

Dear Brethren:

As you know, the Chimala Mission in Tanzania has been overseen by the New York Ave. Church of Christ in Arlington, TX. for the past twenty years. For much of that time, Bill Stinson has been deeply involved in the work, first as an elder and then as stateside coordinator. With Bill's desire to retire and find a qualified replacement for his position, the New York Ave. congregation felt it would also be a good time to find a sound mission-minded church to assume oversight of Chimala. The happy result is that Howell Ferguson has been appointed stateside coordinator, and the Dalraida Church of Christ in Montgomery, Alabama has agreed to assume oversight of Chimala. We believe this is God's answer to prayers. Howell is well known and respected and has many years of service in Tanzania. His good wife, Mary, shares his passion for missions. Bill and Cyndi Stinson have agreed to stay on board through 2019. They lived at the Mission for five years and that experience will be of great benefit to all.

The Dalraida church has always placed great emphasis on missions, committing well over a third of its annual budget to many efforts around the world. Before we agreed to take oversight, we dispatched four of our congregation to assess the merits of Chimala, and their experience was a major factor in our decision.

A vital asset in the success of the Mission is the vision of Gage Coldwater, who plans to use his vast experience in farming to bring it to a self-sustaining status in progressive steps. Gage has his own support and simply wants to be part of what he views as the best opportunity for success he has ever seen. His plans are impressive, his knowledge is amazing and his enthusiasm is inspiring.

The first concern of us all is that souls be brought into God's kingdom. This means everyone involved should adhere to the sound doctrine. And whatever changes necessary to accomplish that will be made as we progress. Our position is that every spent dollar and every drop of sweat should be aimed at ultimately teaching the gospel. That is our collective goal.

We believe that is your goal as well. We sincerely thank you for your interest in the lost, and for your past contributions to Chimala. We pray that you will continue your support and we pledge to see that your contributions are wisely used and properly accounted for. You will receive timely reports on all aspects of the work, and our books are open for scrutiny at any time. Suggestions and questions are welcomed, and if you have opportunity to visit Dalraida you will be warmly greeted. We realize this is a partnership which could not function without your generosity and love of the lost. Chimala has a long rich history, and the toil and prayers of many godly saints are woven into its fabric. Blessed are their labors. We feel a deep obligation to them and we don't intend to disappoint them. Truly, God has set before us an open door!

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