



ORBUS MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

March 2015 Newsletter



“He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.” Psalm 146:7-9

Orbus Ministries Australia Inc. is a Christian not-for-profit volunteer charity which exists to demonstrate the love of God through word and deed to the weak and vulnerable. The Orbus Centre in Ngumbe, Blantyre, Malawi is a joint project between Orbus Australia, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (Australia) and the CCAP Blantyre Synod. We invite you to visit the Orbus Australia website at www.OrbusMinistries.org, to view the [Orbus Photo Albums](#) and to visit the Orbus Centre in Malawi.

News Update- March 2015:

General News:

Floods: According to the World Bank, Malawi is now the poorest country in the world. The country's many struggles have been added to in 2015 with the annual rainy season bringing more than the usual amount of rain, causing floods in some parts of the country. Some lives have been lost, homes and livelihoods devastated. Although the floods have subsided, the consequences continue to be felt, with the loss of crops and an increase in water-related diseases spreading. The Orbus Centre was spared any damage from the floods but crops have been affected.

Friends of Malawi gathering in Melbourne: "An invitation has been issued by the Right-Reverend David Brown, Mrs Roslyn Brown and the congregation at Cheltenham as follows: In view of the partnership between the Presbyterian Church of Australia (PCV) and the Blantyre Synod of the CCAP (Church of Central Africa- Presbyterian) you are warmly invited to an afternoon with the Moderator of the PCV and his wife, following their visit to Malawi in January, including an update with visuals on Orbus."

Sunday, 12th April, 2pm, at Pioneers Presbyterian Church in Cheltenham.

Orbus Centre, Malawi:

Plans are underway for the construction of a new classroom building at the Orbus Centre. It is hoped that final approval will be forthcoming and that construction will be able to begin in April 2015. The plan is to build a new building with two classrooms, an office, storage room and three toilets.



The Orbus Centre in 2014. It is hoped that a new classroom building will be built in 2015.

It is planned that the building will be completed, new desks made and a new teacher employed, so that a new Grade 6 class can begin in September 2015 (being the start of their school year).

Would you like to visit the Orbus Centre in 2015? Anyone wanting to visit the Orbus Centre, either just as a visitor or as a volunteer for a short period is welcome to do so. A good time to visit in 2015 is between mid-April and mid-September, as an Australian representative will be in Blantyre. Please contact craig.manners@orbusministries.org if you are interested.

"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." 2 Corinthians 9:12-13 (NIV)

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, the Right-Reverend David Brown and Mrs Roslyn Brown visited the Orbus Centre in Malawi in January 2015. They have kindly provided the following photos and issued the invitation above.



Orbus House, Australia:

Orbus House in the south-eastern area of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia: Is a short-term residential program home for young women facing crisis pregnancy situations where they can be cared for and supported. It started in December 2013 and is a partnership with *The Babes Project* providing an alternative choice for women, with the practical support they need to be able to have and keep their babies, or if need be to help find loving homes for the babies if they cannot care for them.

The first mother to be accommodated has graduated from the house with her baby boy, and the second Orbus House baby was born in February. The mother of the new baby left home when her parents booked her in for an abortion and were forcing her to terminate. After fleeing she found temporary housing. It was this housing organisation who contacted The Babes Project who placed her in the Orbus House residential care program.

On her baby's safe arrival the mother passed on the following message to Orbus: "Thank you for making this so special."

Praise God for these precious moments.

Orbus Finances:

For only approximately A\$82 per day, our community in Australia is helping to educate 228 underprivileged children; feeding them a nutritious meal five-days-a-week; funding the employment of 14 local teachers and staff (thereby supporting 14 local families in the poorest country in the world); generally providing an economic boost through the local economy; and most importantly helping to make sure these children and their families hear about Jesus.

All this is done with practically no administration fees at the Australian end (only bank transfer fees).

Donations can be made:

By cheque:

South Yarra Presbyterian Church-Orbus Contra A/C
PO Box 9007
South Yarra
Victoria 3141
AUSTRALIA

By Electronic Funds Transfer:

Bank: Bank of Melbourne
A/C Name: Orbus Ministries Australia Inc.
BSB: 333 038
Account No: 553 913 774

Please email us on admin@orbusministries.org with the details of your donation so we can follow it up.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for Malawi, especially the millions of children who suffer through the extreme corruption and related poverty and struggles.
- For relief and recovery after the floods.
- For the plans to build a new classroom building and start a Grade 6 class.
- For each of the children attending the Orbus Centre to put their trust in Jesus.
- For the provision of the children's material needs.
- Give thanks for the Moderator and Mrs Brown's recent visit to Malawi.



So many people think solely of their own desires. They don't care who they hurt in order to gratify themselves. Man has an enormous capacity for egotism, self-absorption, and regard for their own interest over those of others. "Self-aggrandizement is at the foundation of so much of the misery of the world. It is the reason the powerful and the rich are indifferent to the plight of the poor. It is the reason for most of the violence, crime, and warfare in the world. It is at the heart of most cases of family disintegration." Timothy Keller

Web: www.OrbusMinistries.org Email: admin@orbusministries.org