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*Let the little children come to Me...*  
**Mark 10:14**



Dalraida Church of Christ  
**CHIMALA MISSION**  
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**January 2019**

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# The Challenge Of Africa

Vol 1 No 1 January 2019

## Chimala Mission Newsletter—Tanzania, East Africa

*From the Stateside Coordinator*



*“January 1, 2019 is a new mark in the history of the Chimala Mission”*

It is really hard to believe that another year has come and gone. There have been so many changes involving the Chimala Mission—mostly stateside. The New York Ave church of Christ, after more than 20 years under capable hands, has given the oversight of the mission to the Dalraida church of Christ. January 1, 2019 is a new mark in the history of the Chimala Mission. As with any large undertaking, transition is both a time of excitement and risk. To assume the Mission with its rich opportunity to bring renewed efforts. At the change made by a new

approached with great work of the Chimala and colorful history is an together fresh ideas with same time, attempts at administration must be wisdom and patience with effectiveness in mind. But I am optimistic that the fervent prayers and support of so many people who love the Chimala Mission will continue to bring about God’s blessings. We know that God will provide His people with what they need—at Chimala or anywhere else. You are very important to the success of the Chimala Mission.

By the time you receive this newsletter Richard and Carol Rogers, Bill and Cyndi Stinson, Gage and Kelly Coldwater with Aurora and Pike, and Mary and I will be at Chimala together. There are many aspects of the mission that I will need to learn working alongside the mission administrator, Menard Swila. Menard was one of our first graduates of the Chimala Bible College. Excelling both academically and spiritually, he naturally arose to the position of leadership that he holds now. I know he will make my job much easier as I have much confidence in his integrity and leadership.

Also at the mission, we will have discussions with the CSOP staff concerning ways of improving the effectiveness of preacher training and evangelism. We will be exploring methods to help existing preachers currently working with churches not only to learn how to become self-supportive, but also teach churches some of these same principles. I hope to say more about that later. For now please read Gage Coldwater’s news on page two, and the 2018 Chimala Mission report card on page three. Until next time, God bless! Howell Ferguson

### COLDWATER FAMILY NEWS

After several weeks on the mission, our family is really getting used to living here in Tanzania. It has been such a blessing for us to be here. We love the people here at the mission. Everyone has treated us with such love and kindness. The children are adjusting well. We have been striving to be healthier and we are trying to only eat fresh local foods like fruits and vegetables. We all love all the fresh mangoes, bananas, pineapples and other fruits. We have big bowls of them every day. I have lost around 30 pounds so far! I plan on losing another 30. Our health has been great until yesterday when Aurora came down with a minor bug. It's really neat that the Mission hospital Dr. made a house call to check her out and make sure it wasn't malaria (which it wasn't - we are on preventative!). There is a basketball court near the house and Pike loves to go down there and shoot hoops every evening with some of the local kids. Kelly and I have been going for an evening walk on the mission. The weather here is so pleasant and it is truly a luxury we enjoy. We have seen so many beautiful plants and animals along the paths. We certainly miss everyone back home in the states but we are so thankful to be here at Chimala working on the farm and preaching.

### FARM EFFORT NEWS

The work on the farm project is going as planned so far. We have planted multiple gardens to a variety of vegetables that will be for feeding the preaching school students and the missionaries.

### THE CATTLE PROJECT

Our major project has been clearing pastures and fence rows to install barbed wire fences as well as electric fences across the property to keep cows and goats for both meat and milk. The grass here during the rainy season is spectacular.

We have cleared about 3000 feet of fence rows (30 ft wide) of heavy brush and trees. Many of the trees here have huge thorns (like 3-inch thorns!) that really slow the progress. Most of the clearing has been done by hand with axes and machetes. We have a chainsaw but it doesn't work very well as it is in poor condition. We have hired some temporary day laborers to help hurry this along.

This week I plan on starting construction on our first pens and pastures. I am scheduled to go look later this week at several herds of cattle and goats that we are considering purchasing to start our herds. We plan on buying around 15 cows and 1 bull as well as about 30 goats.

We plan to have chickens, ducks, pigs, rabbits, cows, sheep, goats, and fish. In order to produce our own protein for these animals, we have had to do some out-of-the-box work. One of the sources of protein will be insect-based - Black Soldier Fly Larvae. These non-biting flies are native to this area and are really amazing creatures. To put it simply, they convert waste products such as kitchen waste, animal waste, and garden waste into a high protein food source for our livestock. Isn't the creative work of God amazing! Some of the larvae of these flies have been scientifically measured for protein content and some are over

50%!!! These larvae even destroy problematic diseases like salmonella and e-coli!

### CORN

Now that the rainy season has begun we plan to plant corn very soon. We will plant several plots down on the lower main mission as well as all the fire breaks on the mountain land. We are hoping to buy a small walk behind tractor that we can take to the top of the mountain and use up there for plowing. This will help make the work faster and more efficient.

[Continued on bottom of next page]



### CHIMALA 2018 YEAR END REPORT CARD

The proof of the pudding is in the eating, so they say. There is no way this side of eternity to know for certainty the outcome of our earthly efforts to effect spiritual change. Numbers and statistics do not always reflect the real condition of the inner man. Yet while we cannot see into people's hearts, that does not mean we should not "*prove each man's work of what sort it is*" (1 Cor. 3:13).

Joseph Haonga, one of the directors of the CSOP provided the following information that I find very encouraging as we consider the overall efforts of the Chimala Mission:

- Weekend evangelism - 278 baptisms and 101 restorations
- Graduation report - 82 baptisms
- Gospel Chariot campaigns - 69 baptisms
- Radio programs - 17 baptisms
- Hospital (Joshua's) report- 49 baptisms and 59 restorations
- Primary & Secondary schools - 79 baptisms
- Nearby congregation reports- 319 baptisms and 103 restorations
- TOTAL= 893 baptisms and 263 restorations



This total means there were 574 baptisms and 160 restorations in 2018 as a direct result of the efforts of various departments of the Chimala Mission. And the remainder 319 baptisms and 103 restorations were achieved as a result of congregations that were originally formed by earlier efforts of those of the Chimala Mission. Of course ALL results are due to the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ! (cf. Rom. 1:16). And ALL glory belongs to Him alone.

As you consider the great amount of good that is achieved, remember that every part of the Chimala Mission is important to its overall success: CSOP, the hospital, the primary and secondary schools, the missionaries, and all the supportive roles of so many people. Every "spoke" of the wheel points to the "hub" of the mission's primary purpose for existence: "*To seek and to save the lost*" (Luke 19:10). Chimala Mission exists today because that has always been its purpose. And it will only continue to exist as long as that grand purpose remains intact. Please keep the mission in your prayers for continued harvests! Howell Ferguson

[From previous page]

### ROCKET STOVES

If you don't know what a rocket stove is then I encourage you to go online and google it! We are building several rocket stoves and ovens for the mission cooks. It is a much cleaner, safer, faster, and healthier way than cooking everything in oil as they do. We built a prototype this week and it worked wonderfully. We plan on building many of these for the mission.

### A FINAL NOTE FROM GAGE

We are so thankful for all the support we have received from each and every one of you. We are amazed every day at the opportunities that God has given us to work together. One great opportunity is for us to preach while here at Chimala. The Mission Congregation has asked me to preach for several Sundays. Today after worship I was able to have a good discussion with a young man who has visited the last two weeks. He told me he wants to be baptized but wants to study more with me first. Please pray for his heart to be open to Gods Word! Gage Coldwater