

Volker and JinHyeog Glissmann

Location: **Blantyre, MALAWI**

Mission: **Theological education**



The Glissmanns are living in Malawi. Jinhyeog is involved in a local Primary School as a music teacher. Volker works off-campus as a programme developer for TEEC, the Theological Education by Extension College in Johannesburg, South Africa, and does grassroots theological training in Malawi.

Pastors and Pastors' Wives Conference

In this month's bulletin, I would like to share a bit more about what is happening here in Blantyre. I hope that this might help you see both the similarities and differences in ministry in Malawi.

A ministry here in Blantyre had asked me to help with their pastors' and pastors' wives' conference, which was held at the end of June in Blantyre. I know the organisers, who are Ugandan missionaries working here in Blantyre. It is a three-day conference to help local pastors reflect on areas of their own ministry. The organising committee, which includes pastors from Blantyre, examined real-life issues affecting the pastoral ministry in urban and semi-urban Blantyre and invited speakers to help think through these issues.



The conference looks at urban and rural mission/evangelism and church growth, the pastor as disciple, the pastor and the leadership maze (deacon boards, elders board and pastoral teams), discipleship in local churches, faith and culture – navigating cultural and actual practises on inheritance and how it effects widows and the children, family matters – the importance of the pastor and his family, the pastor and church finance – best practice, the pastor and poverty and food insecurity in their local church and community, the pastor and social justice – domestic violence, church disciple, pastoral succession planning and – in light of the upcoming presidential elections in September 2025 – the pastor and partisan politics. Every presentation was followed by a 30-minute "Question & Answer." The conference was very lively, with numerous discussions related to multiple areas of ministry.

Prayer Points

- Join us in thanking God for the Pastors and Pastors' Wives conference and the good discussions that followed.
- Pray for the ongoing course writing and discussions about what courses are most needed by different people.
- Please continue to pray for the health and safety of the whole family.