

GLOBAL SCHOOL OF SPORTS MINISTRY MAY 2019 NEWS BRIEF VIOLENT STORMS STRIKE MALAWI

- Hundreds homeless as hurricane force winds join forces with torrential rain to destroy and wash away homes including untold numbers of people.
- Power lines toppled, vehicles destroyed. Emergency services unable to cope with the massive needs that erupted as a result of the series of lethal storms that crippled Malawi.
- Two GSSM graduates, both pastors and partners with Global suffered some personal loss. However, both had to work around the clock to assist and care for the needs of their respective congregations.
- GSSM wired some emergency funds to the two pastors to help in a small way as they tried their best to deal with some of the most serious needs.
- One Malawi GSSM student who will be graduating soon has been using sports ministry in several public schools but due to the severity of the storms he has joined the rescue efforts in an attempt to provide care for scores of homeless children.
- Earlier this student started a sports ministry in school number one. Unlike the opposition found in the U.S. and other western countries for programs of this sort, the Malawi public schools welcome sports activities like GSSM's where the Gospel is openly shared. After witnessing the positive results in their students, the teachers, administrators along with the parents have nothing but praise for sports ministry.



Severe flooding in Malawi after the cyclone, image from UN News news.un.org



When our GSSM student started his first school, 17 students showed up. Then when this impoverished student purchased a new soccer ball with his own money, the number of participants grew to 50.



Soon this same student started another program in a second school. Over 100 students signed up for this program. Then, Amazingly, he started a third program in another school and 300 students are now participating including some children unable to attend school due to a lack of school fees.

If all of this was not enough, this same Malawi student also developed a program to rescue homeless children many of whom lost their parents in the vicious storms that destroyed much of the country. Then, attempting to meet a very pressing need, this incredible student did something that flooded my eyes with tears. He put it this way: "We lifted our empty plates to the Lord and asked Him to please fill them. Now we have a wonderful testimony that He has filled them up. God has provided the resources which can keep us for 10 weeks feeding 100 children".



How we praise God for students like this remarkable man who has a heart of gold and a passion to see children come to Christ. Some day these precious ones will be free from the shackles of poverty. And then just imagine how it will be for them to enter the Kingdom and actually walk on streets of gold.



EASTER OUTREACH IN UGANDA: A SUCCESS IN SPITE OF RAIN

59 children and adults declare their faith in Christ as they respond to the Gospel.

On Saturday morning, the day before Easter, a GSSM soccer clinic attracted large numbers of youth. 37 respond to the Gospel.

Afternoon visits to the poorest of the poor to deliver food packs to 30 families resulted in much thanks to God and resulted in 7 more joining the Lord's family.



Also receiving help were 60 children who were awarded Kids Kits containing clothes, shoes along with pens, pencils and other school supplies which were provided by Terry and Melissa McGill of Sister Schools, a partner of GSSM's and dear friends. The McGills, who live in Seattle, also help GSSM by shipping a number of GSSM items to Uganda in their Sister Schools container. The McGills have been a huge blessing to GSSM and, of course, to the many recipients of these much-needed items.

Easter Sunday found our GSSM students and staff in attendance at the local church. Team Ebenezer member, David Lusuku, was able to share why Christ went to the cross and the tremendous significance of Easter. As a result, 8 more responded and were added to the Lamb's Book of Life.

Later in the day, GSSM leaders and students returned to the church where several students from the Gulu region were awarded their diplomas.

Capping off the day was a GSSM sponsored Easter dinner for over 300 residents of the village. Broad smiles, laughter and a spirit of love filled the evening. An undetermined number of people from this community gathering surrendered their lives to the resurrected Christ and their lives took on a whole different meaning filled with hope and indescribable peace.



FURTHER SOUTH ANOTHER EASTER OUTREACH WAS HELD IN MALAWI

Pastor Henry Banda, one of GSSM's graduates and pastor was asked to coordinate this major event sponsored by Calvary Family Church. The 3 day event attracted 1,139 people and when all was said and done, 182 participants invited Christ to be their Lord and Savior. Banda points out that a follow-up plan has been activated. We praise God for this former National Soccer player from Zambia who is now in his 70's, continues to serve the Lord as a pastor and sports minister in his quest to obey Christ's command to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations.

COMING SOON

In News-Briefs to follow we will update you on some of our exciting sustainability projects, give you a peek at GSSM's plans for a major conference/workshop involving several African leaders, update you on a number of projects, including Jimmy's progress on his farm projects, tell you about our plans to expand our discipleship training, update you on the Swahili translation of GSSM's Textbook and then bring you a series on Team Ebenezer. Who are these guys? And then, to put some icing on the cake, Alyssa and Sequoi will team up and open up even more windows to view what's ahead for GSSM.



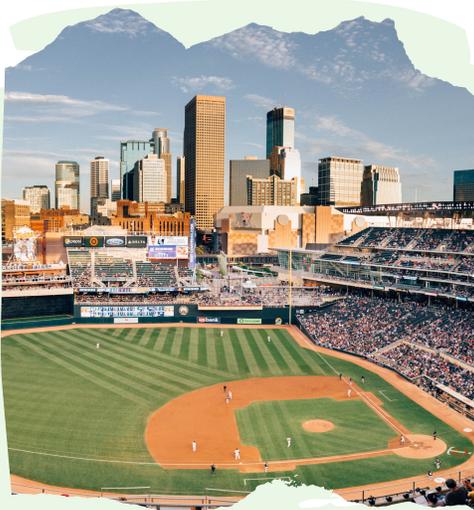
A heartfelt thank you for all of you who pray for GSSM and who are able to help us with much-needed support as God leads you and enables you. May each of you be surrounded by God's love and blessed beyond understanding.

Blessings!

Russ Carr
President

Alyssa Carr Mahone
Executive Director

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



From the end of May to the beginning of August, Physical Education teacher and Coach, Brian Bartlett ("Coach B"), of Denver, Colorado is embarking on an exciting road trip around the country to visit all 30 Major League Baseball Stadiums and watch a game at each one. He will be driving from stadium to stadium, watching games and keeping track of home runs. His goal is to collect pledges from donors before and during his trip. For example, for every home run, a donor can pledge to donate \$2. If, by the end of his trip, Coach B witnesses 35 home runs, that donor would gift \$70 to his fundraiser. If he witnesses 100 home runs, that donor would gift \$200 to his fundraiser.

(Pledges are only for home runs that Coach B sees at games he attends.)

GSSM is excited to be one of the 5 sports ministries Coach B chose to be a part of this fundraiser. At the end of the trip, he will tell us how much money has been raised for GSSM through home run pledges! Donors can choose to contribute to the overall fund, which Coach B will divide among all 5 ministries or donors can select which ministry they specifically want their pledges to support.

We would love to bring more awareness to what Coach B is doing and support his creative and generous fundraiser and we invite you to be a part of this unique fundraiser with us! To learn more, make a home run pledge, or share about what Coach B is doing, please visit his website

www.mlbsummerroadtrip2019.com