

MELT Strengthens Partnerships

Trip number 16 in the Books

People ask, "What draws you back to Malawi?" My initial response is always the same, "the people." I have traveled to Malawi 16 times, beginning in 2008. By the time the plane touches down in the US, I am in-gear planning my return.

During the 2026 trip, our first stop was to PrintCare in Lilongwe to meet with the owners and employees. This company can print MELT books right in Malawi!

Carol Stevens, MELT secretary, and I spent the first three weeks in June forming new partnerships and strengthening the old with teachers and in schools.

We were honored to lead a workshop for nearly 30 teachers at the MELT Central Library in Mzuzu. We used this time to give the teachers Story Time Kit experiences, work with new publications of early readers, and pilot the Puppet Project. We learned, we laughed, we sang, we learned some more. These resourceful, intelligent, compassionate educators remain in our hearts when we travel home. All this was made possible by generous donors - thank you!

We gained a sponsor partner right in Mzuzu with Lusayo Stationery & General Suppliers, a woman-owned business where we do much of our shopping for classroom materials. One such item being boxes of chalk. The teachers erupted in cheers when told they would each receive a box of chalk! They take *nothing* for granted. She proudly displays the MELT sponsor certificate and donated boxes of chalk with each order!

School visits are always a favorite portion of our time in Malawi. We had great fun in classrooms co-teaching with teachers who had just

completed their first MELT training. How wonderful to have a group of teachers we have worked with since 2012 partnered with new, young energy!

The MELT2 served us well as we traveled the worst paths and roads I have experienced since 2010. The rainy season was brutal, and no road machine has made its way North to grate the dirt paths connecting rural villages to the M1.

Traveling South, we spent a day in Mzimba village meeting with teacher representatives from the remote schools in that region. The teachers selected a young energetic teacher, Senzeni Moyo, to navigate meetings, book delivery schedules, and distribution of basic classroom materials.

We focused on meeting with each level of administration, working our way right up to the Minister of Education in Lilongwe. He was pleased we had taken the time to meet with the PEA, CPEA, CEO, before arriving in his office. Phew, ask me if you see me and I will explain! All I can say is we have similar hierarchy in the US. The Honorable Bright Msaka, Minister of Education, Science, and Technology was impressed with the books MELT publishes. He went on to add his appreciation for the attention to detail in subjects familiar to Malawian children, to skills aligned to the National Reading Program, and to the teacher trainings MELT provides. We even received an invitation to a National Conference in mid-July! A big step for MELT!

We are back in the US working on new publications, and classroom material ideas from the teachers. We are grateful to all who keep our programs strong! Thank you. Learn more at www.MELT.Africa.

MELT, Inc. Successful 2026 Teacher Training Trip



MELT2 headed to a school



MELT2 delivers to
Mosanto Primary School



Kaligomba - difficult to travel to,
but oh, what a view!



Teachers' meeting - Mzimba



Teachers at St. Luke School



Choir Member,
Timothy, stayed with
me in 2007.



Crayon Love
2026



Beautiful Home
1st Book printed
in Malawi



Providing books
& crayons to
children



Vinyl Word
Posters - a
teacher favorite
wash n dry!



Puppet Project
2026



'26 Workshop
teacher learns
she's in a new
book!



2026 Team in Malawi



Print Care, Lilongwe - printers for MELT books and posters



Lusayo Stationery - MELT Sponsor



Local Store is a MELT Sponsor



Senzeni Moyo Mzimba
Lead Representative



Ministry of Education - Hon. Bright
Msaka and team