



CHIMALA MISSION, HOSPITAL & SCHOOLS
GIVING HOPE
Of An Eternal Future For The TANZANIAN'S

November 2018 - Volume 43 - No 2 - Fall Edition

THE CHALLENGE OF AFRICA

Hello to all of the supporters of Chimala Mission Hospital and Schools. I know that many of you have received letters in the mail from both the **New York Avenue Church of Christ** and the **Dalraida Church of Christ** announcing the upcoming changes in the oversight of Chimala Mission. I am completing twenty one years of close involvement with the mission. Cyndi and I fell in love with this great work the first time we visited and it has been the driving force that has kept us continually working to grow His Kingdom in Tanzania.

We will continue to work full time with the work, if it is God's will until the end of 2019. At the bottom of this page, Howell Ferguson has written an excellent article on the changes taking place. We will be traveling to the mission in January along with Howell and Mary. Gage Coldwater and his family will already be at the mission. During January and February, our plans are to introduce Howell to all of the responsibilities of the Stateside Coordinator on the mission side of the work. It is important that whoever serves in this role be ready and able to take over as the Mission Administrator in case of an emergency on that side. When we return, I plan to visit most of the supporting churches in Texas and Oklahoma. So, if you have not had a visit this last year (and even if you have and want another update) please contact me to schedule a visit.

Inside this edition of the "Challenge of Africa" you will read about some great news at our Primary School, Big Changes at our Preachers Training School, Progress of the Farm Startup, an Update on the Hospital, Progress on the Container and an **Introduction to Howell and Mary Ferguson**.

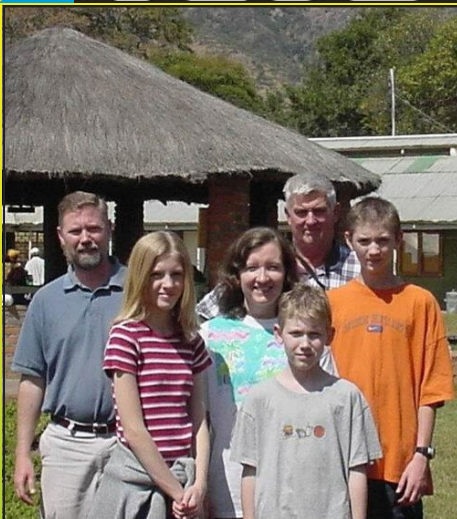
BILL STINSON
Mission Coordinator



**Front of Our House At
The Mission. Our Favorite Place.**

NEW STATESIDE COORDINATOR AND OVERSEEING CHURCH

HOWELL FERGUSON
New Mission Coordinator



**The Ferguson Family's First Visit
To The Mission In 2002
With Ken Upchurch**

It was in 2002 while working as missionaries in Arusha that my family and I had our first opportunity to visit the Chimala Mission, escorted by Elly Martin and Ken Upchurch. Previously I knew about Chimala primarily from hearing the preaching of Andrew Connally who frequented the brotherhood lectureship circuits and painted vivid word pictures of a place and a people I had never known. We also received the Chimala newsletter in the mail including "Claudene's Corner" which occasionally put Mary in tears. I had made two previous mission trips to India in 1997 and 1998, but it was Tanzania that attracted our attention the most.

After completing our commitment to Arusha, I was invited to serve as stateside coordinator for a new preaching school at the Chimala Mission in partnership with the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver. While the Chimala School of Preaching was already in operation for Swahili-speaking students, the Chimala Bible College (later, Chimala Bible Institute) would train men in English. I served in this capacity from 2005 to 2014. This program continued successfully during those years and does so even to this present time.

2019 Change of Oversight

HOWELL FERGUSON
New Mission Coordinator



Howell & Mary Ferguson

Last summer Bill Stinson informed me that he planned to retire and that the New York Ave church of Christ thought it would also be a good time to seek out a new overseeing church for Chimala. Earlier this year the Dalraida church of Christ, Montgomery, AL, learned of the opportunity; and after giving it prayerful thought and thorough consideration has decided to accept the oversight. Beginning January 1, 2019, the Dalraida congregation will assume the oversight and I will assume the position of stateside coordinator—working alongside of Bill who will continue until the end of 2019.

Over the years I have become familiar with many aspects of the Chimala Mission; however, there will be many things to learn. Lord willing, Mary and I plan to travel to Chimala in January and remain there for a couple of months to help facilitate the transition. When we return, I plan to visit as many supporting churches as possible in 2019.

I am very pleased with this new opportunity and excited about the future of the Chimala Mission. It appears that after many years of prayers, dreams, planning and hard work, significant factors are coming together to move the Chimala Mission closer to becoming a self-sustaining and self-operating mission of the Lord's church. With your encouragement, prayers and support I am confident the Chimala Mission will meet its goals. I need your prayers and I welcome your questions and comments.

May God bless the Chimala Mission!



CBI and Farming

HOWELL FERGUSON
New Mission Coordinator

Carrying the gospel into all the world is the charge Jesus gave to His disciples. The means of accomplishing this vision of taking the gospel to the four corners of the earth can take many forms. At the Chimala Mission, overseeing churches of the past and present have seen the value of demonstrating the love and compassion of Christ through His church by means of healing the body of those suffering from diseases, injuries, and malnutrition. It is common that people who come to receive physical healing at the mission come to know the truth of God for healing of the spiritual body.

In addition to the Chimala Mission hospital, approximately 700 young people live on the mission as boarding students who come from all walks of life and various locations about Tanzania. Most of these young people have never heard the pure gospel of Christ even once. But after spending sometimes many years at the **Chimala Primary School** or the **Herring Secondary Christian School**, these young people hear the gospel literally hundreds of times. As they come to be educated from a Christian world view, they come to see God's purpose in His creation with the saving of the souls of mankind to the glory of God. Consequently, these young people develop a desire to know more of their responsibility before God with conversions occurring as a result.

The Chimala Bible Institute exists for one primary reason: to train men in the Bible in order to preach and teach God's Holy word and develop faithful servants of the kingdom. Living on the Chimala Mission campus, these preaching students will soon have the opportunity to advance their education with an accompanying farm program. The design is to enhance their ability to survive in order to better evangelize.

Starting with the new school year in January, each student will be given care of a 30-inch raised bed garden row, 100 feet long. In addition to regular Bible classes, students will be taught modern methods of organic farming using resources available at the mission. Each morning students will be required to spend 1 hour tending to their rows carefully following the principles they are taught. As the harvests come in they can eat, sell, or send their food home to their families. In addition to learning new methods of agriculture, they will also learn how to raise rabbits, pigs, chickens as well as how to harvest honey and utilize black soldier fly larvae to produce premium protein feed for livestock. More details to come in future newsletters.

"Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish, feed him for a lifetime."

The work of becoming a self supported mission in Africa is one wrought with both challenges and blessings. **Since we have started the farm work we have made enormous strides in preparing the mission for growing all of its own food.** Our family is scheduled to move to Chimala on December 10th. Please keep us in your prayers as we travel and work. In September my wife and I traveled to Chimala to survey the mission and farm. During our time in Chimala we were able to accomplish several objectives.

One of our most needed items was to hire a farm manager to train and equip that will be responsible for the mission farm both now and in the future. We believe we have found just the right man, John Mgumba. He is a great worker and leader and has worked on the mission for many years. We also have hired several other men to be general laborers on the farm. We truly believe that we have put together a great team of workers to build a long standing self supported farm for the mission.



Our second objective was to break ground in the garden areas. We were able to use one of the mission tractors, a 90hp Landini, as we worked up several garden areas. In just a few short weeks the latter rains will begin and these garden areas will be planted with corn, tomatoes, rice, beans, okra, squash, greens, peppers, and many other crops. We have much of the equipment that we need to be successful on the shipping container that we are trying to get shipped out but we need additional funds to cover the expense of shipping this container. If you want to help us succeed please help us get this equipment to Tanzania by donating to the shipping fund.

We also started our rabbit project while in Chimala. We built cages and bought nine rabbits that we should begin breeding in the next few weeks. The rabbits will be one of the main meat sources on the mission as well as providing another valuable resource of manure that is ready for the garden.



Cleaning out Tilapia Pond



The tilapia pond was full of weeds and grass. This was providing a great habitat for snakes and monitor lizards. We even found one lizard that was over 3 feet long. We pulled all of the grass and weeds out and cleaned up the pond. We hope to raise a lot of tilapia to eat in the near future. As we go forward with this effort please keep us in your prayers.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are at the end of another month and also at the end of our year here in Chimala. Come Monday, November 5, we will be boarding a plane to head back to the States for 10 weeks. I have been putting together our schedule and we will be going non-stop from the time we land until December 18. One of the changes this year is that as of January 1, 2019 the Chimala Mission will be under a new sponsoring congregation. I had briefly mentioned this earlier, but now it is official that the Dalraida church of Christ in Montgomery, AL will be taking over the oversight of the mission from New York Ave who has had it for the last 20 years. One of our trips will be to spend some time with the new congregation so that they can get to know us and also we can answer any questions they have. With the change in oversight there will also be other changes, which I will report on as they happen.

All classes for this year will end on Thursday, and then on Friday, November 2, we will have our CBI graduation as we graduate eight Swahili students. Following the graduation all of the students will be heading home. The first year students will be coming back in January. The month of November will have master's students from Tanzania, Malawi, and Zambia here taking four courses and finishing up their degree. Unlike in May, we will not be a part of that program as we will be in the States.

While the secondary school will be going to the first part of December, Carol gave her students their finals last week since she will not be here to give them at the end of the semester. One of the things she has found is that trying to get a date for her finals is a real challenge as the last month is spent in taking national tests which are used to test the performance of each school and student; similar to what is done in the States. These tests challenge Carol as sometimes they leave her only four to five class periods in a quarter to teach her art students.

Carol has also continued to be busy working in the library together with our new librarian. She has been trying to train the librarian to carry on the work they are doing while we are gone.



Due to graduation and school ending this Friday, the sewing/ tailoring class ended last week. It is amazing to see the work that some of the students are already doing. Some have made basic garments for themselves, some have mended or altered their own clothing, and many have made a number of children's clothing that will be given away to the needy. You can see the joy in

their faces as they are learning a trade that can benefit them for years to come.

Recapping our Sunday morning activities were as follows: On October 5 - Luhovelo, October 14 - Usalimwani, October 21 - Mswiswi, October 28 - Igawa, and this coming Sunday I will be speaking at the Mission church as they have asked me to preach and also so that they can send us off with a special time of prayer. I am not sure if we have mentioned it before, but we have made it a point to take a car load of students with us everywhere we go. Not only has this created some close bonds with the students, but we have also been able to watch the students grow over this past year.

The weather continues to heat up as we are going into the hottest part of the year here. We have had a few brief showers, but it is still a month away before the rainy season should officially start. Everywhere you go you see people working their land and getting ready for the rains and the crops it will bring.

One of the things I will be trying to do while we are in the states is not only report on our work to our existing supporters, but also strive to raise some new support. For the last two years we have had some excellent supporters. Our initial commitment when we came to Chimala was to be here one year, but they have all continued to support us for the second year, for which we are very thankful and feel very blessed. But I know that times change and some are having to reconsider what they can do, so I may need to raise some more support.

If you know of anyone I might be able to talk to about our work, I would appreciate it if you would let me know and send me some contact information at our e-mail address— rrogers33@hotmail.com. We always welcome a monthly commitment, or even a one-time gift.



GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Gifts in Honor Of	Gifts in Memory Of		
Henman, Jennie Griffith, James & Kayla	Faultt, Nina Mae Collings Jones, Connie	Holiday, Bill Parker, Noel & Emogene	Lewis, Paul Lewis, Mary
Gregory, Bud Jackson, Joyce	Henderson, Ann Hatfield, Byron & Deanne	Jackson, Don Jackson, Jan	Reed, Doug Reed, Judith
		Leach, Dick Nichols, Linda	Self, Jay & Sadie Easley, Betty

Primary School Has Great Results

Chimala Mission Primary School has always had a good reputation in Tanzania. This year has done nothing to hurt that. As I have mentioned in previous articles, schools in Tanzania are rated on how well they perform on the government exit exams.

This year our school had one of its best performances in recent years. Out of 73 students, 19 of them achieved an A. Fifty of them scored a B, leaving only 4 that got a C. This ranked our school #2 in our district and #7 in the region. There are over 400 schools in our region.

To me, the best part is not the test scores, but the fact that 60 of these students have been baptized into Christ. It is easy to see the effect of not only good secular teaching, but also those that take time to study and teach these young people the Truth have done great! Our goal when we started the schools was to bring up good Christians that will one day make the church strong in Tanzania.

I believe we are well on our way.



This School Has Graduated Nearly 1,000 Students. All Of Them Have Been Taught The Bible Daily.

Container Shipment Cost ,, \$13,000.00

By the time you read this, one container will have already arrived at the mission and the second container will be on its way. The first container was loaded with many needed items for the hospital. The second container is loaded with pallets of Bible material, many items for the farm project, missionary supplies, all of the items that the ladies have sewn for the babies, tools for our shop and yard equipment, and more hospital equipment. We shipped this last container on faith that you will help with the needed the funds that are needed to cover the cost of shipping two containers. We had to empty the warehouse in Texas or move the items to Alabama.

WE NEED AN ADDITIONAL \$13,000.00

A very special Thank You to the Medical Groups and the many of you that donated items for this shipment.

BILL STINSON
Mission Coordinator

More Beds For the Hospital



Time is running out for collecting funds for the 2018 shipment. CAN YOU HELP?

THE CHALLENGE OF AFRICA

We still need \$15,000 for Refrigerator for the morgue

Those that have been supporting Cheryl Bode for the last few years are already aware that Cheryl is no longer working with us. Cheryl did some great works over the last six years and we appreciate all that she accomplished. But like always, it seems that none of us ever get everything accomplished we would like to in this life.



Chimala Mission Hospital continues to grow in scope and size. I was visiting with Heath Stapleton recently and I told him he would be amazed to see the differences in the hospital from the last time he saw it over 10 years ago.

We need \$29,000 for the new Ultrasound machine is needed!

In the last Challenge Cheryl made a plea for two major items. One was a new refrigerator at the morgue and the other was for a new Ultrasound machine. The Morgue needs remodeling to satisfy new government standards. The refrigerator would be a big part of this upgrade.

We have received more than one Ultrasound from hospital and doctors here in the states. But once they have problems, we have difficulty getting them repaired in Chimala. \$15,000 is needed to purchase the Refrigerator and an additional \$28,000 for the new Ultrasound Machine.

If you can help with either of these items, please let me know.

Bill Stinson



Thank You For 21 Years Of Support

NEW YORK AVENUE
Elders

Dear friends and supporters of Chimala Mission -

We are so thankful for your interest in and support of the work at Chimala Mission, Hospital and Schools during the past twenty-one years! We know that your prayers, encouragement, and the many ways you have contributed to or have directly participated in the activities of the mission are a great blessing.

When **Jim Gragg, Jerry Herring and Bill Stinson** began overseeing the activities of the mission in 1998, they had a number of goals in mind. Self-leadership was one goal, and today every department at the mission is led by a Tanzanian, and more churches now have elders and deacons.

Over the years, the number of patients treated at the hospital has increased 300%, the Chimala Primary School and Herring Christian Secondary School now educate 700 students each year, and the preacher training school has doubled the number of men it trains to preach the gospel. We believe that the new farming program currently being established will help Chimala Mission reach the goal of becoming self-supporting.

We ask you to pray for the elders of the Dalraida Church of Christ in Montgomery, Alabama, who will assume the oversight of Chimala Mission, Hospital and Schools beginning on January 1, 2019. Please pray for Howell Ferguson, who will serve as Stateside Coordinator, and for Bill Stinson, who will continue to work with Howell during a transition period through the end of 2019. Bill will continue in his duties of fundraising, and will work as an advisor to the Dalraida elders and to Howell Ferguson.

Please continue to be involved in this work, and continue to support Chimala Mission Hospital and Schools as we labor to grow God's Kingdom in Tanzania.

God bless you,

Andy Bennett, Charles Hervey,
Chris Parker, Ralph Rogers
Elders, New York Avenue Church of Christ
Arlington, Texas

**New Overseeing Church
Beginning In 2019**

As a supporter of the Chimala Mission, you have by now received a letter in the mail announcing the new overseeing church beginning in 2019:
**Dalraida church of Christ
 Attn: Chimala Mission
 3740 Atlanta Highway
 Montgomery, Alabama 36109**
 More information will be forthcoming very soon. In the meantime please note that any financial support and correspondences should be sent to the new overseeing church after Dec. 31st, 2018. Thank you!

Bibles Needed

As you have read in this edition of the *Challenge of Africa*, there are many new souls being added to the Kingdom. We like to make sure that each new Christian has a Bible to study from. I just received another request today for more funds for Bibles. Can you help us make sure everyone has a Bible to study from?

Please remember you can give a gift of any size to Chimala Mission to honor someone special, or in memory of a loved one who has passed from this life. Your gift for a better life will help the poor and will continue the preaching of the pure gospel of Christ to many that have never heard the truth. You and your loved one's name will appear in the next quarterly issue of the **Challenge of Africa**.

Please make your donation payable to **CHIMALA MISSION** and return this form to:
 New York Avenue Church of Christ
 5371 New York Avenue, Arlington, TX 76018.

(This form is provided for your convenience)

I would like to make a gift in the amount of: \$ _____
 (Write name as it should appear in *The Challenge*)
 In MEMORY of _____
 In HONOR of _____
 Please send a copy of gift acknowledgment (s) to:
 (circle one)
 Mr./Mrs./Miss _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please Don't Forget Year-End Contributions

HOWELL FERGUSON
New Mission Coordinator

Nearly everyone remembers the story about the **turtle setting atop the fencepost**. The story goes like this: *If you're walking along a fence and spot a turtle sitting atop a fencepost, you know it didn't get there by itself*. This story is usually associated as a joke about politicians. The fact is there really is a lot of truth to this story—and not just for politicians, but for all of us. Whatever your political leanings may be, there is no denying the fact that our country is enjoying one of the most productive economies we have had in a while. As citizens of this country, that means Christians have also benefited from this favorable economic condition.

The Chimala Mission has long existed as a result of financial supporters who desired to see the gospel of Christ flourish in Tanzania. As this issue of *The Challenge of Africa* has highlighted, the mission is on the verge of literally plowing new territory as it implements the new farm program in cooperation with Gage Coldwater and *The Manna Project*. Never to my knowledge in the history of the mission has a farm project of this scope been so thoroughly researched and thought-out. With the Lord's blessings, this program has the potential to fully feed every mouth on the Chimala Mission which amounts to thousands of dollars of savings each year. And as desirable as that is, the greater benefit is to the Tanzanian preachers and

Christians who will be able to imitate these new techniques and skills in their own *mashamba* (fields). The end result will be realized in greater yields to their farms benefiting their families, the churches and their preachers. And with the increased economic condition of Christians, so is the decreased need for American support. That, in turn, can be interpreted to mean success—success in producing self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating churches. The accomplishing of these three goals makes up the formula for successful mission work.



However, like all projects that have preceded this one, it requires financial support especially at this critical beginning stage. God has placed within our hands the tools needed through a favorable economy. For the time being we as God's servants are sitting atop a fence post of success. As one servant to another, please help us get over the year-end hump so the Chimala Mission can plough new ground toward independence.

God bless you for all you do and have done!



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Please make checks payable to CHIMALA MISSION

✓	Designate my gift toward:	Amount
	Bibles	
	Chimala Mission Hospital	
	Church Roofs	
	Evangelism	
	Missionary Support - Richard Rogers	
	Missionary Support - Bill Stinson	
	Missionary Support - Howell Ferguson	
	Hospital Equipment	
	Radio Evangelism	
	Farm Project	
	School Orphans	
	Shipping Container Expense	
	School Fees for a Preacher's Student	
	Teacher Housing	
	Where Needed	

Return Service Requested



We Give Thanks this Holiday Season

**HEALING
 FOR
 HUMANITY**

Our 2018 Chimala Mission, Hospital and School's Hope...
 is that each & every heart be filled with the spirit of charity so that we may fulfill the great commandment given by Almighty God Himself. In economic times such as these many Americans may consider themselves unfortunate, but we are very fortunate *compared* to the economic times in Africa. We as Christians have a responsibility to teach: **Faith, Hope, & Charity** - and our focus should be on the greatest of these: "**CHARITY**". Money is given from the heart and not from the pocketbook. So if you have a choice and an opportunity to give, we ask that you consider the.....
"Healing for Humanity Fund Drive" that supports our mission, hospital and schools!

