me CHALLENGE $\alpha$ Afica
MAY 2019 | VOL 1 NO 5

## God' Solution to Save the World

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and Io, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matt. 28:18-20)

## WANT TO SCHEDULE A CHIMALA MISSION PRESENTATION?

When I am home, I try to schedule appointments to give presentation reports to supporting churches or churches that may be interested in learning more about the work.

If you would like for me to visit, please contact me by email, phone or text!
howellferguson@gmail.com Also you may call or text me at (731) 267-4935


## This Issue

Stateside Coordinator P. 1 Importance of CSOP P. 2 Words Fitly Spoken P. 2 Stateside Emeritus P. 3

Deacon's Words P. 4 Chimala's Administrator P. 4 Principles of Leadership P. 6

Container Needs P. 6 Memorials P. 7

## This Month's Special Issue

It has been the tradition of the publication of the Chimala Mission's newsletters to produce a larger edition two or three times per year. The purpose is to give more information about the Chimala Mission's efforts overall, and also to increase the awareness of this great work on a broader scale within our brotherhood. In keeping with that good tradition, this issue is being presented. Among all the great programs of the Chimala Mission, I would like to highlight the newest project which we have already written about often: the farm program.

Progress continues to be made in the farm program at Chimala. Enthusiasm is found in the CSOP student body as they watch the labor of their own hands produce more than they could have imagined. Many of them have never seen some of the produce that they are being introduced to on the farm. And a number of them are really excelling and even selling their produce making as much as 20,000 T-shillings per week! And this is just the beginning of their harvests. Gage Coldwater has been working closely with the students while also training Ezekiel Harrison as the farm manager. This is a crucial part of the farm program as Gage and his family are leaving Chimala in mid-May.

Last month, Gage purchased a new milling machine to be used on the mission. This machine will be located on the northeast corner of the mission near the hospital. This will be an ideal location to mill rice and corn for the mission's use, but it can also be used to mill the local community's grain as well. Any
grains or vegetables produced above what is used by the mission and benevolence will be available for sale to the community, therefore helping move the mission more towards self-sufficiency. Two buildings are being constructed on this corner of the mission. One will be for the milling machine, and a building of similar size will be positioned just in front of it to serve as a store to the public.

Two hundred chickens are planned to be sold in the next month with the income going back into the farm program. The efficiency of this program is even more impressive considering that 25 percent of the feed for the chickens comes from the soldier fly larvae which are being produced in explosive multitudes. With the expansion of the farm program, the percentage of locally grown feed for the livestock will move ever closer to 100 percent . The whole philosophy behind the farm program is to operate the farm as close to 100 percent efficiency as possible using renewable resources already available at the mission. And if the pig production continues to do as well as it has, we are looking at well over 100 pigs by the end of the year, and as many as 200 plus by this time next year.

For the time being, we are financing the farm through general funds, but we are needing an additional $\$ 1,000$ per month for at least a year to give the farm time to become more productive and pay for itself. Can you help us?

Howell Ferguson
Stateside Coordinator

Importance and Support of CSOP

By Richard Rogers

The Chimala School of Preaching (CSOP) is a non-profit school that trains men and women in the Bible for a two-year degree. We currently have 21 students (2 women and 19 men) who come from all parts of Tanzania to be trained. We often have up to 35 students at a time. Our classes are taught in both Swahili and English.

When the students arrive most of them only have a small bag of clothes and nothing more. The school provides them what they need for the two years that they are attending and much of this comes from donations received from the United States. While the food is grown on the campus or obtained locally, most everything else is provided by donations. Our books, notebooks, notebook paper, pens, pencils, teaching supplies and equipment, homemade book bags, personal hygiene supplies, extra clothing, etc. have all been made possible by donations that come on the shipping containers. Without these supplies we would either have to close the school or greatly reduce the number we can train. As an illustration of our need, each year each student is given a blanket to sleep under especially when it gets cold. Without these the students would have nothing to cover themselves with since they came from home with very little. Many of these blankets are handmade by women in America and again are donated for the students to use arriving on the shipping containers. These blankets are
(continued on opposite right)

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www.chimalamission.com


## Mary Ferguson

## Words Fitly Spoken

Chimala Needs You!

Who doesn't want to feel needed? Maybe you are in just a time in your life where you are taking inventory and re-evaluating what you are doing as a Christian. We all know that we could never earn our salvation, but we all want to be working in the kingdom because we love God. Maybe you want to do a little more than you are currently doing. Maybe you want to think "outside of the box" and make a change. And when we think about all that God needs us to do, we realize that there is much work for us to do and that we truly are needed. I hope to help you know that in this short article!

Many years ago, I remember reading "Claudene's Corner" in The Challenge of Africa. Maybe some of you dear readers remember reading those too. She always made me feel needed! She wasn't writing to me personally but to anyone who was reading her article. It stayed in the back of my mind until 1999 when my family and I decided to move to Tanzania in January of 2000.

My husband Howell wrote an article a few years ago that was in the Chimala newsletter that mentioned all of the various types of jobs and talents that could be used at Chimala. These were things like preachers, teachers, doctors, nurses, plumbers, carpenters, etc. It is still true. Every type of God-given talent that the Lord has blessed you with, can be used at Chimala. Loving encouragers go a long way at the mission. Whatever your talent, it can be used.

If you have the desire to do crosscultural foreign mission work, we would love to hear from you. We would love to talk to you about what you could do at the mission. Prerequisites would be: a faithful New Testament Christian with a desire to show Christ to those around you so that God can be glorified. Tanzanians, on the whole, are kind and friendly. They respond very well to patient and loving people. Don't we all?

If you are a member of a strong faithful congregation, could we "borrow" you for a few years? Could your talents and influence be multiplied at Chimala? We could really use you! Do you have the desire to teach others about Christ by your life, speech and actions?

Claudene Connally made me feel needed by saying just that. I'm saying this to you who are reading this article. We need you at the Chimala mission!

I know that everyone, that most reading this, cannot actually go. Everyone can't go on a short visit or stay for a few years. Everyone has a different set of circumstances in his life. If you can't go, God knows that. But, please keep the Chimala mission in your prayers. That's the biggest way you can help. We believe in the power of prayer. If you are able to help the mission financially, we appreciate that so very much too as that helps tremendously. Everyone can help the Chimala Mission in some way. Thank you for all you do for the mission. God bless you all!

## Mary Ferguson

## Bill Stinson

## From the Stateside Coordinator Emeritus

I still communicate with the workers at Chimala on a regular basis as many of them are close friends. I decided that I would ask each department head to send me a report regarding the progress they are making and the struggles they are facing. Today I wanted to give a short update for the Hospital, Primary School and the Secondary School.

At the hospital, Shadrack Kasiba reports that the hospital's business has been down so far this year. But I will insert that this not too unusual this time of year because of people struggling to get their farms planted and harvested. While mentioning the farming in our area, I need to let you know that Tanzania is suffering from a severe drought this year. Things started off pretty well with good rains in our area, but the Cyclone that came through Mozambique a couple of months ago seemed to affect the weather pattern for Tanzania and shut off the rainfall. There will be a severe famine in Tanzania. Please keep these people in your prayers and that enough food can be found for people to survive.

Back to the hospital; Shadrack reports that the evangelism efforts are continuing to be done on a regular basis and many souls are learning the truth, believing and being baptized for the remission of their sins.

Shadrack does report on the medical side of the hospital, that it would be a great benefit to the hospital if we could have an American Specialist to serve at the hospital. An Orthopedic doctor, an Ophthalmologist, or a specialist in diabetic care, are needed at the hospital. If there is a good Christian doctor out there that is interested in serving in the mission field, please contact Howell Ferguson for further information.

Venace Mwanjilile (the Primary School Head Teacher), reports the Primary School currently has 510 students enrolled. He wants to thank all of you that help support the orphans and the children of our preachers that are enrolled in our school. These funds are very
helpful.
As our school continues to strive to be one of the best academic schools in our part of Tanzania, Venace reminded me that we need to keep making improvements in the school. There is a big need for computers for the students to be trained on. It has gotten to the point we can buy the computers locally, so what we need are funds for computers. We need to raise $\$ 10,000$ to set up a new computer lab.

Something important to remember concerning the importance of the mission schools is this; a large portion of the students that graduate from Chimala, are not only well educated, but a large percentage of them are baptized Christians. Many of them will be future leaders in tomorrow's church.

Erhard Msanda reports the Secondary School has continued to improve the last three years in academics. Academics are the vital key to success in private schools in Tanzania. But just like the Primary School, the secondary school needs improvements also. Erhard says we need a good library at the secondary school. We need $\$ 1,500$ for shelves and $\$ 1,800$ for reference books to start a new Library. Your help will be a great benefit for the future of the school.

On a personal Note, Cyndi and I will be making what is most likely going to be our last trip to Chimala in June. It is hard to make this statement. We have been traveling to/living at Chimala for the last twenty years and it has been a big part of our lives. A part of us will always be at Chimala Mission. I will continue to work for the mission as an advisor and fund raiser until the end of the year. I want to thank each of you and our God in heaven who have made it possible for Cyndi and me to be a part of this great work.

Bill and Cyndi Stinson
(from opposite left)
also the students' to take home with them at the end of each school year.

Most of the men and women we train here at the Chimala School of Preaching could not afford to go to school and get this training if they had to pay for it themselves. Thus we feel we are fulfiling a very important and needed role in Tanzania.
This is a role that would either stop, or be greatly reduced, if we are no longer able to receive the donations from America and other places.
Through the years hundreds of Tanzanian men and women from all over the country have been trained through the Chimala School of Preaching, and have gone back to their home villages to share what they have learned to try to make life better for their fellow citizens. It would be a shame and a great loss if the school had to close due to no longer being able to receive donations from those who desire to help us in our efforts to educate Tanzanian men and women.

Designated Chimala Deacon

By Mark Davidson

As we enter our 5th month as the overseeing congregation for Chimala Mission, I am still in awe of this work. The many different avenues we have to reach good souls in Tanzania through the hospital, Christian school, and preacher training school make the Chimala mission a mighty force for the Lord. The great servants of God that have gone before us to bring the mission to this point are to be honored. The best way I see to honor them is to, "not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

From the day we began working with Bill Stinson, Howell Ferguson, and the elders of the New York Avenue congregation on the transition to oversight by Dalraida, this has been our goal. Honoring the past by pressing on to the goal of teaching the Gospel to the lost. I have been amazed at what like-minded people can do when they have a common goal and are willing to work together toward that goal.

As the deacon privileged to be working with Chimala on behalf of the Dalraida congregation I encourage you to join us. Join by giving of your money, supplies, time, talent, and more importantly join us in prayer for this great work. Join us in our common goal, because like-minded people can accomplish great things.
-Mark Davidson

## Donate With <br> PayPal



## Menard Swilla

## Words from the Administrator

## Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Chimala Mission Hospital and Schools has continued to be a busy place for us. We continue to serve the Lord spiritually as our goal is to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). As most of you are aware that the Chimala Mission Hospital and Schools are now under the oversight of the Dalraida church of Christ eldership. The Chimala Mission has five departments: Hospital, estate, school of preaching, secondary school, and primary school. Let me give a short history of each department and what they are doing,

Hospital: The hospital is treating people from different areas in the Mbarali District. We have 128 beds in total, and we treat as many as 60,000 patients per

## "We continue to

## serve the Lord

spiritually as our
goal is to seek and
save the lost".
tate and most of them are the guards. Other than the guards, we have a plumber, two carpenters, an electrician, and two mechanics. The salary for all of the estate employees come from supporters in America.

## Preaching School: CSOP

 (Chimala School of Preaching) is our school for training men to become preachers. We have 21 students all in their second year of schooling. In the Swahili program we have 13 students and in the English degree program we have 8 students. The students are in class during the week and on the weekends they are our doing evangelistic work with the area congregations. When they come back to school in July they will be involved with the Gospel Chariot as it is working with 5 different year. The main expense in running the hospital is salary and buying medicine. The hospital needs improvement in some of the following areas: Expanding the major theater (operating rooms) and mortuary. This can be improved only if we have funds, but our problem is that the government has not paying us any NHIF (Health Insurance) money for the last several months. Because of this the hospital is struggling financially. The hospital has 130 employees total.Estate: The estate is a department that helps other departments to fix whatever is needed to be fixed or maintained. We have 41 employees in the es-
congregations. The preaching school is also totally dependent upon funds for support from America, but we are hoping to change some of that through the farming project.

Secondary School: The secondary school has 130 students from Form I to Form IV. We have 17 staff (teachers and support staff). Use are using school fees to run the secondary school. The main challenge in the secondary school is that the parents are not paying their children's fees on time. Bible knowledge is always taught in our classrooms, and some of the students have obeyed the gospel and become followers of Christ. Most of the

fees we collect goes to pay salary and purchasing food for the students.

Primary School: The primary school has 520 students from nursery to grade 7. They have 24 staff (teachers and support staff). The primary school is experiencing the same challenges as the secondary school in that parents are not paying their fees on time. In the primary school all the fees also go to pay for the salaries and food.

Farm Project: In January we started the farm project for the purpose of suppling food for the mission as well as helping us to become self-supporting. We thank brother Gage Coldwater who is voluntari-
ly working on this project. The farm is raising chicken, rabbits, pigs, and gardens. The reason for these projects is that our goal is to make the mission selfsupporting.

Finally, let me say your generous support will help us improve the Chimala Mission Hospital and Schools. May God continue to bless you in your efforts, and we ask you to pray for God's blessings upon us here in Chimala, Tanzania.

Menard Swila<br>Chimala Mission Administrator

## This Month's Chimala Mission Question


#### Abstract

Q: Can medical supplies be shipped to Chimala even if the expiration dates are still a few months away?


A: That is a very good question. And the answer to that question is one that is having to be learned more about in my first year serving as Chimala Mission's stateside coordinator.

Most everyone knows that expiration dates on medicines usually serve at least three purposes: 1) it prevents medications and medical supplies from losing their potency, effectiveness, or intended function; 2) it certainly lessens the chances of manufacturers from being sued due to ineffective or even harmful effects from de-
grading products; and 3 ) it keeps the sales up for the manufacturers who provide the products on a regular basis. So there are a number of factors with safety being the most important.
But from the standpoint of shipping such items, there are other things we have to consider. Whenever we receive medicines or medical supplies, we must remember that it might be a year before we ship another container. If items with an expiration date of one year are sent, it will be expired by the time it is loaded. Another thing we have to think about is if the port authority finds expired items on our containers, heavy fines can be levied against us; or worse, the container could be confiscated for being in violation of international maritime law.

THE WORK THAT NEVER ENDS NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS


It is a colossal challenge trying to evangelize the country of Tanzania now having reached a population of over 60 million people. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the power to transform the souls of men and women, but we are still developing the tools to properly equip the Tanzanian Christians, preachers and teachers.

Your prayers are deeply needed. Please pray that:

- Eyes and ears would be open to receive the gospel.
- Tanzania's government officials would be a help rather than a hindrance to the work of God's church.
- Chimala's right to possess its lawful properly would not be jeopardized by principalities and powers antagonistic to the good works of the mission.
- God would send us soulloving, mission-minded Christians of sound doctrine.


## Principles for Chimala Leadership Success (2)

By Howell Ferguson

I once read that that there were four qualities necessary for successful leadership: the ability to listen, to encourage, to articulate, and to demonstrate. A human character flaw we all share in common is the tendency to respond or react before all the information is known. Many roadblocks in Tanzanian culture could more easily be overcome by heeding the wisdom of careful listening especially to older people. Tanzanians have a much greater respect for older people than many in our western culture. Trying to assert one's intelligence, quick wit, or intimidating presence will seldom touch the heart or bend the will of a stubborn village patriarch. Respectful and courteous listening, however, will have a much greater chance of opening otherwise closed doors thought otherwise impossible to budge.

This is not merely the Tanzanian way, but rather it is the practice of effective leadership universally. The Bible says that "A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel" (Proverbs 1:5). James wrote, "let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19). It is interesting that the early followers of Jesus were called "disciples", meaning "learners." Even the purpose and power of the Holy Spirit that would later come upon Jesus's disciples (John 14:26), was to a large extent to remind them of what they had heard while listening to Jesus. Teaching effective leadership to the Tanzanians must first be practiced by us with good listening.

www.chimalamission.com/trip

The Chimala Mission has always been committed to operating as efficiently as possible. Every dollar, quarter, dime, nickel, or penny represents individual Christians who put the mission's interest above their own. We have never lost sight of that, and we never will.

One area that has recently gained our attention is our tax exemption status before the Tanzanian government. We are working very hard to resolve the matter locally and in Tanzania. Without going into the political reasons, it is sufficient to say that right now we are being hit hard on taxes. On our last container, we were charged $\$ 5,775$ in taxes! That put a large burden on the mission budget that we earnestly need to recover from.
containers we ship give churches and individual Christians the opportunity to personally help the Tanzanian people by supplying the needs of missionaries, students, newborn babies and their mothers, orphans and widows. There are few things more appreciated than homemade student bags, quilts, receiving blankets and newborn caps. You should see students' eyes light up when they peek into their bags to see American crayons and color pencils.

Besides all of these, there are larger equipment pieces for the estate and replacement parts that are hard to find locally. But finally, these containers shipped tax-free send a strong message to the Tanzanian government and its people that the mission efforts of the churches of Christ are not for profit or prosperity. The people who provide the contents of these containers are a giving people. That is a message that we must never cease to spread. And the heart and spirit behind that benevolence is none other than our Lord and
We cannot, however, afford not to send these valuable containers for a number of reasons. One, as a mission operating in an African country, we are always in need of various supplies or equipment that simply cannot be bought in Tanzania. And even those items that are available are generally more than double the price. Two, inside these containers is the space and weight capacity to ship supplies in huge numbers making it actually a very economical way to keep the mission operating even when certain items are scarce locally. Three, the
 Savior Jesus Christ.

We will continually juggle the feasibility of shipping containers to Tanzania. When it is more economical to purchase items there; that is what we will do. But the benefit of shipping occasional containers of both mission supplies and humanitarian aid continues to be overwhelmingly significant. We could truly use your help. While we work to resolve the tax issue, can you help us offset this loss of \$5,775?

Howell Ferguson

## Please Help Us Offset Shipping Container Costs

## GIFTS IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

| IN HONOR OF | Bob Gallagher |
| :---: | :---: |
| Mary Ferguson by Martha Leath | y Lisa Rae Caswell |
|  | Betty Glasson |
| Jerry M Stevens | by Gary \& Jana Torno |
| by Charles Campbell | Jerry Herring by Carolyn Herring |
| IN MEMORY OF |  |
| Theo Aaron | by Linda Mayberry |
| by Corine Aaron | Dick Leach |
| Theo Aaron | by Linda Nichols |
| Monte \& | Malcolm Leath |
| Mary Baccus | by Martha Leath |
| by Jerry \& Joan Martin | Joseph Paul Lewis |
| V. P. Black |  |
| by Velma Scott | John Livingood |
| V. P. Black-School of Preaching- |  |
| Alabama Christian College by Hurley Church of Christ | Larry Locke by George Robertson |
| Bob \& Mozelle Brooks by Dorothy Brooks | Barney J. \& Mary Louse by Charles Campbell |
| Grace Campbell by Charles Campbell | Harold Meisenheimer by James VanEtten |
| Brenna Castleberry by Patsy Loden | Doug Reed by Judith Reed |
| Andrew \& Claudine Connally by Dale \& Laura White | Roy \& Velma Reynolds by Harold Reynolds |
| Charles Connally by Floyd Cox | Gorman Ritchie by Gary \& Jana Torno |
| Dr. Chester Davis by Carolyn Herring | Wayne \& Charlynn Rogers by Larry \& Karen Rogers |
| Laura Dennis by Carolyn Herring | Clay Ross by Laverne Ross |
| Ruby Fawcett by Gary \& Jana Torno | Jerome Savage by Chloe Spencer Trust |
| Kenneth \& Dorothy Frazzell by Dorothy Brooks | Jay \& Sadie Self by Betty Easley |

Kim Sickbert
by William \& Vickie Seniker
Bob Stapleton
by John Hawk
Patty Sturtevant
by Thomas \& Debra Sturtevant

## Bob \& Millie Sullivan

by Dorothy Brooks
Clinton Tarvin
by Don \& Linda Johnson

## Adrian Taylor

 by Nzuri Foundation, Inc.Dr. Jean Toliver by Tom \& Oma Griffith

Ken Upchurch by Howell \& Mary Ferguson
Shelton Wagner by Hal \& Ellen Crass

Diana Watson
by Carolyn Herring
Jo Woodson by Tom \& Oma Griffith

Laverne Young by Evelyn Beck

Laverne Young by Martha Brown

Laverne Young by Carolyn Herring

Laverne Young by Mineola Church of Christ

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.
(Romans 13:7)

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## Return Service Requested

 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 help 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 $\qquad$
In honor of
Please send a copy of gift acknowledgment to:
Name $\qquad$
Address $\qquad$
City/State $\qquad$ Zip

Please make checks payable to: Chimala Mission

| $\checkmark$ | Designate My Gift Toward | Amount |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Evangelism |  |
|  | Radio Program |  |
|  | CSOPStudent Support |  |
|  | Bibles |  |
|  | FarmProgram |  |
|  | Hospital |  |
|  | Chimala Mission Primary School |  |
|  | Herring Christian Secondary School |  |
|  | Missionary Support-Howell Ferguson |  |
|  | Missionary Support-Richard Rogers |  |
|  | Missionary Support-Bill Stinson |  |
|  | Estate |  |
|  | Shipping Container Expenses |  |
|  | Where Needed |  |

 GO DIGITAL...Help Chimala Mission Save Money! Subscribe online to our newsletter and you will save Chimala Mission postage and printing costs! That money can be used for other things in Tanzania and help more people.

Please subscribe online at www.chimalamission.com/get-updates and let us know if we can remove your name from our snail-mail list.


## Upcoming Chimala Mission Events

## - Seminars

a. Women's Seminar (June 11-13)
b. Youth Seminar (June 18-20)
c. Preacher's Seminar (June 25-27)

## -WBS—Gospel Chariot Campaigns

a. Itumpi Church of Christ (July 2-6)
b. Mlawo Church of Christ (July 9-13)
c. Ukwavila Church of Christ (July 16-20)
d. Mpangala Church of Christ (July 23-27)
e. Mswiswi Church of Christ (July 31-Aug 3)

- Chimala Visits
a. Harding Nursing Students (May 13-June 12)
b. OCU Nursing Students (June 28-Aug 9)
c. Bill and Cyndi Stinson (June 4-27)
d. Howell and Mary Ferguson (Jun 21-Aug 9)

