



RCA Missionary Update

from the McAuleys

Linda and Larry McAuley have served in RCA missions since 1981. Fifteen of those years were in pioneer church planting and community development in Kenya. Since 1998 they have worked in Malawi and Mozambique with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, the Reformed Church in Mozambique, and Save Orphans Ministries as consultants in community and organizational development. Each of these partners carries out holistic and transformational development through evangelism, adult literacy, HIV/AIDS prevention, orphan care, food and financial security, restoration of the environment, social justice, disaster response, and diaconal development. They work with a total of about 20,000 participants, which results in an impact on the lives of about 100,000 people.

Malawi facts:

- Population: 11,906,850
- Size: 118,480 square kilometers (slightly smaller than Pennsylvania)
- Major religions: 55 percent Protestant, 20 percent Catholic, 20 percent Muslim, 3 percent indigenous beliefs, 2 percent other



MINISTRY

Community and Organizational Development

PARTNER

Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, Save Orphans Ministries, the Reformed Church in Mozambique, and Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

LOCATION

Malawi and Mozambique

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Greetings Dear Friends!

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Crocuses pushing up through still-cold soil... blustery wind... one last snow fall from winter's lingering grasp... warm greetings from family and friends... a different bed nearly every night for four months... logging thousands of miles as we visit supporting churches... enjoying a bike ride on a balmy spring day.

These are just a few of our impressions since we returned to the States on March 9. We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing many of you already and sharing with you what God is doing in Malawi and Mozambique. And we look forward to seeing many more of you before we head back to Malawi on 7 July.

In our travels we have enjoyed dropping in on son Luke and his family in Portage, IN where Luke works as an O.T. at Jacob's Ladder, a Christian pediatric care center. It has been a real blessing to spend more time with grandsons Caden (3) and Reuben (1). Caden and I mowed the yard together a couple of weeks ago – a little slow but fun!



Last week we spent some days with Miriam at Dordt



College catching up with her friends, visiting class, sharing with her Missions class, seeing her latest art work, sitting in on a symposium as Miriam delivered a paper on missionary kids and depression, and attending the spring choir concert. A joy to be a small part of this part of Miriam's life!

Our son, Matt, is in Malawi hanging out with friends, writing, reading, helping with our accounting while we are away – and waiting for Kenya to change her constitution so he can apply for a Kenyan passport and stay in Africa as long as he wants! He is enrolled at Open University and awaiting the arrival of his books so he can continue his studies.

In Malawi and Mozambique late-starting and early-ending rains have left many areas in a dangerous situation with very low food production. Many households will be out of food by



August. That means they will somehow have to cope for eight months. Please pray for wisdom as we work with partners and communities to try to determine the best course forward. We want to help families end this cycle of nearly annual food crises.

Partners are all busy in the field with their community development work, in the office writing proposals and planning the work for coming months – working toward reducing hunger, malaria, AIDS and increasing literacy, financial security, and community justice – to God's glory with the encouragement of your support and prayers.

As the saying goes, we may not know what tomorrow holds, but we know Who holds tomorrow. That is not just a truism or a trite saying. It is absolutely the truth. Because we trust our Sovereign Omnipotent Father God we can live each day with confidence and joy – in the midst of insecurities and pressures. Live this truth, contend for this truth wherever God has put you. Keep praying daily for national leaders, for church leaders, for your loved ones, for communities in Africa – and other places – to know the joy of God's gracious presence among them each day.

As God leads and provides you may want to consider passing on His blessings through further financial giving in addition to your faithful prayer support:

- We are told we need five full Partner-In-Mission (PIM) shares (at \$6000 each) for our family support. Please

write to Rev. Derrick Jones at 8765 W. Higgins Road, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60631 or email at djones@rca.org or call (800) 228-3813.

- The Give-A-Goat program remains popular with our partners and their communities. This is a gift that keeps on giving as those who receive goats pass on the first off-spring to other community-chosen families. To contribute go to www.rcws.rca.org and select Give a Goat or send a contribution to Reformed Church in America, P.O. Box 19381, Newark, NJ 07195-1938 or, in Canada, to Regional Synod of Canada, 201 Paradise Road N., Hamilton, ON L8S 3T3.
- Training is a constant need for our partner staff to help them grow in their ability to help communities move toward truly transformational development – a development that starts with the heart transformation that comes only from responding to Jesus' Gospel call. Training costs money – for transportation, materials, meals and accommodations. But training is very empowering as it helps Malawians and Mozambicans help each other. If you would like to give to either **Community Development Training** (Malawi) or **IRM Capacity Building**, please contact Rev. Derrick Jones (see first bullet point).

Many, many thanks for your faithful, generous support through giving and praying over many years!

Larry and Linda McAuley

To access extensive information about the McAuleys, or to make a financial gift for their ministry, simply go to www.rca.org/mcauley.

*Did you know that you can receive Dear Friends letters directly to your own e-mail and that by doing so you are helping RCA Global Mission be a good steward of your gifts?
To sign up, contact Eva Fennema at (800) 968-3943 or efennema@rca.org.*