

## **ORBUS MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA**

Newsletter - December 2017





















"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18

Orbus Ministries Australia Inc. is a Christian volunteer charity which exists to demonstrate the love of God through word and deed to the poor and vulnerable. The Orbus Centre in Daniel Village, Ngumbe, Blantyre, Malawi is a joint mission between Orbus Australia, the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Blantyre Synod and the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (Australia). We invite you to visit the Orbus Australia website at <a href="https://www.OrbusMinistries.org">www.OrbusMinistries.org</a>, <a href="https://www.OrbusMinistries.org">Facebook</a> page and to visit the Orbus Centre in Malawi.

## The Orbus Mission Secondary School

Having been built and established between May 29<sup>th</sup> through to September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, receiving government approval on September 20<sup>th</sup> and starting Form 1 classes on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the CCAP *Orbus Mission Secondary School* successfully completed its first term of operation at the end of December. From these small beginnings we are hopeful that God will grow the school to become a full secondary school and educate and bless young Malawians, including orphans and vulnerable children, over many years.













Above photos: The CCAP Orbus Mission Secondary School, Form 1 students, teachers and supporters. November 2017

## **Brief News - October to December 2017:**

PresAID, the overseas aid and development arm of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, generously funded a solar water pump project for Orbus which was completed by a local solar contractor in November 2017. The project included the drilling of a well, the installation of a solar powered pump, with the solar panels placed on top of the police houses, which pumps water up to two elevated tanks which then gravity feed the water into the Orbus buildings and taps.









The PresAID funded solar water project is now operational providing free water.

Having extended our stay my family and I returned to Australia in late November. We thoroughly enjoyed overseeing this exciting next stage of development at Orbus, the completion of a full primary school (with the starting of Std 8 in September), the construction, establishment and start of the Orbus Mission Secondary School, setting up the boarding house, receiving the first boarders, working closely with Moses, Lameck, Orbus teachers and staff, local churches and the CCAP Blantyre Synod. It was a very busy but very rewarding time since we arrived in late May.

We praise God for how Orbus has developed since 2010 when the first nursery class started. With approx. 480 students, 23 teachers and staff, with four teachers and their families and three police families living on site, and the small-scale farm now providing for the boarders, the Orbus Centre is becoming a bustling hive of activity.

What is next? God willing, 2018 will see the completion of the  $2^{nd}$  secondary classroom building (started  $7^{th}$  August 2017) and hopefully a new boarding house building to expand the number of fee-paying boarders from the beginning of the new school year in September 2018.

Following are a selection of photos to show some of the other activity at Orbus recently. Further photos are available to <u>view online</u>.





















pont let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the you are young, but set in conduct, in love, in faith and believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

"To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice." Proverbs 21:3























"Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out." Proverbs 10:9

## **Prayer Requests:**

- Give thanks for the start of Std 8 on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017, making Orbus a full primary school.
- For the establishment and start of the *Orbus Mission Secondary School* on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
- For all donors.
- Pray for financial self-sustainability for the Orbus Centre.
- For planning for 2018.
- Please pray for the millions of children who suffer through the extreme poverty and struggles in Malawi.
- For the children attending the Orbus Centre to put their trust in Jesus.
- For the provision of the children's material needs.
- Pray for the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian Blantyre Synod leadership: Rev. Alex Maulana, Rev. Moyenda Kanjerwa, Rev. Masauko Mbolembole, Rev. Miriam Chipeta-Banda and for Education Secretary Moses Kasitomu.
- Give thanks for the Orbus teachers, staff and volunteers in Malawi.

In Jesus,

Craig Manners

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"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the cause of the widow." (Isaiah 1:17)





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