to lay and do not require as much cement and plaster. This is the first house in what will be a Christian village with outreach to that whole area. Healing and counselling will take place there once the church is built. Windows will be bigger.

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Nevertheless God has given Peter a humble man, Charles Chikwapa to work with him. He pastors a church just on the other side of our place at Tengani. Peter and I attended Sunday prayers there as Stanford had left for Blantyre on Saturday. His daughter wasn't well but Praise God she's now fully recovered after we prayed for her.

People are looking forward to when we build a church and Peter wants to start having meetings at our place starting early in the New Year. People were asking us when we were going to start having Prayer meetings – so amazing that they are asking us and we are excited.

We have an opportunity to extend the land we have. The lady who lives close to the warehouse has offered us her land and I spoke to the chief about it when I was there. Peter will speak to the lady and begin price negotiations before I get involved. It will be good to get them to decide on the price in January and the chief will help them relocate to another place in time.

Peter is very excited about his house; he's very thankful and wanted to let you know how happy he is that you have blessed him with a house and most of all, an opportunity to serve under you in Ministering to God's wonderful creation. His wife was also very thankful; they all send their love and blessings. We have found new places to meet in both centers. Peter was in Marka and Chimombo on Sunday. We had already found places in Chididi and Kalumbi on my first trip to Tengani so everything is fine.



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It was so wonderful at Tengani, I had an amazing time chatting with elderly people in the community so much that I did not want to leave. I wanted to stay there, to continue in fellowship with Peter, to learn the language, the culture and to know the people around us. I had an opportunity to chat with three old men who were not so free to speak with us at first (the ministry that gave us problems is their pastor and so they were afraid to be very open) but with time we had a breakthrough and we began to talk about their lives and family, and their opinion of the way of life at Tengani. I asked them what challenges they go face just to get through each day and how they saw their lives now that they get the chance to receive various gifts and the Ultimate gift of love. It was wonderful to sit and listen to these lovely old men tell a story of their youth. See page 2.



Pastor Peter and
Pastor Stanford



A will to work:
Pastor Peter and
his wife