



A Place of Refuge and Hope

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ORPHAN CARE PROJECT ° MALAWI, CENTRAL AFRICA
miqlat.com

The Retailers Aren't the Only Ones Thinking About

Christmas in November

We at Miqlat are also thinking about how we can bless the children during the upcoming Christmas season. In Malawi, as in the U.S. in centuries past, gift giving is usually an opportunity to try to supplement practical needs that didn't fit into the yearly "household" budget. This year, we believe the greatest need is to purchase a new blanket for each child.



Contrary to popular belief, all of Africa isn't blazing hot and tropical. In Blantyre, Malawi, where our Miqlat Hope Centers are based, the climate is actually much like San Diego... mostly mild on both the hot and cold ends. But even in So Cal, we look forward to snuggling in a pile of blankets at night. For most of your sponsored children, bed is a grass mat on a dirt floor under an often leaky roof in a mud hut. The blanket you buy them is their only bedding and will be a hugely welcomed blessing. It can be purchased with an extra donation of \$15 sent with your November or December support. (Please label it as such.) Thank you for your love and generosity at this very special time of year!



Contacting Your Sponsored Child



Each time one of our children receives a note from their U.S. sponsor, there is much celebration and joy. Many of their friends gather around as the facilitators translate your messages of love. We are trying to make this as easy as possible for you, so if you would like to write a note of encouragement to your kiddo, all you need to do is send an email

addressed to foxyafricanmama@gmail.com and put your child's name on the subject line. Don't forget, you can also attach a photo or two along with your message. It will then be printed out and delivered to your youngster. Thanks so much!



First graders learning English for the first time!

Balancing the Hope Center Families



There's a great family feeling at the Hope Centers these days as the age-range of the children has been gradually balancing out at both ends. We've had the privilege of retaining more of the older children as the promise of a good education and a better future has encouraged more of them to stay in school and work hard. Thanks to your sponsorship, we've also been able to bring in a significant number of younger ones, some of whom have now entered Miqlat Primary School. What a joy to see how all that has been impacting the daily activities at the Centers. There are big brothers to help with some of the "manly" tasks, big sisters to work with the cooks serving food in the kitchen, and now a first grade class of kids who have never been to school before already learning English – and in some cases, speaking better than their older siblings! And though they push and shove and tease and chase each other, generally stirring up quite a ruckus, I believe we'd all agree that's child-speak for "I love you!" and there are no better words to be shared within a family, regardless of how they're communicated!



Mentors!



Construction helpers!



More help!



The Miracle of Mercy – Part 2

The other day as I was working at the Hope Center, one of the facilitators (child care workers) tugged at my arm with some urgency saying I HAD to come outside to see someone immediately. I resisted briefly, then gave in and was led to meet a vibrant young mother smiling so broadly that she could not contain herself so she kept breaking into a giggle. Not recognizing her, I asked who she was and was told she was Mercy, the mother of three of our sponsored children, whom we had found on the floor of her hut, too weak even to lift her head, a few months ago. You can check out the whole story in the June newsletter, but after some months of quality treatment for her tuberculosis (exacerbated by her HIV positive condition – often a sure death sentence here), she has been fully restored to health! We are so grateful to the Lord and our Seventh Day Adventist medical missionary friends. I love their motto – "God heals, we care."

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