



The CHALLENGE of Africa

JUNE 2019 | VOL 1 NO 6

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 lo, 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!

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Also you may call or text me at (731) 267-4935.



The Chimala Mission is Truly Blessed

This June will be remembered as another very busy month at the Chimala Mission. Already this year, we have had a number of visitors mostly those who have asked to take a medical elective at the Chimala Mission Hospital. These include nursing students from Harding and OCU as well as medical students from Hong Kong, Germany, England and South Africa.

In the middle of this were the final clearing and delivery of two 40' shipping containers: one that had 179 school desks; and the other comprising of a large rotary tiller for the farm program, drip



irrigation kits, medical equipment, cabinets and supplies, as well as office furniture. And there are miscellaneous items too numerous to mention that are needed at the Chimala Mission. The desks are a great addition to the mission schools as most of the existing desks are handmade and mostly in a

poor state of repair. However, there is nothing like these new desks anywhere near Chimala.

We also have individuals and smaller groups of people some of whom include Archer Honea, and Bill and Cyndi Stinson. Mary and I will overlap with Bill and Cyndi for a few days when we leave for Chimala on the 20th of this month. Others coming will include a small medical group from Nigeria led by Dr. Emmanuel C. O. Madu, educator, and cancer and genetics researcher at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis.

Meanwhile, the crops from the farm program are being continually harvested even in spite of the earlier-than-expected dryer weather. And the students have been reaping from their rows as well. We expect to have a decent harvest this year in spite of a slow start and equipment delays. And now that we have the large rotary tiller, the farm should be able to multiply its efforts and use heavier equipment to provide a much more efficient irrigation system. Thank you for blessing the Chimala Mission.



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A WORK OVERSEEN BY



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Howell Ferguson
Stateside Coordinator

Words from one of Dalraida's Elders

By Bob McKee

Anyone hoping for rousing success in teaching God's word without dealing with difficulty is hoping for something that never was and never will be. In spite of open doors, there are always adversaries. (I Cor. 16:9). Proper recognition of this will help missionaries avoid daunting discouragement. We can't expect God to miraculously make our work successful when he did not do that for Paul. The Thessalonians received the words of Paul as the words of God (I Thess. 3:13), but he still had to contend with their frail humanity. This brings to mind what John experienced when the book he was given tasted sweet in his mouth but was bitter when he swallowed it. (Rev. 10: 9-11). All evangelists must walk by faith an unpaved road of hills and valleys.

But redemption is the driving force: a sinner snatched from perdition! What words can express the joy over one soul who repents, an act which causes even angels to rejoice? Those who labor in the word are assured that he who goes forth weeping, sowing the precious seed, will doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. (Psa. 126: 5-6). Indeed, those who lead many souls to righteousness will shine as the stars forever and ever. (Dan. 12: 3). Our hearts are stirred by these beautiful pictures, and we are powerfully reminded that whatever trials we encounter in teaching God's word are light affliction compared to the rewards.

—Bob McKee

Howell Ferguson Connecting the Dots

Although Gage and Kelly Coldwater along with their children, Aurora and Pike left in mid-May; the development and growth of the new farm program continues to move forward. We have lost some chickens and rabbits due to an illness specific to these animals, and fortunately it has no affect whatsoever on humans. But the nature of farming is that you gain some and lose some. No two years are ever the same.

However, the pigs production is moving along beautifully, if you can use such a word to describe pigs. But from our perspective, the pig production is as attractive to us as the multiplying of black soldier fly larvae. They both add up to the potential of sustainability of the Chimala Mission.

I have written of working toward making the mission self-sustaining several times before; but I think it bears mentioning over-again why we want a successful farm program. We do not want a farm program for the sake of a farm program, but we want it to fulfill a specific purpose. Here are the "dots" from the farm project we want to connect at the Chimala Mission:

1. A successful farm program brings along with it the probability of a long-term self-sustaining mission.
2. A long-term self-sustaining mission lowers the dependency on American support and provides a pattern for Tanzanian Christians to model in their homes, villages, and churches.
3. By putting these principles into practice, the income and quality of life can improve in Christian homes and churches.
4. Gradually coming out of impoverish-

ment, these homes and churches with improved income and quality of life are capable of bringing new good works in the name of Christ and to afford support for evangelists to work within their villages.

5. As the Christian community grows in good words and deeds—including the sharing of principles for superior successful farming—the community is benefited and sees the goodness and glory of God (cf. James 1:17).

Yes, the Chimala Mission's primary objective is to "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10); but in a third-world setting there is a pathway that needs to be considered which is best suited to that particular mission location. That an organized approach is necessary is clear from Paul's words in Romans 12:6-8:

God has left to the church the freedom of judgment in carrying out many aspects of our work.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness".

While speaking of spiritual gifts, Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of their responsibility to use what they have been given in responsible and productive ways. In so doing, God has left to the church the freedom of judgment in carrying out many aspects of our work. And he expects us to use wisdom and common sense as we practically find better ways to fulfill His will (cf. Rom. 15:25-27). God gave us Chimala. Let's use it to His glory!

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We Value Chimala's Visitors

Chimala Mission is a wonderful place for Christians, young and old alike to experience many aspects of overseas missions all in one location. It has served well both the seasoned missionary and also those new to this field of service.

Preachers and Bible instructors are able to put their years of study and experience in a classroom of men at the Chimala School of Preaching who wish to dedicate their lives to preaching the gospel of Christ. Our students do not have the resources available to them as American preachers; and so the skill and understanding that visiting preachers and Bible teachers bring to these new preachers is incredibly valuable.

Visiting teachers and administrators of primary and secondary schools may also put their trade to good use at the Chimala Mission Primary School and Herring Christian Secondary School. Our students are always excited to have Americans visit them and eager to hear their stories and learn from them. It is always a refreshing experience for those who visit the children of the Chimala mission schools.

Last but not least is the Chimala Mission Hospital

that has served not only the local people with healthcare, but has for years provided nursing and medical students with an opportunity of hands-on



training in a third-world hospital. In such an environment, skill and knowledge are often more available than the latest medical equipment. The above picture is a group of Harding University medical students who just completed their extended stay working at the hospital. The people they met and the impressions they received will last a lifetime. And we hope it is not the last time they visit Chimala.

THE WORK THAT NEVER ENDS NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS



Every good thing we may do for the betterment and salvation of the souls of men and women will have resistance. But there is one person who absolutely hates what all of us are trying to accomplish at the Chimala Mission: the Devil! The Bible tells us,

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8).

The good news is *“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).* For that reason we do not faint or lose hope (cf. Gal. 6:9). Your prayers and support continue to sustain the Chimala Mission in good times and in bad. Please pray that:

- Preachers, ladies, and young people are strengthened by our approaching seminars.
- Doors are opened and hearts are pricked by the gospel of Christ during this summer's upcoming campaigns.

This Month's Chimala Mission Question

Q: What is the best part of the Chimala Mission to support? In other words, what part of the mission will my dollars produce the most good?

A: The short answer is very simple: the spiritual side of the mission—*saving of souls!* No serious and studied Christian will deny this. However, in foreign mission fields there is a very familiar phrase among missionaries: *“No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.”*

What that means is the answer to this question will obviously be somewhat subjective. Everybody tends to favor one area more than another due to what they are the most familiar with or in which they have been personally or professionally involved.

If you worked in the medical field in any capacity, you naturally may think that healing human pain and suffering is of the greatest benefit as Jesus Himself healed the sick and suffering. If you worked in education, you know how im-

portant it is for people to understand language and communication as this is how God's word is revealed. If you were a preacher or Bible teacher, you know how important preaching and Bible schools are.

All of these areas are available to support. But please do not forget that the Chimala Mission is a large project with many things happening behind the scenes that make all of the other good works possible. An x-ray machine, school lab equipment, a new clean water well, better salaries for preaching school teachers—all of these are wonderful things to support. But without an estate upon which all these things operate, none of these good things could exist.

As a good former missionary friend used to say, you can't forget about the *“sticks and bricks.”* The “estate” as we use the term is always an excellent area to support. It may not be as “glorious” as the other areas, but without it the mission as we have known it for over 50 years would not exist.



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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 _____

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Upcoming Chimala Mission Events

• **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. OCU Nursing Students (June 28-Aug 9)
- b. Bill and Cyndi Stinson (June 4-27)
- c. Archer Honea (preachers' seminar June 25-27)
- d. Howell and Mary Ferguson (Jun 20-Aug 9)
- e. Mark Givens group (first 2 weeks of July)
- f. Medical group led by Dr. Emmanuel Madu (last 2 weeks of July)
- g. Nathan and Kristi Ferguson (July 24-Aug 9)