



HEALING HANDS  
INTERNATIONAL



# A KINGDOM MOVEMENT ACROSS MALAWI

ISSUE 2, SUMMER 2026

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# A Kingdom Movement Across Malawi

**Like many rural villages in Malawi, Tombolombo operates on close-knit community bonds. Because of recurring climate and economic challenges, the community faces seasonal food shortages and a regular vulnerability to drought. Grounded in a landscape defined by subsistence farming, the community primarily relies on the cultivation of staple crops to sustain its livelihood. It is in this setting that a beautiful story of Kingdom multiplication is born.**

“ The Church of Christ in Tombolombo was planted in 1968 by the late Raphael Chirwa, my father, who was a graduate of Chimala Bible College in Tanzania. The church grew up in the early 70s and they started planting daughter churches far and near.

In 2003, my father passed the flashlight [torch] to us and he went to be with the Lord. From 2003 to 2016, the growth of the church slowed down and other churches died completely. In 2010, I went to African Christian College (ACC) in Swaziland to study theology and leadership. I met with Carl Burkybile, the former Director of Agriculture at HHI, and the late Homer Dudley, a loyal HHI Volunteer in 2011. They came to teach a sustainable agriculture workshop at ACC. I was completely spoiled with what I learned during the training and I could not help but use the principles on my farm after graduation. This pulled people to me to learn new farming techniques. Very soon, I had trained over 250 farming families. Carl heard about this and came to Malawi to witness in March of 2015. He was convinced and hired me to be a Hunger to Harvest trainer for Healing Hands International that same year.

When I came back from school in 2012, the average church attendance in Tombolombo was 30. After a few years, I began to notice growth. What was happening at this time was that when I conducted workshops, I could also share the word of God and give them hope that God loves us always. Soon, HHI was able to drill a well on the church grounds. Then we added Women of Hope business training and MAGI gift distributions. All of these programs have played a tremendous role in sharing the gospel to many in Tombolombo and the general area. The results have been awesome! Almost every Sunday, we receive new converts, visitors, and restorations. The average attendance has grown from 30 in 2012 to 380 at this time. The love of God has been magnified. The Christians here have learned to work hard and smart to share with the less fortunate. The church has planted three acres of maize (corn) and two

acres of cassava to feed the poor and also feed the preachers as they conduct door-knocking campaigns for Christ.



HHI programs have changed the face of Tombolombo. As the number of participating farmers grew, with the assistance of HHI, we registered a cooperative with the Malawi Ministry of Trade and Industry in 2019. The certificate helped us to win a grant to build a 900 metric ton warehouse in Tombolombo, and also purchase a tractor.

We will soon be connected to electricity as the final stage of the grant. Livelihoods have improved through women-owned businesses like the bakery, chicken coop, and piggery.

Most importantly, churches have been restored back to life and new churches have been planted. There were 42 active Churches of Christ when I came back from school, but now we have 87 active churches. I see the church growing and spreading to many places where there is

no church in Malawi. And not just growing in numbers, but also spiritual maturity. I see the church feeding the hungry to the point that there will be no one wanting and to fulfill what Jesus our Lord said in Matthew 25:35-40. We can't reach this without HHI and the family of donors. The continued prayers and support of programs you give will make a great difference for the church in Malawi at large. These programs have bridged the gap between God and people's hearts!

Thank you, HHI and donors!



**Written by: Mbweni Chirwa**  
HHI Country Director for Malawi



**Under the direction of Mbweni Chirwa, HHI plans to bring programming to each community with new churches in the next five years. You can be a part of this incredible Kingdom movement. First, we invite you to pray. Then, if possible, we invite you to give and make transformation a reality across Malawi, and beyond.**

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Kingston, Jamaica

# DISASTER RESPONSE

## Hurricane Melissa Update

When Hurricane Melissa struck Jamaica, Janet Thomas and her daughter found themselves trapped inside a collapsing home, clinging to faith as the storm tore everything apart around them.

*"It was traumatizing," Janet said. As violent winds and rain rampaged through their home, half the roof ripped away, and the remaining structure began to cave in.*

*"My daughter was trembling," Janet said. "I had to hug her and say, 'You're going to be all right. We have to trust God because God will see us through.'"*

At one point, Janet tried to escape outside, but the force of the storm and what she believed was God's protection stopped her. *"I believe that it's the Lord who locked the door for me not to go out there," she said. "Because if I did go out there, I would have died."*

When the winds finally eased, Janet and her daughter ran through the storm to a neighbor's house. *"I held on to a post," she recalled. "And I said to my daughter, 'Don't let me go.'"*

After the storm, Janet returned to find everything destroyed and soaked: her roof gone, clothing ruined, and nothing dry left inside the house. Yet in the middle of loss, God provided for their needs through neighbors, churches, volunteers, and donors. They brought food, clothing, supplies, and helped rebuild damaged homes in the community.

*"A lot of people really benefit from it," Janet said. "It really made a difference." One moment especially stayed with her: receiving food after days of uncertainty and being able to feed her family again.*

*"We could have Sunday dinners," she said. "And so I am really giving God thanks." Janet's message to donors was filled with heartfelt appreciation and encouragement to continue serving others through Christ's love.*

*"We are grateful," she said. "Continue to do the work that the Lord God Almighty has put you to do." And with deep sincerity, she offered this blessing: "May God bless you and keep you and give you strength, and continue to do the work of the Lord."*



**Disaster Response aided communities affected by Hurricane Melissa by delivering two 40-foot containers of supplies and appliances, providing financial assistance to 246 farming communities, distributing food to more than 75 people, and rebuilding four homes. HHI also reroofed Montego Bay Church of Christ and provided 28 generators to local church communities, helping them serve as places of refuge.**



## MAGI PROJECT

*In Partnership with World Bible School*

Healing Hands International (HHI) has partnered with World Bible School (WBS) to support students in secondary schools across Kenya. This organization provides free bible study courses to hundreds of thousands of students around the world. WBS received an official endorsement from the Kenyan Ministry of Education on the condition that they also provided benevolent items to the students they support. This is where HHI came in; by providing needed items to students—such as hygiene and education supplies—the school now supports hundreds of children in need. Recently, MAGI (Making A Godly Impact), in partnership with WBS, distributed 120 gifts to the children of Konyach and 272 gifts to the children of Yaumba. Together, HHI and WBS are going into schools and sharing the love of Jesus with students. Thanks to this partnership, the Gospel is gaining unparalleled access across schools in Kenya, leading to record Bible study enrollments for WBS.

“For many children, it is the first gift they have ever received, signaling that they are valued, cared for, and not forgotten by the world,” reported a partner from the village of Yaumba. Together, HHI and WBS are reaching students and their families by meeting both physical needs and spiritual needs. “The gifts speak volumes to the hearts of the people. It’s the love of Jesus Christ wrapped in a gift,” said a resident from Konyach.



# YOU DID IT!

You funded Lugeperi and Bangori! Because of your incredible generosity, both communities will soon have access to clean water, and so much more!

What began as a goal to help two villages grew into something even bigger. First, Lugeperi was fully funded. Then Bangori. And because you exceeded the goal so significantly, the impact won't stop there.

Your generosity will now overflow into additional communities still waiting for access to these same critical resources—bringing hope, dignity, and opportunity to even more families in Northern Uganda.

## 2026 SPRING CAMPAIGN UPDATE





## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts were given in memory of the following from February 1, 2026 – May 31, 2026. Donors are in light-faced type.

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*Healing Hands International*

News is produced three times

annually. It is printed by

Allen Printing Company and

distributed by Axis Direct, Inc.

Editorial inquiries should

be directed to: Marketing

Department, Healing Hands

International, 455 McNally

Drive, Nashville, TN 37211.

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**On the Cover:**

Find out how your support of HHI is

empowering Kingdom growth across

the nation of Malawi.



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