



# RCA Missionary Update

from Justin and Ruth Majawa

Justin Majawa lost his dad when he was seven months old and grew up as an orphan. He worked hard on the farm growing vegetables, which he sold to go to school. In his 11th and 12th grades he was adopted by a pastor who mentored Justin and enabled him to go to college.

In 1996, while in college, Justin created Save Orphans Ministries. Moved deeply by the extreme suffering of so many orphans, Justin resolved to offer them help and hope. His message to the children is that God is the father of the fatherless. Today Save Orphans Ministries serves over 10,000 orphans in their communities through programs related to HIV/AIDS, food security, evangelism, and education support.

## Malawi facts:

- Population: 11 million
- Size: 45,745 square miles (slightly smaller than Pennsylvania)
- Major religion: 67 percent Christian, 15 percent Muslim, 9 percent other



### MINISTRIES

Community orphan care, education sponsorship, HIV/AIDS, food security, evangelism

### LOCATION

Lilongwe, Malawi

### PARTNER

Save Orphans Ministries

### CONTACT

Justin and Ruth Majawa

849 Ballard St SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Email: justinsom@malawi.net

Dear Friends,

August 2008

Greetings to you. We hope this letter finds you well.

In June, Justin's sister Felister died and immediately following Justin was in bed for one week recovering from a bout with gastric malaria. We were overwhelmed with the care each of you showed us through phone calls, emails and cards.

Justin's classes at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary went well this semester. He has one semester left before he graduates with his Masters of Christian and Organizational Leadership. He loved his classes. Most of the management books he's had to read and ministry papers he's had to write have fit well into situations occurring at Save Orphans Ministries.

This summer, we were privileged to welcome three work groups. They were from Central College in Pella, Iowa, Hope Endeavors from Port Huron, Michigan and Adventure Life Reformed Church from Altoona, Iowa. We



also welcomed three interns who assisted with our Community-based Child Care Centers and our Bible Camps. It's been great working alongside the volunteers and members of the community.

We have decided to delay Justin's return to finish his last semester until January 2009, while we await the finalization of his Green Card. In the mean time Justin is still in Malawi and Ruth returned to the States four weeks ago after

being in Malawi for roughly two months. We started the process early last year. We felt it allowed us greater access to come to the States to see our family and to take speaking engagements. The process is taking much longer than was outlined. However, we've decided to leave the situation in God's hands and continue preparing for our return to Malawi in May 2009. We would like to ask you to join us in praying about this situation.

Before I finish this letter, I'd like to tell you a story about

one of our orphans. In our April newsletter, we shared with you that we had opened our new vocation school with 20+ students in attendance. Ten of these students are orphans which all of you had help to support through their primary and secondary education. We were pleasantly surprised when three of the orphans decided to pay their own school fees for this term. Earlier this year when the Malawi government was completing the census, they hired a few of our students as temporary workers. These students saved some of the monies they earned and decided to contribute their savings toward their edu-



cation. One of the students expressed how fortunate he felt to have been supported by SOM throughout the years and was proud to now be able to contribute. We get excited to share these short tidbits with you of how your support and prayers are helping SOM to change lives.

Have a great summer!

Yours in His Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin" in a cursive style.

Justin and Ruth Majawa