

# PROFILE



## **BLAIR AND VIVIAN BERTRAND MALAWI**

*Presbyterians Sharing* supports the Rev. Dr. Blair and Ms. Vivian Bertrand as they serve a three year appointment with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) in the Synod of Blantyre.

Blair's assignment focuses on education and youth ministry. He is working with Theological Education by Extension in Malawi (TEEM), which offers theological education for both clergy and laity; and teaching Practical Theology at Zomba Theological College. He is affiliated with the Blantyre Synod youth department.

Blair is an academic pastor having completed his doctoral studies in Practical Theology with a special emphasis on youth ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2014. He served Calvin Presbyterian Church in Abbotsford from 2011-2017. Blair also served as the Convener of the Committee on Church Doctrine from 2015-2017 and is a member of the Canada Youth Advisory Group.

For Blair, mission is first and foremost God's mission. He shares that "God is a God who loves the other, who sends God's very self to that other, and who assumes the flesh of the other. When Jesus calls the disciples he almost immediately sends them. To be sent it is to participate in the mission of God."

Vivian studied Environmental Science at the University of Toronto and has an MA in Public Administration from Carlton University. She has been working for Mennonite Central Committee BC since early 2016 and would like to continue working for a Christian international development agency. While she is currently unassigned, she anticipates working in the area of development in collaboration with Presbyterian World Service & Development and International Ministries.

She shares, "As Christians, we are called into relationship, and I believe that includes the poor. My understanding of mission centers around the idea that we are all impoverished in our own way, and as humans living in this world, through the grace of God, we have something to offer our brothers and sisters."

Blair and Vivian have three children: Garrett, Sage and Zoe.

