This month has been a different month as we have spent the first half of it in Chimala and the last half in the states. We spent the first two weeks being very busy with many activities going on at the mission. We had some guest there with us until the very end of our trip. But before we left we did get several things accomplished. Cyndi and Susan worked very hard at the storerooms going through all of the items that we had received on the container in July. They got much of it given to the different departments. Susan has also been busy handing out the baby blankets and diaper shirts to the newborns at the hospital. She emailed us the first week after we returned back to the states saying that there had been a baby boom that week at the hospital. She had 63 newborns to give out new blankets and shirts to that week and she said it had been a lot of fun.

Don has been very busy working on plans for starting the cattle project. He sent me home with some information and he has been sending more info on a regular basis the last two weeks. I have presented the plan to a very generous individual who is providing us with a great gift in helping us get this project started. I will be gathering all of the supplies over the next couple of weeks to load on the next container, which we hope to send in September.

The Gospel Chariot campaigns were still going strong when we left. The campaigns were very successful this year. We ended up having around 40 baptisms this year that were directly related to work done with the Chariot. These baptisms occurred in places that ranged from Dodoma where the capital of Tanzania is, to the Mbozi region, to Sumbawanga where we have just started a new work, to back in the mountains behind us where the church has been established many years.

I mentioned the baptisms that were related to campaigns because there is a lot work that goes on all of the time around Chimala and related to the work that is done at the mission. One of the great works that we have is the Preacher Training School. We now call the school Chimala Bible Institute and under this umbrella, we have a school that is taught in Swahili and offers an Associate’s degree, another school that offers a Bachelors degree which is taught in English, and of course our newest program which is the Masters program. In all we now have 42 students enrolled and these men represent churches all over Tanzania and Malawi. I have included part of Garry Hill’s letter from earlier this
month. I think it gives you a good example of what these men do when they go home from the school.

We returned to Chimala Bible Institute, after time in the states raising funds, to greet the students for the beginning of the Fall quarter. The two day trip seems routine now and we were greeted with Menard, one of our instructors, at the airport. The eleven hour trip through the heart of Tanzania was shared with Kara Wells of the Horton Chapel Church of Christ in Kentucky. She is visiting the mission to see about future work in the education program. She is also a photographer documenting life on the mission for us.

The first day at chapel was spent hearing student reports of what they (the students) had done during the summer break. Where Blessings preaches 15 were baptized, and Navie had 6 baptisms. Lyton reported that there were 15 restorations as well as Bright who explained at the congregation he worked that “many” were restored. Israel noted he spent his time “encouraging the brethren” and they had 1 baptism.

William said he “preached house to house” in his village and worked with the “backslidden” who were restored. Atupakessee reported they had chosen elders at his congregation, and we all rejoiced because many congregations do not have elders. Brother Bill, mission administrator and former elder, has been teaching many lessons on our need for these elders.

Other students reported “working with youth,” “going to the prisons” and “teaching the men to prepare sermons.” In their summer work all of the dedicated students remind us of the great work that is taking place to train faithful servants of the Lord in Tanzania and Malawi. Our students need your continued support, for the sacrifices they make to become faithful teachers and preachers are numerous. When Felix was leaving the Tanzania, Malawian border, he was taken off in handcuffs and tears by the border guards. This was before the other students could collect money to give the guard in order to free their fellow student. He was retained because he was traveling to study the Bible at CBI. These brave men still come, and we could have many more if we get the support. For 100 dollars a month, we can support a student here at CBI.

On a personal note, one of the Malawian’s students brought me a flag from his country today. I proudly put it on my desk with the Tanzanian flag I have. These flags remind me every day how blessed I am to be here at Chimala as an instructor and assistant coordinator for Bear Valley Bible Institute and the director of the school. Please remember us in your prayers as we work hard in training these dedicated and deserving students.
I think you can see by reading Garry’s letter, these men that come to our school to receive training to teach and preach the Gospel do go home and put these skills to good use.

Cyndi and I are busy doing many things for the mission on this side. We will start a 10-11 day road trip in one week. It looks like we get an opportunity to speak to several congregations during this time frame and hopefully we can find some additional support for the mission. The big slow down in our economy these last two years is having a heavy toll on our budget and thus causing us to have to pull back on a lot of the work that we have been doing. There are still so many souls out there that need to hear the gospel, please help us if you can.

In His Service,

Bill and Cyndi Stinson