Dalraida Church of Christ CHIMALA MISSION 3740 Atlanta Highway Mongomery, AL 36109

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The Challenge **Of Africa**

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Chimala Mission Newsletter—Tanzania, East Africa



Every time I visit Chimala I am in awe at the variety of ways this mission has an impact on the lives of so many people. Only God knows the potential we have at the tips of our fingers. Let me give you just one example of how God continues to work through our efforts.

From the Stateside Coordinator

During the month of February we had four visitors: Chad Scott, his two older sons Graham and Campbell who are members at our home congregation of North Jackson, and Chad's father-in-law, Charles "Chig" Gunter. Chad worked with the hospital while his sons helped with the farm program. Chig preached and taught as opportunities arose. Near the end of their stay at Chimala, two other visitors came to the mission: Jim Kerns from Parkersburg, WV, and Ephron Mbano, one of our CBI graduates. All of these visitors

stayed at the duplex that we call the "guesthouse."

On the last day of their visit, Chig was talking to Ephron about his years of teaching many people around the world by correspondence through the World Bible School curriculum. While they were talking, they both began to realize they recognized each other's names. As a younger man, Ephron had enrolled in a WBS correspondence course, and Chig was his teacher. Ephron

was later baptized and that was the last Chig heard from him until that remarkable day. Ephron not only was one of our students from Malawi who received both his bachelor's and master's degrees, but he is currently the director of a preaching school in that country.

Wow! Isn't it amazing what God can do through the efforts of His people even though we may not know of the fruits for many years, if ever? "Behold, a sower went forth to sow..." (Matt. 13:3).



✓	Designate My Gift Toward:	Amount
	Evangelism	
	Radio Evangelism	
	CSOP Student Support	
	Bibles	
	Farm Program	
	Hospital	
	Chimala Mission Primary School	
	Herring Christian Secondary School	
	Missionary Support—Howell Ferguson	
	Missionary Support—Richard Rogers	
	Missionary Support—Bill Stinson	
	Estate	
	Shipping Container Expense	
	Where Needed	

Memorial · Honor · Birthday · Anniversary

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 passed from this life. Your gift will help the poor and will continue the preaching of the gospel to many that have never heard the truth.

(This form is provided for your convenience)

I would like to make a gift in the amount of: \$	
In MEMORY of	
In HONOR of	

Please send a copy of gift acknowledgment to: Mr./Mrs./Miss Address

State

Zip

Please make checks payable to: **Chimala Mission**

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City

Reports from Howell Ferguson

Reports from Howell Ferguson

<u>BACK HOME</u>: After nearly two months at Chimala becoming familiar with my new role, Mary and I returned to the States the first week of March to begin the process of visiting churches. We have a lot of catching up to do. So don't be surprised if I call or write you to set up an appointment to give an updated report. If all goes well, we will probably return for a few weeks sometime this summer. Read this and the next page for highlighted activities and needs.

FARM PROGRAM: Gage and Kelly Coldwater and their two children, Aurora and Pike remained at Chimala to complete their five-month stay at the mission to kick-start the farm program. Gage continues to work hard and be dedicated to the success of the Chimala farm program. Here are his own words: "*Things are going well here on the farm. We continue to advance forward everyday. Our corn is tasseled and producing big ears of corn! Our test plot*



has really taken off in the last two weeks and has nearly caught up with the rest of the corn. We have many more crops beginning to produce everyday. The pig project is definitely proving to be our most advantageous effort. We now have 24 piglets of which 16 are females that in 6 months we are going to be breeding! Add to them the 4 sows we already have producing! We will rebreed several of them in the next few weeks. We are having to build more pens already. The rabbits have quit dying since you left. They seem to be past the disease. Our baby chickens

are growing like crazy! They are eating us out of house and home."

When we envisioned the idea of the farm program about a year ago, we set out knowing that farming at Chimala was nothing new. But the long-term vision Gage gave us and his method of using existing resources in a cyclical manner that would reduce to a bare minimum a small initial investment the Tanzanians could afford. Our goal is to make Chimala Mission a model project for the surrounding churches and beyond. I have "preached" the following message all over the mission until I was nearly hoarse:

As our local preachers learn these techniques it will do two things:1) It will improve the economic lives of our preachers enabling them to spend more time in evangelism and church growth/maturity, and 2) The preachers can teach the congregations these same methods and thereby increase their economic levels as well. Spiritual growth and maturity can finally occur enabling them to greater opportunities to serve and give.

Mission works frequently fail due to ignoring the economic challenges the local people face. Tanzania's greatest resources are its people and the agriculture of its fertile soil. As stewards of the gospel and our resources, the farm program is growing and *needs your financial boost!*



<u>RADIO</u>: Peter Kamatula has been given a great opportunity to preach the gospel over radio potentially reaching the entire country of Tanzania. Could you help by contributing to this work? Currently it is costing us \$322 per month for the program itself. Follow-up has been averaging \$134 per month.



HOSPITAL: *"Why should I help the hospital?"* Ask mission chaplain, Joshua Mwakyasima. Here is the report of his work at the hospital for 2018:

- 11,001 Bible studies at the hospital courtyard gazebo.
- 4,300 Bible series lessons and tracts.
- 4,056 teachings in various wards.
- 803 teachings about the hospital.
- 58 baptisms.
- 54 restorations.

One of the lessons taken from the gospel accounts of Jesus is the close association between acts of compassion and receptivity of the teaching of God's word.



ESTATE: Every single person who works at the Chimala Mission is a vital part to its overall success and ultimate goal of winning souls to Christ. There are no unimportant areas of work or unimportant people. From the elders of the mission church to the men who stand watch at night to guard the mission, there is an ultimate goal we keep in mind—to seek and to save the lost.

These hard workers may not be preaching or teaching a Bible class, but they are serving the Lord's church in areas that are critical to the mission's continuous operation. This involves all our estate workers including carpenters, electricians, plumbers, guards, mechanics, gardeners, cooks and house cleaners. These people work behind-the-scenes in many cases. But they are very much seen by the Lord. And we deem them worthy of support who labor for the Lord.

In our monthly expenses we label this area, "**Estate**." These are the people who make your visit safe and comfortable and our work possible. While it is easier to raise funds for widows, orphans, and evangelism; it is also necessary to support the foundation of our physical existence in Tanzania. We need churches or individuals to commit \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500 — whatever amount monthly to help maintain this vital area of service. Ultimately through the farm program, our goal is for the estate to be self-supported. But that time has not come yet. Please help us.

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