



# The CHALLENGE of Africa

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## 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 not overseas or on the road, I schedule appointments for presentation reports to supporting churches or churches interested in learning more about the **Chimala Mission**.

If you would like a report, please contact me by email, phone or text!

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## Howell Ferguson Summer Seminars

A statement I hear a lot during chapel announcements, in prayers and in other public and private conversations at Chimala Mission could be summed up in the following words: "We thank God for the missionaries and churches in America who support our work in Tanzania." Of the areas that we normally support, the yearly seminars are one of the most encouraging and productive.

Having arrived for our second trip of the year to Tanzania, we found ourselves in the middle of a very busy time of the year at Chimala. As the seminars began, our CSOP preaching students began their scheduled break but have now returned to resume classes. Some of the students live near enough that they are able to remain for the preachers' seminar. But while student dorms were empty, we were able to use them and other student housing to provide the seminar visitors a place to stay.

Here is a quick summary of the seminars: First for the youth seminar, there were 121 young people in attendance and five baptisms; Second, there were 163 ladies who attended the ladies' seminar. To our knowledge, this was the largest group of ladies to attend in the history of ladies' seminars at Chimala; Third for the preachers' seminar, there were 72 preachers in attendance from different congregations throughout Tanzania.

These seminars are great ways for Christians in Tanzania to enjoy the common bond of fellowship and edification we share in Christ Jesus. It is their "Hebrews chapter 11" of encouragement through faithful people.

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## Howell Ferguson Children's Ward Visit

"I was sick and you visited Me" was spoken by Jesus in Matt. 25:36. The Chimala Mission Hospital is always a place where benevolence and kindness are never taken for granted. While suffering is a common human experience; visiting a third-world hospital will humble you like nothing else.

It is in such an environment, however, where goodness and kindness shine at its brightest. Below Eden Ferguson gives a small gift, made by an American Christian woman, to a mother for her sick infant child. Your gifts of kindness whether financially or personally make a little bit go a long way.



Learn more online @ [www.chimalamission.com](http://www.chimalamission.com)

## Howell Ferguson Work of the CSOP

The Chimala School of Preaching is a highly versatile program at the Chimala Mission. Not only are men taught the Bible and subjects which help them with preaching the gospel and serving congregations; the leadership of the school also plans, organizes and conducts a number of programs. For example, with the cooperation of the mission congregation, the CSOP staff organized the three summer seminars which we recently completed. They also organize our summer campaigns and select areas which they believe will be most effective in reaching people with the gospel of Christ. Furthermore, they conduct week-end evangelism with the students where countless tracts are distributed, Bible studies are set-up, and baptisms and restorations are frequently the result. They also publish their own literature.



Above are 3 baptisms out of 5 that took place during the Youth Seminar



Exavery Ngullo instructing students at CSOP

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## Encouragement from Visitors and Family

One of the really nice perks of mission work is having visitors to put aside their busy lives and sacrifice time, money, and energy for just a few days or weeks to visit Chimala Mission. Not only is it a great encouragement to the missionaries, but it also solidifies the truth that American churches of Christ believe in the value of such efforts. It may sound easy to simply say, “Hey, let’s visit the Chimala Mission.” But to actually go through the experience to acquire a passport, apply for a Tanzania visa, convince an eldership of the importance of such a visit or stay, raise the funds or use your own funds, book the flights, secure someone to watch your house, cat, dog, negotiate the loops of the “Covid” test requirements, etc.—that is a true act of love. Few people have ever considered this, and fewer have actually done it. But for those of you who have and will, there is surely a special place in heaven for you!

We all know how Covid-19 has disrupted our normal activities and future plans. This has been true with people who had plans to visit Chimala but were deterred in a number of ways. Almost all of the 2020 Chimala visitors’ plans—including ours—were cancelled or postponed. Groups that traditionally visited each year such as nursing students from Christian universities as well as medical students and interns from around the world were deterred from coming. Individuals and families who had interest in bringing their talents in the form of short-term trips or survey trips for long-term mission work were delayed for a later date.

Nevertheless, saying that coming to visit Chimala is a sacrifice is probably an understatement. If only God is aware of the sacrifice visitors make to come to Chimala, that would undoubtedly be enough. But missionaries are appreciative of what visitors give up to come. It is a welcome sight to meet visitors at the Songwe airport where we pick up most of our guests and drive them a couple of hours to the mission. And it is without a doubt most refreshing when those visitors are your own family such as Kristi’s mother, grandmother, and cousin.

Lord willing, our daughter Sarah and her husband, Jeremy Hall will be visiting for our last 2 weeks at Chimala. Please pray for the safety of all our summer visitors.

Howell



*The Fergusons saying goodbye to Kristi’s family: Christine Tarmey, Ally Tinker, and Mary Ann Cox*



## Highlighting Herring Christian Secondary School



*Angel Mathias  
HCSS Librarian*



*Samuel Nvundwe  
HCSS Bible Knowledge Teacher*



*A Herring Christian Secondary School  
Class*



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*(This form is provided for your convenience)*

I would like to make a gift in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

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**Village Congregations**

On a wall inside my office in the “Carruth” house where Mary and I normally stay while visiting Chimala, there is a handmade map entitled “Churches of Christ Of Southwestern Tanzania.” Not intended to be to scale, this map merely shows the physical location of 90 churches from one another. On the bottom right, there is a date of August, 2008. I am not aware of a more recent map, but I know more churches have been started here since then.

While we always try to attend and encourage what I call the “mission congregation” (known locally as “Chimala B”); it is also a treat to visit surrounding congregations as well. I know for a fact I have not been to all 90+ churches. But whenever you visit these other congregations, you better have a sermon in your back pocket because you will be expected to preach.

A small congregation southeast of the mission at **Usalimwani** is one such place. Two of our guards at the mission are also brothers and attend this congregation. One of the brothers, “Little Brown” as we refer to him, a 1997 graduate of the Chimala School of Preaching, has done a great job working with this church. They raise their own food to provide for the needs of the church and for helping the needy. The pic below shows the rural small village scenery after Sunday AM dismissal with members and visitors in the traditional hand-shaking circle after dismissal. Howell

