

MARIANIST MISSION EVENT BENEFITS AFRICAN MINISTRIES



At the event, Bro. Alex Tuss, Pastor Joshua Goocey, Lisa Gooding, Lawrence Kondawe and Mike and Gail Fink. Courtesy of Colleen Kammer

Marianist Mission staff members **Lisa Gooding, Linda Hayes, Colleen Kammer, Mary Ann Townsend** and **Bro. Alex Tuss** developed an event to benefit Chaminade Preparatory School in Karonga, Malawi, with the assistance of honorary co-chairs **Gail** and **Mike Fink** (University of Dayton graduates and the parents of a UD grad) and **Sharon** and **Bob Lowry**. More than 70 people attended the two-hour reception at Café Boulevard in Dayton. The location was provided at no cost by owner **Eva Christian**, a friend of Bro. Alex. Costs were covered by benefactors so that all ticket fees would benefit Chaminade Preparatory.

The event's aim was to deepen relationships with those locally who have given generously to African ministries via the Marianist Mission and to invite new people with interest in Africa to learn more about the Marianists' work there. **Bro. Alex** was the primary coordinator of this effort. During the evening funds

were raised to pay the tuition for about 25 young men at Chaminade Preparatory School in Malawi. In addition, ideas and connections were shared to help develop a sustained interest in Marianist efforts in Africa.

Photographs taken in Africa by **Pastor Joshua Goocey** (a Protestant minister who accompanied **Lisa Gooding** and **Bro. Alex** to Africa last summer) served as a visual backdrop accompanied by a printed viewer's guide. Some of Pastor Goocey's shots were matted and framed for sale. Marianist Mission staff answered guests' questions and Gooding, Tuss and Goocey shared their impressions of Africa and the impact that Marianist ministries have on graduates.

Marianist brothers living in Dayton who had previously served in Africa attended, as did **Bro. Erick Otiende** from Kenya. Adding significance to the evening was **Lawrence Kondawe**, a graduate of Chaminade Preparatory School in Malawi (now a freshman at the University of Dayton studying economics). Lawrence achieved a perfect score on Malawi's national college entrance exam. He is a living testimony to the work of the Marianists in Malawi.