

Chikondi ONE HEART ANGELS Orphanage

December 2014

Community Newsletter



Merry Christmas

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very merry Christmas. We hope this holiday season brings you love, happiness and joy and finds you surrounded by family and friends. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season from all of us at Chikondi.

Christmas in Malawi



Christmas in Malawi is celebrated differently than how many of us celebrate in Canada. Malawi is a deeply Christian country so most of the day is spent in church. Christmas is not about presents, Santa, Christmas decorations or big turkey dinners with all the trimmings. On Christmas day people will spend extra time grooming and dress in their best clothes, usually saved for special occasions like this. They will then head to church for a joyful sermon that includes the Christ child Christmas story, prophesising, singing and dancing.

Going to church is about being together, uplifting one another and to appreciate the goodness of God and his many blessings. The church is a humble place and not ornate like the churches in Canada. The day is very much about visiting and spending time with loved ones. Often the children of Chikondi will be visited by family and friends so the orphanage opens its doors to welcome visitors in celebrating the holiday. The day is also about food. The very best that can be afforded will be cooked and shared with everyone. A typical Christmas meal will be deep fried chicken and rice served with salad and pop, usually Fanta. Sugar and sweets are an expensive luxury but if they can afford it people will make a desert like sweet potato cookies or banana fritters. Sweet fruits like mango and banana might also be served for dessert. Each child at the orphanage will receive a special Christmas gift this year.

The Children's Christmas Wish

Christmas trees are a rare luxury in Malawi. Real trees are unavailable and artificial trees, even the most basic ones, are hard to find. The children of Chikondi are wishing for a Christmas tree this year. With your help we can raise the \$300 needed to buy a tree so that the children can enjoy it this year and for many years to come. We have already raised \$75 and it is possible to reach this goal before the 25th. If you would like to help make this Christmas wish come true please contact Angela Nauta by cell phone at 1-778-679-5683 or by email at angelanauta@shaw.ca.

