

SU MALAWI BRP EYES 300 CHURCHES IN 2023

By Sylviah Chisi

Bible Reading Promotion (BRP) to people of all ages in families, schools and churches is a major thrust of Scripture Union (SU) Ministry. In carrying out this, primary activities include two main tasks.

Firstly, the writing and publication of various Bible Reading aids in different forms and languages for various age groups.

Secondly, promotion of Bible reading to the various prospective users with the goal of encouraging them to meet God daily through the Bible and Prayer.

On the second activity which is promotion of Bible reading, Scripture union goal this year is to reach to 300 churches across the nation by the end of June this year.

"In December 2022, we trained about 50 Bible Reading Promoters to equip them with skills on how they can conduct BRP to different churches," said Amon Chanika, National Director for SU Malawi.

Chanika further hailed churches that have opened doors for SU Malawi to do BRP in their churches.

"So far, we have managed to reach 48 churches countrywide; that is 18 in Blantyre, 20 in Lilongwe and 10 in Liwonde. This is an indication that reaching 300 churches throughout Malawi by June this year is very much possible," he concluded.



Bible Reading Promoters after Training

Prayer/Praise Items

- Thank God for the opportunities opening in churches for BRP.
- Community Group 1 (CG1) online meeting for National Directors on 16 March and Chairpersons on 18 March.
- Pray that a trainer should be identified soon for a Bible writers refresher course and training scheduled for March 2023

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SU Malawi National Chairman Roosevelt Gondwe (R) handed over reading notes to Malawi President Lazarus Chakwera (L)

SU TAKES BIBLE READING PROMOTION TO STATE HOUSE

By Sylviah Chisi

Prior to the 50th anniversary celebrations last year, Scripture Union (SU) Malawi leadership had an audience with the State President Reverend Dr Lazarus Chakwera at State house premises in July last year.

"We took advantage of that briefing meeting with the State President over our anniversary to even do Bible Reading Promotion at State house," said Amon Chanika, National Director for SU Malawi.

In his remarks, President of the Republic of Malawi Reverend Dr Lazarus Chakwera thanked SU for the reading materials and said there should be an initiative to have the notes spread to many civil servants.

"Thank you for bringing these notes to the State house, I will find a way of ensuring that these notes are also distributed to other departments," he said.

Currently, SU Malawi is to discuss with Presidential Advisor on Religious affairs on possible ways of making SU resources available to government departments.



Sunday School Training at Waliranji-Mchinji

WORLD VISION PARTNERS SU IN TRAINING SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

By Sylviah Chisi

World Vision Malawi engaged Scripture Union (SU) Malawi to train 70 Sunday School teachers from Likasi and Bua-Mtete Area Programmes in Mchinji district.

The teachers were trained on how to conduct Sunday School lessons with specific focus on 17 stories.

"Children learn through visual so they can easily link a story to a picture. 17 stories is a book that has pictures for each Bible story making it easy for children to enjoy learning," explained Amon Chanika, National Director for SU Malawi.

"We also trained them on how they can help a child to receive Jesus Christ, and we trained them to have a picture of what the Salvation plan is all about using a book called the Big story of God," he added.

The training was conducted from 20 to 23 February 2023 and participants were given an opportunity to practice what they learnt. They were also taught songs that have Bible verses because children love music and this can be used as a tool to attract children.

"I was more impressed with the part where I demonstrated what I learnt. I have attended trainings before, but the practical aspect was lacking in most of them," said one participant.

MORE CHURCHES WELCOMING BRP IN MALAWI

By Sylviah Chisi

National Director for SU Malawi, Amon Chanika says there has been an increase in the number of churches opening up to Scripture Union (SU) Of Malawi's Bible Reading Promotion (BRP) program. He specifically mentioned Katate CCAP for engaging SU Malawi for more of BRP program.

"While the trend has been that churches allocate SU some time to conduct BRP inside their Church services, Katate CCAP opened up a whole week from 12 to 17 February for SU Malawi to teach the importance of studying the Word of God in addition to inviting us to preach on Sunday 12 February during their two main services," narrated Amon Chanika, National Director for SU Malawi.

During the main services, SU Malawi reached about 700 people and 55 people every day during the week SU was allocated time.

"The most exciting thing was to see people braving rains to attend the trainings. There was also special offering to SU from the church," added Chanika.

The activities ended with Evangelism on 25 February where people were given an opportunity to practice what they have been taught. 26 people participated in the evangelism and over 90 people were reached of which over 60 received Christ. Katate CCAP resident Pastor, Reverend Augustine Kalulu could not hide his excitement.

"I am very grateful to SU Malawi for being able to come and equip the church because I believe the church must be conversant with the Word of God and must be ready to share that knowledge with others," he said.

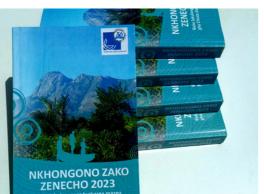
SU Malawi had been able to reach 20 churches in January in Central Division alone. Area 18 Assemblies of God (Dunamis Worship Centre) is one of the churches that gave special offerings towards SU work.



BRP Training at Katate CCAP

£5,000 FROM PCI FOR VERNACULAR NOTES DEVELOPMENT

By Sylviah Chisi



To be promoted: Nkhongono zako Zenecho

Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) has pumped in £5,000 to SU Malawi to be used for training writers of vernacular (Chichewa and chitumbuka) reading notes and for promoting Nkhongono zako zenecho.

"We are very grateful to PCI for the support. We will use this money to conduct a refresher course for current writers and also to conduct trainings for new recruits. Because of COVID-19, writers in Malawi had been dormant so this will go a long way in reviving the work and even taking on board other people who can replace some who stopped writing," said Amon Chanika, National Director for SU Malawi.

According to Chanika, things change and refresher courses help people with up-to-date skills. It will also boost sales and users of Nkhongono zako zenecho, a Tumbuka version of Daily Power, thereby sustaining the ministry.

