



CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS 2025

The gift that truly keeps on giving!

This year's Christmas gift card appeal is now launched and the form is overleaf. The Christmas appeal is now in its seventeenth year and has raised over £90,000 since 2009 to support frontline projects in Malawi. For those who it's new to, the concept is very simple and gives you the chance to send someone a "gift voucher" card, which will support our partner congregations in the Thyolo Highlands of Malawi. Simply choose how much you'd like to donate, fill in the form and we will send you a lovely Christmas card / certificate (with envelope) acknowledging the donation so you can gift it to a friend. Alternatively, we can post it directly to them saying that the donation has been made by you on their behalf. All forms must be received by Monday 8th December and cards will be posted on Tuesday 9th December (two weeks prior to Christmas) unless you request them earlier, in which case we will send as soon as possible (from early November). If you wish to send outwith the UK please ask for the card to be delivered to yourself. If you want it to be sent to different people it would help if you could complete a separate form for each one (copies are fine) or make the instructions very clear. Please just call the number on the back of the form if you've any queries ... and, as always - thank you very much for your continued support.



Orkney - Malawi Partnership



A donation has been made on your behalf by

Betty & Fred Smith

to support the work of our Malawian partners
in the Thyolo Highlands Presbytery

Projects prioritised by our Malawian partners this Christmas season include:
ongoing upgrades to "St. Magnus Secondary School"
and introduction of a bursary scheme to assist the most disadvantaged pupils
essential building renovations throughout the Thyolo area
self-help income-generating projects to support community infrastructure and social ministry
ongoing installation of community boreholes providing accessible clean water
amongst others

zikomo kwambiri
thank you very much

This issue is largely taken up with the current Christmas appeal, which is now running through the new Orkney Islands Parish account and is in the careful hands of our Treasurer, Caroline Butterfield.

We have recently received a thorough and substantial report from our Malawian partners, which details the stage of many current projects, outlines the most pressing needs and lists many opportunities for us to make a positive difference. There is the usual and commendable hope for income generating projects to help achieve development targets and to reduce reliance on outside financial help. The report is far too hefty to include in this newsletter but we will be very happy to forward it to anyone if you contact us at the address below.

Kelvin Matola (Partnership Co-ordinator and author of the report) writes: *"Warm Christian greetings from Thyolo Highlands Presbytery to our brothers and sisters in Orkney. We continue to cherish the bond of partnership and the faithful support you have extended to us over the years, which has greatly contributed to the growth of our congregations, infrastructure and educational institutions ... Your faithful support over the years has transformed many communities ... We extend our deep appreciation."*

The Orkney-Malawi Partnership Committee currently comprises Sally Bartkowiak, Caroline Butterfield, June Freeth, Iain MacDonald, Catriona Matheson, Liz McVicar, Elma Moar and James Watson. For details about the Partnership Committee's work or how to donate to any project please speak to any of the above or contact Iain on imacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk / 01857-677357.

If you'd like to support this year's Malawi Christmas Gift project,
(details overleaf) please complete this form
(separate details for each person if you wish us to post the gift cards)
and post or e-mail to the address below by **8th December**.

Your name :Your address :

.....

.....Postcode :
essential for Gift Aid

Your phone number (in case we need to contact you about this) :
your details won't be shared with anyone.

Amount you wish to donate (in whole pounds) : £
cheques should be made out to "Orkney Islands Parish" or bank transfer as below.

Name of person you wish the card(s) to be sent to :
just write "self" if you want it sent to you at the above address.

Address you wish the card(s) to be sent to :
if different from the address above.

.....

.....Postcode:

Number of cards you require if more than one :

Tick box if you want us to state the value of your gift on the card(s)? ☐
ie. "A gift to the value of £x has been made on your behalf by ..."



Please tick as appropriate:

I wish the card(s) to be sent as soon as possible ☐

or

I wish the card(s) to be posted on Tuesday 9th December ☐



I have enclosed a cheque made out to "Orkney Islands Parish" for the amount above ☐

Or

I have transferred the above amount to the account number 00833489 / sort - 80 08 66
and marked it "Malawi" ☐

I am a UK tax payer and I wish this donation to be treated as Gift Aid ☐

Signature :Date :
if giving by Gift-Aid if giving by Gift-Aid

send to The Manse, Hildavale, Westray, Orkney KW17 2DW
Further details from Iain on 01857-677357 or imacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk

Remember - deadline for forms is 8th December

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Orkney Islands Parish is a charity registered in Scotland SC003099