



The CHALLENGE of Africa

FEBRUARY 2020 | VOL 2 NO 2

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
 **DALRAIDA**
CHURCH OF CHRIST

3740 Atlanta Highway
Montgomery, AL 36109
(334) 272-2561
www.dalraida.org



This Issue

- Success One Step At A Time **P.1**
- Secondary School Needs **P.2**
- An Adjustment In Plans **P.2**
- CSOP News And Report **P.3**
- More Than Corn And Beans **P.4**

Success One Step At A Time

There has been some good news since we made pleas in behalf of the hospital and schools. We already had wonderful success in the hospital from kind and giving individuals who helped us reduce the debts accrued as the result of the government's failure to make good on their commitments to the hospital. The hospital's long-standing policy has been that we never turn anyone away for care or treatment even if they cannot pay.

While not exactly like our US insurance programs, the Tanzanian government does have something similar called NHIF where the hospital receives reimbursement for treatment or services performed. In addition to other resources, the program has been basically successful. My suspicion, however, is that because the current president is working to be re-elected later this year, his extensive building programs of new roads, bridges, buildings, a railroad, etc. have been draining the country's reserves. Accordingly, reimbursing private hospitals has not been high on his list.

But just recently the government did finally begin sending payments. That amount plus a generous contribution stateside allowed us to make a sizable payment toward a debt owed to our primary pharmaceutical provider. We are very thankful that a dent has finally been made in this debt. Furthermore, there has been continued interest and support in the schools and farm program.

You will remember that sometime back a program was begun to help preachers' families be able to send their children to school. This was initially a good program; however, last year very few funds were received to continue the program. We could have sent all the preachers' kids home, but that would have been a disaster and given the Chimala Mission a black eye with the community. That meant we allowed the children to continue in their studies and continued to plead for financial aid. But the school was gradually failing financially. With the current situation a decision had to be made. The preachers' kids program will cease to exist at the end of 2020. Yet, we still have to provide them education until the end of this year.

The good news is we have received some one-time contributions that will enable us to keep the kids in school until then. *IF* (and this is a BIG IF) we receive substantial commitments this year, we may be able to continue the program. Nothing would make us happier than to see these children continue to attend the mission's schools. But in keeping with the long-range goal of making the mission self-sustaining, an approach towards independence has to be pursued. Yes, you guessed it: the farm program is the key we believe to making this a reality. That is why we continue to make pleas in behalf of this program and continue to promote it's growth and success. This is good news!

Howell Ferguson

School Needs (cont.)

Keeping schools properly equipped is a challenge here in the US. You can imagine how much more difficult it can be in a third-world country. Here many such supplies and equipment are readily available. At Chimala it is a completely different story.

Last month I listed items Head Master, Erhard Msanda of Herring Christian Secondary School provided for me. Below are the concluding items from Erhard's list:

GENERAL (Not in order of priority)

White boards

Computers for computer class:

Desktops w/flat screens

Laptops

Teacher tables & chairs

Classroom clocks

Paper cutter

Chain saw for cutting firewood

Pruning shears

Leaf rakes

Lawn mower

Outdoor trimmers

English language dictionaries

Class readers (English story books ; 7-11 grades)

Math Kits

The better the Chimala schools are equipped and perform, the more students we attract. As most of these students come from non-Christian families, our schools give us a tremendous opportunity to introduce these children to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Once again, if you would like to help in this effort, I can pick up your items when I visit churches. Simply contact me at howellferguson@gmail.com or call or text me at (731) 267-4935 to schedule a pickup.

Howell

Learn more online @ www.chimalamission.com

Nathan Ferguson

An Adjustment In Chimala Plans

Things are as exciting and busy as ever in the Ferguson household, and we have some important updates to share. While we were initially planning on beginning our work once Kristi graduated with her LPN, together we have made some adjustments to enable us to leave earlier in **January, 2021**. With this new timeline ahead of us, our continued efforts in raising support and visiting churches around the country has been somewhat "hurried". With all of our church visits, meetings, lectureships and events planned ahead, there are many things we still must attend to, with a limited amount of time.

As we continue to seek prayers and financial support from congregations, we also wanted to inform you all of our next planned visit to Chimala, which will be sometime between **June-July of this year**. The Dalraida leadership has asked for us to take one more survey trip before we embark full-time; so we are encouraged and excited about our next experience working with the laborers in Chimala. We will plan about a **4-week** trip, so we ask for your continued prayers for our successes during that time.

In the meantime even with this big trip (and all the planning required) ahead of us, we are still looking to set up meetings with our faithful churches around the country. We would love to share more information on the work in general in addition to our individual goals and objectives

once we hit the ground in 2021. We firmly believe in the work at Chimala and we want our brothers and sisters in the states to see the incredible ways God is working there.

We wanted to add one more request – Kristi and I are continuing to seek another family who has interest in serving the Lord in Chimala. While the prospect of foreign mission work certainly can be daunting at first, we believe a unified team on the ground can do wonders for the mission and would certainly help ease some cultural struggles during the initial transition. If you and your family have been seeking an opportunity to serve the Lord on the field, I cannot think of a better opportunity than the one in Chimala.

There is so much to do between now and January, so again we solicit your prayers and support during this time while we "put the puzzle pieces together". We thank you all for your continued love and encouragement and pray we can share more on the work soon.



Help Chimala Missions use our financial support more wisely!

Donate With
PayPal

Set up a custom donation sent automatically to Chimala Mission each month through PayPal

www.chimalamission.com/donate



Review of January Evangelistic Efforts

The Chimala School of Preaching has now passed the half-way point in its first quarter. Frank Mwashikumbulu, CSOP director sent to me a copy of fellow-instructor, Remmy Mfaume's report for the month of January. Below is a summary of Remmy's report.

Remmy begins describing efforts made with the church at Mapangala, a congregation that Mary and I worked with several years ago. Although they have a preacher, Frank occasionally preaches for them. Taking three students with him, Frank often teaches Bible classes and does door-to-door evangelism.

Boaz Kasiba, an elder at the mission congregation and a CSOP instructor, has been working with churches at Mbozi and Uwangi teaching them how to grow spiritually and how to become more self-supporting. Serving also as the farm liaison with CSOP students, Boaz shares with the Christians in these places new techniques in better farming. They have had Bible classes with non-believers and also worshipped together with the church. In all they succeeded with **five baptisms** and **one person restored**.

Remmy himself has been teaching in various secondary schools at Imezu, Jakaya, Mengele, and Mount Chafukwe on Fridays. Then on Saturday and Sundays he with three CSOP students have been evangelizing and preaching. They set up new WBS correspondence Bible lessons in villages and schools but also have taught lessons to congregations on how to prepare good leaders and strong Christian families. In secondary schools they have distributed 745 WBS correspondence course lessons to 149 students each having received 5 lessons. In Imezu he has taught 40 students, in Mengele 62 students, in Jakaya 10 students, and in Mount Chafukwe 37 students. As a result of the work in the secondary schools, they have **baptized six students**; four at Imezu and two at Mengele. The total for the month due to the efforts of CSOP is **eleven baptisms and one restoration**.

Plan for February Efforts

Normally January is a slow time of year for evangelism since the new school year has started and the local farmers are very busy with their shambas. Yet January's successful harvest of souls encourages us. And although February is nearly ended, the following is the plan of work the CSOP staff for this month's evangelism.

1. Evangelism will be conducted primarily on Saturdays

and Sundays.

2. Two weekends out of the month will be chosen especially for evangelistic efforts.

3. Places will be selected and permission will be requested and granted from the members and preachers of different churches to work in conjunction with them. Groups will be divided with a teacher and three or four students to travel and work in selected locations.

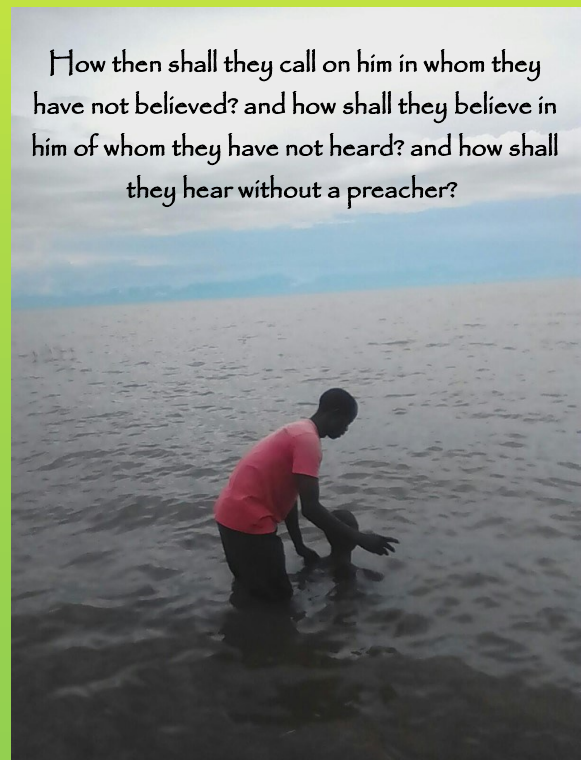
4. In each place where they labor, their expectation is to : a) Revive/strengthen relationships with congregations; b) Establish and continue WBS Bible courses and seminars; c) Conduct a series of Bible classes/lessons on church growth; d) Evangelize by house to house preaching and follow-up; and e) Encourage preachers and congregations to grow in the spirit of unity, harmony, and peace.

5. Some of the congregations that were proposed to begin this work in February included:

- a) Ubaruku church of Christ
- b) Isisi Rujewa Church of Christ
- c) Igawa Church of Christ
- d) Manyolo Church of Christ
- e) Nyangulu Church of Christ
- f) Tambukaleli Church of Christ
- g) Mbuyuni Church of Christ

At the writing of this article no information has been received as to the success of the churches' cooperation or of the number of conversions or restorations. Knowing our teaching brethren and their enthusiasm and effectiveness in evangelism, there is every reason to expect more good news. Please keep CSOP in your prayers.

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?





**DALRAIDA CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHIMALA MISSION**
3740 ATLANTA HIGHWAY
MONTGOMERY, AL 36109
(334) 272-2561
chimalamission@gmail.com

Stateside Coordinator:
HOWELL FERGUSON
howellferguson@gmail.com
(731) 267-4935
www.chimalamission.com

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 456
Montgomery, AL

Return Service Requested

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—Nathan Ferguson	
	Preachers' Kids School Fees	
	Estate	
	Where Needed	
	Future Shipping Container	



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.

More Than Just Corn and Beans

Ezekiel Harrison reports that the farm continues to do well as the corn first planted is already producing tassels. Unlike some US corn, Tanzanians usually let their corn dry in the field and become hard as nearly all of it is milled either for making animal feed or corn flour. We have corn growing both at the main mission and at the Ailsa farm. Ezekiel said in one of his recent reports that he was exhausted that day after riding his motorcycle up the 57 hairpin curves to Ailsa. Not only does he and the workers tend to corn at Ailsa, but 40 acres of beans have also been planted. But what does this all mean? For the future of the Chimala Mission, this can translate eventually into a self-sustaining model for the churches desiring to become brighter "lights in the world" (Phil. 2:15). hf

