

SEPTEMBER 2025

2025 Summer Teams to Malawi and Uganda



PPBC Malawi Mission Team

More than two years ago, we'd periodically be asked, "When are you going to take a team on a mission trip to Malawi?" A year ago, the Mission Committee of Port Perry Baptist Church (PPBC) agreed that the time had come.

Mission trips don't just happen! It starts with prayer: "Lord, please put it on the hearts of those who should go." "Lord, is there something particular you would have us do in Malawi?" And before all that, "Lord, if this is your will for us, please open the doors, make the way clear, guide us and give us wisdom."

Then start the conversations: with the EI Malawi office, with the missionaries

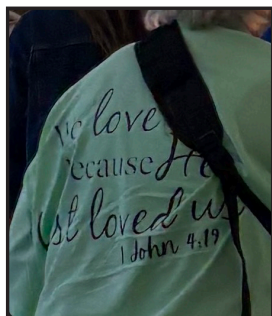
in Chisomo, Machinga, Malawi, with members of the PPBC. When should we go? How much will it cost? What will we be involved in on the ground? Where will we stay? And more.

On August 7, 2025, a team of 8 people from PPBC flew to Malawi where we were joined by 2 others from Saskatchewan. The team was made up



of a plumber, 2 hairdressers, a massage therapist, an optician, a retired printer, a teacher, a high school student and two old missionaries. This trip was bathed in prayer. The volunteers were willing and ready to serve. We are here to testify that our Heavenly Father answered prayers in marvelous ways.

To share some of these answers, here are some snapshots...



Lovely mint-green t-shirts made by 2 of our team stimulated conversations with fellow-travelers, opportunities to share Jesus' love.

Our first week was spent at Chisomo, Machinga at the EBCM Bible School. The team had three main areas of involvement. Two men taught 45 pastors, church elders and pastoral students on Titus and on Grief Counseling. Two men did maintenance projects around the Bible School campus.

The women and Lucas did the children's program: Classes in Science and Art were designed around Nehemiah 9:6. We had planned for around 50 kids. By the time we got to the class on Day 1, there were 165 children gathered. By the last day, there were 236! The team was resilient. Supplies were shared. The translators were fantastic and the kids went home singing Christian choruses!! Along with memorizing Neh. 9:6, we shared the message of salvation. On the last day, I asked the children, "When you accept Jesus and He brings you to God, who does God say you are?" A hand shot up at the back of the room. The young girl stood up and said very clearly, "His

child!" Yes!!! Later, when we crowded around for a group picture, the same girl showed up beside me. I asked her if she had accepted Jesus as her savior. With a huge smile, she responded, "Inde! Yes!"

The women spent several afternoons with the women at the Bible school, teaching macramé, sharing God's Word ...and cooking!



One afternoon was set aside for home visits in the community. Sara tells her story:

"On Wednesday afternoon, I, along with Helen and Kathryn, had the opportunity to visit Selina at her home. Lorilee had asked us to pray for Selina back in April when she lost her left arm to cancer. It was extra special to meet someone we had heard about and prayed for long before we met. Selina shared that she didn't believe her future dreams could come true anymore after the loss of her arm and the ability to work in the garden to provide for her family. She had hoped for a mattress to sleep on, a poured concrete floor for her house, and a tin roof. Things that I take for granted each and every day are what she hoped to achieve someday in the future. Helen encouraged her to continue to trust in Jesus and that she would continue to learn to adapt to her new disability with time. Selina also shared the story of how she met her husband. I was able to hold Selina's hand while I prayed for her and her family, for their future and the Lord's

provision, with Abusa Francis translating. We have no photos of our visit, but I will not forget our time together."



Over the months leading up to the team trip, PPBC accepted the challenge of raising CAD \$45,000 to build a new school block for a church/community school that the Evangelical Baptist Church of Malawi (EBCM) is running in Liwonde. God's goodness through His people was overwhelming. Final count of funds that have come in for that building is just over CND \$60,000.00. Following the week in Chisomo, the team spent several days painting the first half of the newly built school block as well as all the rooms of the old school. What a difference that made!!

*Paul and Helen Jones,
International Director*

Uganda: Raising the Next Generation

In August, El Uganda was blessed to receive a team of seven wonderful brothers and sisters from Maranatha Church in Belleville, Ontario, Canada. Their purpose? To assist El Uganda in raising up the next generation of disciples who will make disciples of all nations.

The Maranatha team helped achieve this in two ways.

First, they helped us run the *Children for the Nations* day camp in six different locations, together with our Pader staff

and four dedicated church volunteers. Over the course of these six days, the seeds of mission were planted in the hearts of more than 2,000 precious children who attended.



This full-day program included short, engaging talks with practical demonstrations; activity stations that taught important biblical principles such as discipleship, teamwork, and gospel sharing through games; a station where children learned how to pray for the unreached; a craft station where they made cross necklaces; and a gospel booklet station where children practiced sharing the gospel using the colors found in the booklet and in their necklaces.

The **second way** was by joining in the renovation work of the multipurpose hall in Pader. This is the first step in building the *Shalom for Every Nation Discipleship (SEND) Centre*. The SEND Centre will be a place where local and cross-cultural disciple-makers are trained and sent out into their communities and to the unreached.





Maranatha stood behind this renovation in a big way. Prior to their arrival, we realized the renovation would be much more expensive than initially expected. Maranatha stepped up to the plate, and even while the team was on the ground, the church continued giving toward the project - bringing in a grand total of CAD \$12,000!

Each *Children for the Nations* day camp was special and unique in its own way. Perhaps the most memorable day was when the camp was held at a small rural church deep in a village called Lwala. The program was scheduled to start at 10:30 a.m.; however, due to delays in getting some of the students released by the Headmaster of a local primary school, it didn't begin until 1:30 p.m.

"Flexibility" was the word of the day (or maybe the week)! The team adapted beautifully, and nowhere else did we see the children more engaged or more clearly grasping the vision.

Even more exciting was that, in that village, about nine pastors not only attended the program but actively participated and got involved. We believe God used this program not only in the lives of the children but also in the lives of these church leaders, who will be able to carry the vision forward.

We praise God for the love and partnership of Maranatha Church in raising up the next generation of local and cross-cultural disciple-makers!

Mike and Marianne Botting, El Uganda Representatives

If your church or school is interested in a summer team, please contact us!

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