

PARTNER PLAN

David & Rebecca Morton - Malawi June 2018

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Dear All

We have returned to Nkhoma after a five week time in the USA for our son Sam's wedding. Although originally scheduled for three weeks, we needed an extra two weeks due to an emergency medical problem David developed on the flight from Malawi to Atlanta (on the Amsterdam to Atlanta flight). The issue is settled for now, though it will require further follow-up in December.



The wedding was wonderful with so many of our family able to be there in St Augustine, Florida for the event. After the wedding we spent three weeks with David's brother Paul and sister-in-law Becky in Chickamauga, Georgia at their home (Day Lilly Horse Farm), as Becky is a riding instructor. It was a very restful time to allow David to recover from his medical issue.

The flight back to Malawi was uneventful and we arrived the afternoon of May 23rd. The financial situation of the hospital has not changed, and although some funds were received from the Malawi government for Service Level Agreement payments, which covered the cost of medication purchase for May, we are still left with outstanding payments of over MK 60 million (\$83,000) through April. The cash flow problems also remain, with the hospital needing about \$20,000 to meet our expenses next week, without knowing as of today, where that will come from. The promised system of expediting the SLA payments is not yet in place. As we are still adjusting to the time zone changes with wakeful hours during the night, David has had that opportunity to pray for the Lord's provision. Please join us in these prayers, that the system will be fixed and the hospital can have a more regular income. Of course having these situations most months is a strong reminder that the work of Nkhoma Hospital belongs to the Lord and depends upon His provision.

A major answer to prayer is a replacement for Dr Terhaar, for the medical director position. The Terhaars will be leaving Nkhoma at the end of this week for a minimum of one year depending upon schooling issues for their two younger children. Dr Tim Fader with his wife Patty have arrived to cover the position of medical director for one year. Dr Fader is a retired missionary doctor with many years' experience in Africa and Asia, and spent four months at Nkhoma in 2016/17 to help set up the Family Medicine residency training program here. We look forward to working with Tim and ask that you pray for them, for the

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strength and wisdom they will need. Continue to pray for the hospital management team with this change.

Also, we have decided that we will finish our work at Nkhoma Hospital with our current contract which ends 31 December 2018. As we will be reporting back to the Church of Scotland before the contract ends, this means we will be leaving Malawi in mid-October. There is much for us to do to “end well” here, specifically in mentoring and handing over responsibilities. We need much prayer for this in setting our priorities, budgeting our time and being effective in equipping our Malawian fellow workers to take over our responsibilities.

Pray for all of our staff, that the Lord will work in their hearts and lives to enable them to understand their calling here to be faithful in serving with love and care, which is the motto of Nkhoma Hospital.

David and Rebecca
Nkhoma Malawi