

Volker and JinHyeog Glissmann

Location: **Blantyre, MALAWI**

Mission: **Theological education**



Based in Malawi, Volker is involved in developing TEE – theological education by extension – in Southern Africa. He is actively involved in preparing quality self-study material for two of PCI's partners, TEEM (Theological Education by Extension in Malawi) in Zomba, Malawi and TEEC (Theological Education by Extension College) in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Covid19 and Malawi and Presidential Elections

Covid19 arrived much later in Africa than it did in the rest of the world. The first case was diagnosed on the 2nd of April here in Malawi. At the end of April there 36 cases in total with 3 death and 5 people who recovered from the virus. Life continues mostly normally here though the schools are closed at least for the last six weeks. Church services are limited to 50 people. The virus was found predominantly in those traveling into Malawi from within Africa (South Africa and Tanzania) and from outside the continent. At the moment there are no international flights to Malawi. Though the last 16 cases were all in a township in Lilongwe, the capital. A lockdown is very difficult as about 80% of the population live hand to mouth without savings to sustain them during a lockdown.

In February, the constitutional court annulled the May 2019 presidential election because of irregularities. In the last election the president and his party were re-elected.

MAY 2020

The re-run of the presidential election was scheduled for the end of May but with the Corona virus and a potential lock down of all social activities there are certain questions that dominate the political discussion in the country. The main opposition parties have also formed a coalition and now - jointly – have a good chance of success in the election. These two – related – issues are occupying our minds here.

Family Life

We are all well and healthy. The children's school went early into the online mode and now also the primary school where Jinhyeog teaches is delivering their learning through the internet. All of us work from home at the moment. The biggest challenge is for our oldest daughter who was preparing to write her A Level exams in May 2020 but they were cancelled. There is a lot of uncertainty with how the final grades will be awarded and if universities will run normally in September with face to face teaching. Overall, a lot of uncertainty.

Knowing Jesus final revision

Just a few days ago, the final copy of the Knowing Jesus workbook (2 workbooks with 163 and 141 pages) were submitted to the All Africa TEE Association (AATEEA) and some can be used by TEE programs across the continent.

Prayer Points

- For Malawi: a peaceful and fair election and that the results will be accepted by everyone.
- Health and protection from Covid19.
- Pray for our oldest daughter, her A Levels and clarity about universities.
- Praise the Lord that I was able to finally submit the Knowing Jesus course. May it be a of use to other programs in Africa.