

Orphan Care Ministry:

February 2010 Newsletter:

Highlights:

- 1- Builder contracted to complete accommodation and classroom buildings for 50 children.
- 2- Container Appeal and Backpack Project completed– February 2010.
- 3- 2010 visits planned by Australians in April/May/June/July/August.
- 4- Orbus approved as APWM “Partner Mission Society.”
- 5- Orbus’ 1st missionaries approved by APWM and preparing for June arrival in Blantyre.
- 6- New 2010 brochure.



Rose Chaponda with some of the Namatete orphans.

The Orbus Ngumbe School and Vocational Training Centre:

Builder Contracted:

Orbus almost had the girl's emergency accommodation building finished late last year but a storm blew the roof off the building on the 12th November 2009 (see photos below). Thankfully this occurred before any children had moved in and by God's grace nobody was hurt. Moving forward, the Board have now negotiated and signed a contract with a Blantyre based construction company Wotazs Group Constructions to complete the girl's emergency accommodation building and the classroom building on Orbus' Ngumbe site. It is hoped that the buildings will be fully completed by the middle of the year and that Orbus will have 50 of the youngest and most vulnerable orphans in residence soon afterwards.



The accommodation building for 50 girls – 29th October 2009.



The same building on 12th November 2009.



Undeterred, work has commenced on re-construction of this building (left) and construction of classrooms (right). February 2010.

Visits planned by Australians in 2010:

Orbus director Vin Lopes and advisor Robert Boyle are planning to visit Blantyre in April/May 2010. This is to be followed by the planned arrival of the Manners family in June for a year (?) of service, and then Orbus director John Wilson and advisor John Steendam plan to arrive in July/August as part of the short-term PCV STAMP mission team.

Orbus Backpack Project:

The Orbus Backpack Project, a project to provide orphans in Blantyre, Malawi with a backpack each filled with things they need for school has now closed, as has the container appeal. This has been the inaugural year of this project and it has been a big success, providing Australians with the opportunity to put together a backpack filled with goodies enabling them to play a part of this ministry. Look out on the Orbus website for details of the next backpack project.

APWM "Partner Mission Society":

In 2009 Orbus applied for and gained approval from the Federal Committee of Australian Presbyterian World Mission (APWM) to become an APWM "Partner Mission Society."

Orbus as a Missionary Sending Society:

As part of our wider vision of sending people from Australia and from within Africa to work in orphan care projects the Orbus board of directors, in late 2009, approved the 1st Orbus missionaries. Having been approved for the role by Orbus, Craig and Jayni Manners applied to APWM to become Orbus "Partner Society Missionaries". This approval has now been obtained and the Manners family, from Melbourne, Australia, are currently preparing for full-time service in Blantyre. Their prime mission objective is to help the Board to establish the Ngumbe School and Vocational Training Centre project. It is hoped that they will arrive in Blantyre in mid-2010. To read more about Craig and Jayni and family please visit the Orbus website.

Funding missionaries to be separate from Orbus donations: Orbus do not intend to provide financial support for missionaries from existing donor's funds. Instead Orbus will facilitate donations made specifically to individual missionaries through Orbus and provide back-up home support and practical assistance to its missionaries. If you would like to support the Manners family, donations can be made through Orbus who will then transfer your donation to the Manners family. Please visit the Orbus website for donation details.

Your Prayers:

We would appreciate your prayers:

- For WOTAZS and Newton Kambala as they work toward the completion of the two dormitory buildings.
- For the first of the orphaned children to be brought under our care as at Ngumbe as soon as possible.
- For the ongoing food production on Orbus' land.
- For the feeding and teaching program by the Namatete CCAP congregation.
- For God's protection of the children in their current situations.
- For Vin and Rob as they prepare for their mission in April/May.
- For John and John and the STAMP team as they prepare for their mission in July/August.
- For the Manners family as they prepare for service in Blantyre.
- For Colin and Shirley M'bawa as they adapt to the recent move to Zomba.

In and for Jesus Christ

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