



The CHALLENGE of Africa

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2019 | VOL 1 NOS 9—10

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!

howellferguson@gmail.com

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

A WORK OVERSEEN BY



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Special 8-Page Issue for September and October

As a boy growing up in Memphis, I remember occasions when a missionary would come to visit our congregation. It was always an enjoyable time for me as I listened attentively to the missionary describe the works and events they experienced. The pictures were intriguing. I had never been to those places that seemed so distant and foreign. I wondered why the missionary speaking looked so thin. In my young and naïvely impressionable mind, I imagined that they had not been eating too well. After all, they were missionaries in a foreign country where people ate insects, worms, snakes, cats and green slimy stuff, so I thought. Being thin, therefore, fit the mental picture imprinted in my mind. It was only later when I began making such trips myself that I realized missionaries ate basically the same things I ate here at home. Oh yes, if you want to eat bugs you can probably find people who will serve you some. And I have been known to take the little smelly fish off my bowl of rice!

In my travels visiting churches and giving presentations, I wonder what little boy or girl out in the audience might be listening to the report and captured by the pictures. Will they one day be given the opportunity to go to a foreign mission field for the cause of Christ? What impression about the Lord's command to take the gospel to the world and make disciples, are we in the Lord's

church making on our young people? Are we creating dreams in these impressionable minds that will one day take our places deciding about the church's future and evangelistic duties?

Several of you reading this newsletter have been to Chimala and know how foreign mission work can get in your blood. You have seen the hundreds of people whose lives are touched by the mission's influence every day. Without going yourself, the next best thing we can do to help you understand is write about Chimala in our publication.

In the tradition of Chimala newsletters of the past, we are presenting in this issue the larger eight-page edition of the *Challenge of Africa*. This format allows us much more space to inform you of the great works that are occurring at the Chimala Mission and the current needs. As you can imagine, running a mission with 700 children and over 200 employees working at the preaching school, hospital, schools, and estate is quite a colossal task and expense.

The difference in this particular issue is we decided to combine the months of September and October into one newsletter to save overall publication costs. Moreover, it allows us to make a big push towards informing you the readers of the current status and needs of the mission. We hope you will feel informed and moved to help.

Howell Ferguson—Stateside Coordinator

Schools Need Supplies Hospital Needs Doctors & Nurses

By Howell Ferguson

Whenever you speak of Christian education in Tanzania, you will soon hear the names Chimala Mission Primary School and Herring Christian Secondary School. These schools were founded in this order and have been serving to provide an environment in which children can have quality education while learning about Jesus Christ and His church.

For these reasons and more, the Chimala Mission encourages American Christians who wish to promote Christian education to contribute to the needs of our schools. For example, HCSS has for some time been in need of lab equipment as well as English textbooks. Like any parent who is interested in quality education for their children; Tanzanians look at how well a school is equipped, how safe the water is, how secure the campus is, and what resources are available for their children. We have made great strides to improve the kitchen and the quality of the food. Our farm program is being designed to provide high-quality nutrition in the form of fresh meats and vegetables at a fraction of the cost of buying from outside vendors.

In addition to the schools, the Chimala Mission Hospital has need of American Christian doctors, nurses, and those with hospital administrative experience. In the past history of the mission, occasionally there have been doctors who gave up a few years of lucrative practices to help people who could not repay them. These doctors

(continued on opposite side)

Howell Ferguson Our Quest to Train Preachers

I do not know everything about mission work, but I do know some things. And what I have learned by study, research, experience and observation in the mission field for almost 20 years is it is always best to train men in the Bible in their own country, in their own culture, in their own language (when possible), and in their own economic system rather than bringing them to the United States for the same training. In most cases where men are brought to the U.S. for their training (although not 100% - there are always exceptions) when the men complete their training, one or more of the following things may happen:

- They may not return home.
- If they do return, they have become so "Americanized" by materialism that they have difficulty re-adjusting to their home.
- They are no longer content to live within the means of the indigenous people they left, and become indefinitely dependent upon American "sponsors".
- They are largely ineffective as evangelists due to jealousy created in the local people who see their "rich" preachers.
- The cost of training them in the States is many times multiplied compared to the cost of training them in their own land.

...it is always best to train men in the Bible in their own country...

The hundreds of churches throughout Tanzania are evidence of the success of these schools. And where some may have failed, it is perhaps because they did not have an exit strategy; not because the schools were ineffective. Such an exit strategy is what we are attempting to establish with the farm program at Chimala. The Mbarali District of which Chimala is a part, is an agricultural society. Farming is the "bread and butter" of this part of the country. And the economic success or failure of this area will either rise or fall depending upon the results of farming. Bringing "America" and American social programs to Chimala will not bring success to the native people. Learning to farm more efficiently will.

Here is our objective in the Chimala School of Preaching: To train Tanzanian preachers in the Bible AND in efficient farming techniques. To help them recognize new types of crops and livestock previously not considered that can increase their income potential. These same newly-trained preachers can then take this new knowledge to the same churches to which they also preach the gospel. This in turn empowers the congregations with the same new knowledge which they can implement at their homes. The results are preachers with better farms, members with better farms, more income from more prosperous church members, preachers who can now begin receiving support from local churches, and good works in which the churches can participate in an effort to save souls and glorify God through Jesus Christ.

The above points are the foundation pillars for establishing overseas schools of preaching. These have proven highly successful around the world in training men to take the gospel to the indigenous

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www.chimalamission.com



Bill Stinson

The Challenge of Africa Explained And We Need Your Help

We have used the title “Challenge of Africa” for the mission’s newsletter for years. I have often had to explain to people why we use that name. It is hard for people who have never lived in a third world environment (especially in Africa) to understand. Today I am writing about a situation we have that will maybe help you understand to some degree.

Andrew Connally started Chimala Mission by building a hospital. Now, the hospital was not the reason for the mission, but it was a way we (the church of Christ) could legally be in the country preaching the Gospel. Of course, over the last 60 plus years, not only have thousands been healed and saved physically, thousands upon thousands more have heard and obeyed the gospel. Hundreds of men have been trained to be preachers and hundreds of congregations have been established.

The hospital has always been the cornerstone in the eyes of the government when it came to recognizing the mission and the church. But as Socialism goes in third world countries, the government is always coming up with more and more burdens for things such as our hospitals. A few years ago while I was still serving as the Mission Administrator, they started a program to where we would provide free health care to expecting women and for the children up to

the age of 5 years. **Their promise was they would reimburse us for this expense.** The first few years, though not easy and the government was always slow to pay, we managed to make this program work and it did bring a lot of mamas and their babies to our hospital.

But in the last few years, it has become harder and more difficult for us to receive enough from the government to cover the cost. Every year it has been a major ordeal to negotiate a new contract with them. Now, we are in 2019 and the government has stopped paying us and other hospitals in the same position. They have not made a payment in months (since early this year)



and the hospital now has accrued a large debt. Our leadership has notified the government that we consider the contract null and void since the government has failed to live up to their side of the contract, and that we are stopping these free services. As I said “The Challenge of Africa”.

We do need your help in reducing the debt we owe to our medical suppliers in Tanzania. The hospital currently owes **\$70,806** to our [pharmacy] vendors.

[We are pressing the TZ government to repay their debt to the hospital, but mothers and babies continue to need our services. Thank you for considering our plea. hf]

(from opposite side)

will tell you what they gave up monetarily could never take the place of what they gained spiritually and in compassion for hurting people. But it has been a long time since an American Christian doctor lived and worked at the Chimala Mission. I am constantly reminded by the Chimala brethren how they wished I could find such a doctor. Recently, Menard Swila asked me: “Do you remember our recent discussion?” I said, “Which one?” He said, “That you will help us find an American doctor who is a Christian.” I told Menard I have not forgotten. It is just difficult to find such a person.

Naturally in the long term, we do not want American medical professionals to replace the local medical staff. Their plea is for training by experienced doctors in techniques and in the use of equipment.

If you are a doctor or nurse who wishes to bring your training and experience to a level of grace never before given, please let me know. If you have hospital administrative or even accounting experience, we would love to talk to you.



HEN HATCHING DUCKS

“Carol had her first baby hatch today in an experiment. As a child she remembered her mother setting duck eggs under a hen, so we thought we would try it and show something new here. We have 2 hens setting and this is the first of 10 eggs. Another was starting to come out. “ Richard Rogers



Sometimes mamas will listen to the children's classes. We love this as it will help them learn to teach their children.

Howell Ferguson

Fruit From CSOP Efforts

The efforts put forth from the Chimala School of Preaching are intended not only to train men to preach the gospel to the lost; it involves actually doing this work ourselves. There are many lost without Christ all over Tanzania. But I have tried to emphasize to our staff and students that lost but receptive people live not only dozens of miles away, but are also right in front of us.

The village of Chimala and villages adjacent to it are steadily growing as the productive Kapunga rice plantations generate increasing employment in the area. That translates into more families, more students, and more children who have the need for the gospel.

Remmy Mfaume, one of our CSOP instructors has always provided detailed reports concerning his evangelistic efforts. English is not his first language, but you should be able to follow him. Here are some of his recent reports:

September 23

Hello brother Howell, Greeting in the name of Jesus.

How are you doing today? with those in your households and Lord's services? Hopefully all are well with you.

We thank God that He still keeps us secured and provide for our

daily needs...thus we survive in season and out of season .

Very sorry for being silent for such a long time though you are still in my memory on all you do to the Tanzania Church through your service and support in the Chimala Mission.

It has been good time to us and God's work is still going on as said.

1. We are now going on with teaching Long course being the third week today started. Both wings are well doing in class and teachers as well.



2. My programs with all of my companions in government secondary school's are going well...and Saturday 21st September 2019 we had a Form four religious GRADUATION ceremony

conducted at KIMANI CHURCH BUILDING. It was good and encouraging event to our youth in schools especially the graduates for they received many encouraging and warning words from preachers, school periods teachers, missionary (Richard Rogers), fellow former graduates who are now advanced to higher level of education eg Form five and six, teaching and vocational Colleges, Church members, parents and guardians and others. Also it was a day of evaluating our years of our services in schools...so we share to the attendants on both strength and weakness in this service.

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Help Chimala Missions use our financial support more wisely!

Also we had about **8 students** baptized on the very day of graduation.

Dear brother Howell, this service is an important work adding to church growth in Tanzania to the point of now the church having strong and courageous youth who will result positive Christian church members and future leaders in Christ's kingdom.

September 29

Hello brethren in Christ greetings.

We thank God for His providence and care to us and His work.

It has been a work of six busy days in the field preaching good news at IMEZU CHURCH OF CHRIST from Monday arrival to Sunday departure day.

The total number of attendants were 268.

SUCCESS

1. TUESDAY; We have been able to preach same lessons on Bible Authority -REMMY
2. WEDNESDAY; Sin and Salvation -REMMY
3. THURSDAY; The True Church -JOSEPH
4. FRIDAY; The true Worship -JOSEPH
5. SATURDAY; The False doctrine -MWAKALENGA.

Also we have succeeded to;

*Baptize - **5 souls** (men 2 and women 3)

*Restoration **10 souls** which makes a total of 15 souls.

Thanks for the support and prayers.

Thanks

May God bless you all.

Thanks



This Month's Chimala Mission Question

Q: Why is the old farm on the mountain behind the mission called Ailsa?

A: The first time I heard the word Ailsa, I just assumed it was a name native to that part of Tanzania. In my earlier trips to teach at Chimala I heard about this "old mission" up on the mountain at the edge of an escarpment overlooking the eastern Rift Valley. It was formerly a German pig farm that was handed over to the British as part of the *Armistice* agreement that ended World War I. British Major James Cormack acquired the farm and eventually sold it to Eldred Echols and Guy Caskey who, as I understand, eventually deeded it over to the church. For years it continued as a Bible school and home for missionaries. In the early 70's, however, it was abandoned leaving it vulnerable to the local Wangi people some of whom plundered the buildings of anything of value.

How the location became known as Ailsa is an interesting story. Growing up in Scotland, James Cor-

mack was familiar with the islands situated between Ireland and Scotland in the Irish Sea. Unique to these islands is found a particular granite stone from which curling stones are made. One of these rare and rugged uninhabited islands is called Ailsa Craig.

When Cormack lived in Tanganyika (former name of Tanzania), he would often travel north away from the mountains and into the vast Usangu Plain which was then teeming with all sorts and sizes of African wildlife. He might be gone for days hunting wild game for food or, as his son David did professionally, serve as a scout and escort for hunters. On the return trips, Cormack was able to see his way home by identifying the mountains back to the south, particularly the farm which he nicknamed "Ailsa" as it reminded him of that striking island near his homeland of Scotland. Technically, the area is called Kikekelo by the native Wangi people; but the name Ailsa has stuck with the missionaries and some local people.



Nothing is free except the grace of God, and even grace is not cheap.

Elders, deacons, and other church leaders know the struggles to keep up the physical part of facilities that help them effectively fulfill the Bible's directives to preach the gospel, worship, edify one another, and demonstrate compassion in good works. Multiply that times ten and you can get a greater appreciation of the costs of running the Chimala Mission. As the spokes of a wheel all help to support the hub, so all the works of the Chimala Mission help support the mission's "hub" - seek and save the lost.



Needs of the Chimala Mission In Order of Priority

All of the works of the Chimala Mission are designed to assist each other in fulfilling our main objective. Ultimately, all of these areas have one main goal in mind: to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10). That is why the mission exists. In the process of accomplishing this worthy goal, there are many details. And details frequently have costs associated with them. This is nothing new. The churches in Achaia and Macedonia knew the importance of sending financial aid to their Jewish brethren suffering from a famine in Judea (cf. Rom. 15:25-31; 2 Cor. 8-9). Why spend that money? Because of the importance of unifying the Jewish and Gentile churches into one body of believers with a common bond and goal to spread the gospel to all the world.

And while the mission is not a "business," it does contain elements that must be attended to wisely as stewards of God's things. Here are some areas that need help:

Chimala Debts

Owe Bhojani and MSD pharmacies: Cost \$70,806
Money borrowed to clear shipping container: Cost \$6,000

Total cost: \$76,806

Chimala School of Preaching

2020 CSOP operations: Cost \$51,567
2020 CSOP transport and graduation expenses: Cost \$3,106

Total cost: \$54,673

Farm Program

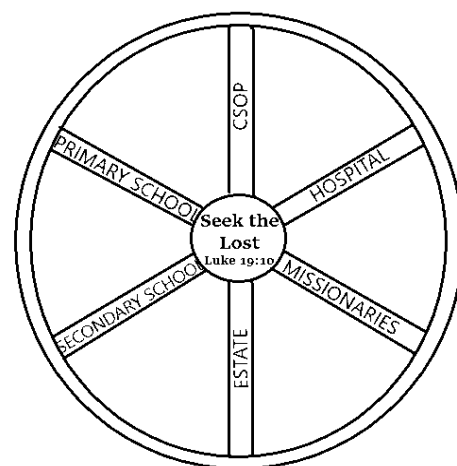
Planting 40 acres of corn and 20 acres of beans at Ailsa: Cost \$9,605
Ailsa farm survey: Cost \$1,290
Milling building electrical connection: Cost \$1,957
Ailsa workers house repair: Cost \$789
Total cost: \$18,001

Farm Equipment

Farm tractor with front-end loader: Cost ~~\$30,000~~ (paid)
Landini new rubber tracks: Cost \$2,250
Total cost: \$32,250

Chimala Mission Hospital

Sterile operational theatre: Cost \$33,060
Morgue renovation with 3-drawer refrigerator: Cost \$15,000
Ultrasound machine for trauma center: Cost \$28,000
Total cost: \$76,060



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Come and see yourself and get involved in the good works at Chimala.

Find more info at www.chimalamission.com/trip



GIFTS IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

IN HONOR OF

Lindsey Gee
by Charles Campbell

Miss Adrienne Merrill
by Charles Campbell

Endia Simms
by Charles Campbell

Jerry Stevens
by Charles Campbell

Verle Tiltoson
by Charles Campbell

Jack Christie, Jr.
by Mary Frances Christie

Grover Crosslin
by Linda Crosslin

Mason Denton
by Frances Denton

Jerry Herring
by Kelly & Tami Parker

Joe Lemmons
by Mr. & Mrs. Larry Johnson

Bill Moody
by Charles Campbell

Joshua Mwakyasima
Tony Hopper

Charles Paslay
by John F. McFarlan

Clay Ross
by Laverne Ross

Dodie Souder
by James French

Dodie Souder
by Connie Jones

Jerry Stevens
by Charles Campbell

Gina L. Stikes
by Joanne Stikes

Patty Sturtevant
by Thomas & Debra Sturtevant

Verle Tiltoson
by Charles Campbell

Shelton Wagner
by Hal & Ellen Crass

Betty Welch
by James French

Rudy Wheeler
by Northside Church of Christ

Linda Wright
by Charles Campbell

IN MEMORY OF

Gene Adams
by Phillis Adams

Clay Blevins
by Jenny Eller and Margaret Blevins

Barney, Mary Louise, and Grace Campbell
by Charles Campbell

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)

CAROL ROGERS MISSIONARY

Carol painting at Chimala School of Preaching. She and her art students are working on our plan to paint Bible graphics around the mission.



HCSS BURSAR

Timothy Mwama sits at his desk at the Herring Christian Secondary School. He is the bursar for the school, an important area of responsibility.





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MEMORIAL | HONOR | BIRTHDAY | ANNIVERSARY

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 _____

In honor of _____

Please send a copy of gift acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

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

✓	Designate My Gift Toward	Amount
	Evangelism	
	Radio Program	
	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 Expenses	
	Where Needed	



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



Top: Chimala Mission Primary School standard 7 girl graduates

Middle: Chimala Mission Primary School standard 7 boy graduates

Bottom: Six-day gospel meeting at IMEZU Church of Christ