



NAMIKANGO
MISSION

DEC
2022



**Empowering African communities through
Christ-centered transformation**



Malawi Ministry Update

by Jonathan Wynne

Annual Namikango Staff Retreat

Our annual staff retreat took place November 17-18 at Venice Lodge in Monkey-Bay, Mangochi. The theme of the retreat centered around Christian Leadership. Thirty-nine members of the Namikango staff – including Clinic operations, Ntonda Primary School, Ministry leaders and Junior staff – were in attendance. The retreat was a large success. On behalf of all Namikango staff who participated, we are thankful for your support toward this event.

Planting a New Congregation

Some of our staff team traveled to Central Malawi for evangelism. God led us in planting a new congregation in the Ntcheu District, located in the central region of Malawi. Namikango worked together with local brethren in the district to preach the Gospel in villages where no active church was present. After a few days of working together, several gladly received the invitation of the Gospel and were baptized into Christ.

2023 Planning Meetings

As we come to the close of the year, the Namikango leadership has decided to hold planning and budgeting meetings for activities of the next fiscal year. Every department at Namikango Mission will list their business objectives for 2023, including the details of how they plan to maintain these goals on a month-to-month basis. It is the Advisory Committee's role to determine and execute budget goals to maintain donor confidence and enhance employee morale and trust.

DTI Students Nearing Graduation

The Namikango campus has become eerily silent as our DTI students have made their way back home. We highly anticipate their return as we complete the final term of course work in February... and then toward the graduation of our first cohort! This is an exciting achievement for all, but none are more thrilled and deserving than our Namikango scholars. They have persisted through a rigorous two-year academic and contemplative program, one of transformation that will undoubtedly bear unmeasurable fruit in the years to come within Malawi.



Staff learning at annual retreat

Lendal and Peggy Wilks

by B. Shelburne

I first met Lendal in the 1950s when he came to Kerrville, Texas for Bible training. He was always a fun guy. He used to play his ukulele and sing, “Good night Irene, good night Irene, I’ll see you in my dreams.”

But it was Peggy whom Lendal married in 1958. They served at Namikango Mission 1964-72 and 1977-2005, altogether 36 years. Ruth and I were blessed to work alongside them for 11 of those years. In 2006, they were honored by Abilene Christian University for their long and distinguished missionary service.

Things that marked Lendal and Peggy are their quiet humility, positivity, and steady dependability. They never sought glory for themselves and they were congenial co-workers. I cannot remember a single conflict with them.

As Americans they did not look down on the Malawians. Many of the people they worked with were poor with little education. But as Jesus would have done, Lendal and Peggy treated Malawians with respect and became involved in their lives. The Wilkses themselves lived simply. Lendal had his own garden alongside fields of the Malawian staff. Late afternoons he could be found bent over with a short African-style hoe, cultivating his peanuts.

There was much poverty and illness. Lendal and Peggy helped uncountable people during their time in Malawi. Sometimes people asked more than we could do. Church leaders often wanted us to do things the church needed to do for itself. Lendal could say no without antagonizing people. He was able to quietly listen. He had a sense of humor that diffused tension during difficult discussions. Those disagreeing with his decisions still respected him.

Lendal jumped right into learning the Chichewa language and became fluent in it over time. This, plus frequent times spent with village churches, greatly enhanced his relationship with the Malawians.

As for Peggy, I have never known any missionary wife more completely united with her husband in their missionary purpose. She loved Malawi and was genuinely happy there. Peggy studied scripture and homecrafts with Malawian women. She helped at the maternity clinic and did mission bookkeeping and other computer work. A special ward at the mission’s maternity clinic was named for Peggy.

Lendal’s steady perseverance enabled him to prepare



materials for his classes and finish administrative tasks. He liked to be up early, to “get that bed off his back.” Every day he met with the mission staff for the 7:00 AM devotional and then headed for his office. Toward the end of their service there, Peggy developed heart problems and Lendal, like the apostle Paul, had eye trouble, but they kept returning to the field.

Lendal was Biblically conservative, but he also believed in being graciously tolerant with those who disagreed with him on disputable issues. He strongly believed in seeking the unity Jesus prayed for.

Lendal and Peggy were loved by the Malawians and are still fondly remembered. And, finally, Lendal has permanently gotten the bed off his back.





NAMIKANGO MISSION
PO Box 16528
Lubbock, TX 79490

NONPROFIT ORG US
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 764
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79424

connect with us

BEN HAYES – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ben@namikango.org

ROBERT LEE – PRESIDENT
720-998-2066

 namikango.org

 facebook.com/NamikangoMission/

 linkedin.com/company/namikango

 [namikango_mission](https://instagram.com/namikango_mission)

*Merry Christmas
from all of us at Namikango!*

And there is still time left in the year to give a Christmas Gift to Namikango!
Your continued partnership with us will propel us into 2023.

