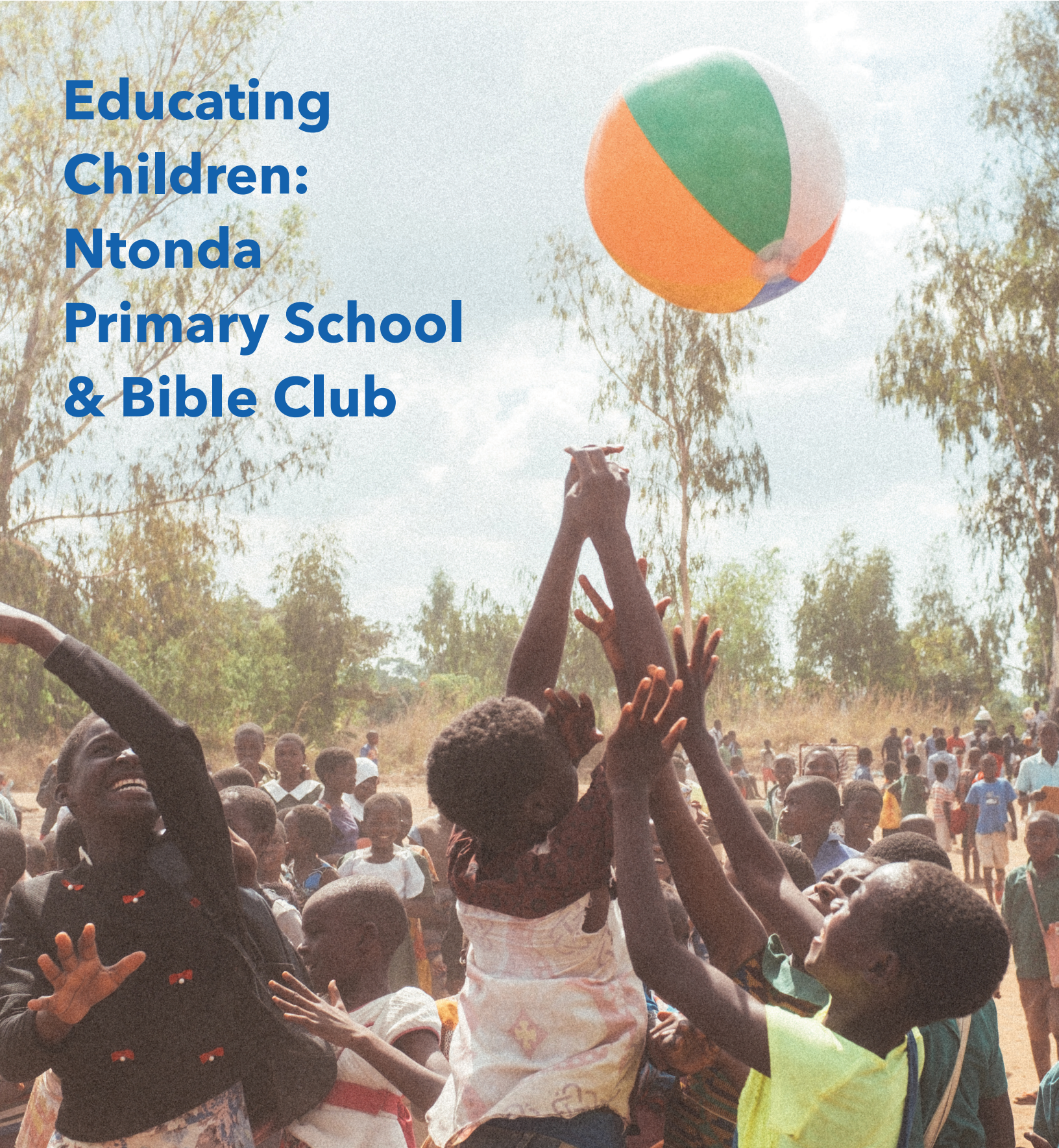




NAMIKANGO
MISSION

JUL-AUG
2021

**Educating
Children:
Ntonda
Primary School
& Bible Club**





The Ntonda Primary School

by Justine Hayes

It's eight a.m., and the air around the school already feels warm; the season is changing. Classrooms are packed with students as the term finishes, bodies eager to move and run, except for 152 students. These are the class 8 candidates, preparing to take the exams that will qualify them to complete their primary education, as well as to potentially enter High School (Secondary School).

In Malawi, Secondary Education is optional, available only to those selected based on their scores from the class 8 exam, and to those who can afford it or are offered an opportunity at a scholarship. Primary School Education is very important since it could be the only educational opportunity a student experiences, and it is the gateway to those who would like to pursue further education.

Ntonda Primary School is a partnership between the government, the community, and Namikango.

The government provides the school with teachers and a limited amount of supplies, Namikango helps with other school buildings and the Bible Club, and the parents provide additional support and services. The role of each of these players is crucial, in particular the involvement of the parents in the community. The school has a "School Management Committee," which is equivalent to a "PTA." The committee is made up of parents who represent the interests of all the parents, and they are the connection from the school to the community. While the majority of the students are on their "winter break," capable parents chosen by this committee are working hard to repair

cracks and do other small maintenance repairs on the school building.

The Ntonda Bible Club

Jailos has been the Ntonda Bible Club Teacher since 2007, when he came to join Namikango. He has continued to study the Bible at the same time he teaches it to the students. He has seen a lot of changes in the school, the community, and in himself since coming to Namikango. Most recently, Jailos is proud to say that



seven students were selected to go to secondary schools from the last class of class eight, including his own son. "Almost every year there is change in the community," Jailos says, "and our school is at the center." There are 12 other schools in the "Ntonda Zone," and a fierce competition exists amongst them to excel in academics.

The vision of Jailos' mission through the Bible Club is clear. "We want all learners at this school to know Jesus Christ," he says. He accomplishes this mainly through the telling of Bible Stories, singing together, and encouraging discussion through questions. In life, Jailos hopes that they can cling to the hope they have in God through Christ.

Would you please join us in praying for the Class 8 candidates as well as the teachers at the Ntonda School?

The Ntonda Bible Club

In response to social distancing measures, the Bible Club has been split into three sections instead of meeting at one time: Infant (Grades 1-2), Junior (Grades 3-4), and Senior (Grades 5-8). Out of these meetings, there are always students who show a particular interest in understanding the Bible more and will even come after school to ask more questions.

In particular, students find the miracles of Jesus compelling, and they often ask questions to understand better. For example, how is that Jesus walked on water but Peter sank? Though the questions differ from student to student, the Bible Club is a unique opportunity for students to become personally connected with faith-filled leaders and learn about the Love of Christ, no matter their religious background. Prisca and Weston are two of our students.



Prisca

Prisca Nafota will soon take her Class 8 examination. She is thankful to be part of the Bible Club because she has learned about the Love of Jesus in a new way, having attended Ntonda since she began Primary School in Standard one. Her favorite Bible verse is John 14:1-4, and she wants to be a journalist in the future.



Weston

Weston Suwedi has been at the Ntonda school since Standard one. He has a deep love for the Bible Club and is very observant with his questions. His favorite part about the Bible Club is singing together and listening to the Word of God, which has helped develop his passion to be a teacher or pastor in the future.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

John 14:1-4



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Namikango Mission 60th Anniversary

Lubbock Christian University
October 23, 2021
6:00 p.m.

**Come celebrate the faithfulness of God over the last 60 years in Malawi
with former missionaries, board members and other partners!**

Join us for dinner, awards, and other highlights!

\$25 per person

Please register online at lcu.edu/calendar/namikango

