



The CHALLENGE of Africa

JANUARY 2022 | VOL 4 NO 1

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

Chimala Mission Display at FHU Lectureship

From almost time immemorial, the first week of February has traditionally been the week of the annual Freed-Hardeman University Lectureship. Whenever we're not at Chimala Mission in February we try to set up the large Chimala display in the main arena of the Brewer Sports Center. Filled with displays of many other good missions and ministries, this large display room has always been a great location for broad exposure of the Chimala Mission's works to our great brotherhood. It is also a great time to be reacquainted with old friends, fellow-alumni, and listen to stimulating and encouraging lessons.

While I enjoy attending these larger gatherings of God's people, I'm also on the look-out for prospective missionaries who have a desire to do this kind of work. We are always looking for

talented individuals, sound in Bible doctrine, faithful to God, trustworthy, and who have a good reputation. It is also encouraging to talk to brothers and sisters in Christ involved in kindred works of God. A lot can be learned from others who are working in other mission fields around the world and in the States. Experience is an effective teacher; but gaining wisdom from those who have already been where we currently are can help keep us from making unnecessary mistakes.

But at the end of the day, there are no two mission works exactly alike. As the late Andrew Connally once wrote: *"I personally have seen dozens of works on foreign fields..., and know you cannot dogmatically outline any one method for all situations. To do so is to be presumptuous in a detrimental way. Wisdom and adaptability are of paramount importance at this point."* If you're in the Henderson, TN area, we invite you to stop by our display area. We'd love to meet you and talk.



Howell Ferguson

CSOP News Brief

From the Chimala Mission, I continue to receive reports of the many good works being accomplished. CSOP has begun the new year with a fresh class of students ready to dig into the word of God. Originally we had 21 students signed-up; but that number has reduced to 17. This is not surprising as frequently, in a class of this size, problems arise surrounding family matters, finances, health, and even the reality of the work and course-load.

While we try to make their stay at Chimala as comfortable and beneficial as possible; it takes a great deal of commitment and perseverance to give-up two years of their lives for CSOP. They are required to live away from home and family, stay on a daily course schedule, and dedicate themselves to an extended study of God's word.

Weekend evangelism has resumed following the holiday break with these new students and their teachers. Frank Mwashikumbulu reports of a recent weekend where six groups went out with the following total results:

- **900 tracts passed out**
- **182 Bible courses set up**
- **Sunday worship with 105 adults and over 38 children**

What is interesting about these efforts is that these are nearby efforts. This means even in areas previously evangelized, there are still people seeking to know God's will. "A sower went out to sow."

Learn more online @ www.chimalamission.com

Howell Ferguson

Mbeya Bible School and Radio Program

A few years ago, Peter Kamatula showed great interest in working full-time in his hometown of Mbeya (approx. 50 mi west of Chimala). Even though he continues to be partially involved with CSOP, Peter works primarily with the Mbeya Bible School (MBS) and a radio program in Mbeya. Patterned after the Tanzania Bible School in Dar-es-Salaam started by former missionary, Dale Dennis many years ago; MBS is an effort inviting anyone who wishes—Christian or non-Christian—to attend a structured Bible study program.

He also conducts a regular radio program where he is able to speak to hundreds if not thousands of people at once. From the radio program, Peter has no less than a hundred students who tune-in to his program. And that does not take into account other student-listeners he doesn't know about.

In 2020, Peter started out with eight students. Along the way the number increased to 22. Because of different obstacles, especially Covid-19, the number decreased to eight (who recently graduated). Among those eight, three have been baptized, one man and two women.

In 2021, Peter started with 14 students, although Covid-19 continued to disturb the program as people were trying to avoid mass gatherings. Five of the students attended classes regularly, but the remaining students attended irregularly. Among these students, there are two retired highly-educated government officers who are close to being baptized.



More than 80% of the students enrolled in MBS are non-Christians. Peter has already received more than 30 calls from people who want to join MBS for the next student intake. They expect to have more students in the next intake than the last with five of them already registered.

MBS is actually operated by congregations in Mbeya. Individual members of the congregations eagerly give in order to support the teachers and to buy stationery. But they struggle in finding a way to increase the teachers' support.

Through radio, Peter studies regularly with 48 students. Most of them are in Chunya, Sumbawanga, and Madibira. The people in these places desire to establish and grow the church; the problem is they have not yet obeyed the gospel which is obviously putting the cart before the horse. Peter plans to study with as many students as he can at Madibira, a central location for most of the students. If this effort is fruitful with baptisms, he will remain attending and teaching in their worship services. If there are any men among them willing to accept a leadership role, he plans to invite them to his home to train them in the fundamentals of how to serve in the church. If this is successful, he plans to apply the same technique in other areas.

(Continued on back page)

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Cynthia Ann Stinson July 5, 1955 - January 14, 2022

Our hearts are saddened at the passing of our dear friend and former Chimala missionary, **Cyndi Stinson**. Our prayers are lifted up in behalf of her husband of 48 years, Bill Stinson of Alba, TX; son, Larry Stinson and wife Carissa of Azle; daughter, Angela Martin and husband Chris of Arlington; sister, Alisa Boris of Azle; six grandchildren, Julie, Tyler, Ronnie, Ethan, Cody, and Laney; and numerous other relatives & friends.

As all good missionaries, Cyndi was a multi-talented person being proficient in sign language having worked at the Irving Regional Day School for the Deaf as the program secretary for 18 years. Cyndi loved children and spent a great deal of her time at the Chimala Mission visiting the hundreds of children in the mission schools.

Cyndi and Bill were associated with the Chimala Mission for more than 20 years, having made dozens of trips to Chimala, and actually living at Chimala as missionaries for 6 years. Cyndi was the "photographer" of the family having taken literally thousands of pictures of people, places, events, and interesting things including African animals and all types of fascinating flora and fauna. Her photo files were filled with pictures of baptisms, school graduations, indoor and outdoor preaching, missionary get-togethers for Sunday night pizza, visiting preachers and nursing students, and many other such events.

Her love for the Chimala Mission was second to none. One of her favorite times to visit Chimala was during the beginning of the school year when she would participate in the distribution of hundreds of hand-made school bags including supplies. The school children would line up patiently waiting to receive their special gift followed by a faint "Asante" - "Thanks".



As many of you knew, Cyndi was suffering from Alzheimer's which required Bill's constant presence and care. With the added help of the Stinson children and family, Cyndi was surrounded with love and support during this difficult time.

The Stinson family has made it known that memorial donations may be made to the Chimala Mission particularly to benefit the Chimala Mission Primary School. We thank God for Cyndi Stinson who gave glimpses of Tanzania to so many people who otherwise would not have known the great work of the Chimala Mission but through her camera lens. Howell



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(Mbeya Bible... continued from page 2)

Peter is very humble when he says the radio station he uses in Mbeya does not cover a very big area. It covers the regions of Mbeya, Songwe, Rukwa, a part of Njombe, and a part of Iringa. This is NOT a small area. Also occasionally, Peter uses a radio station in Mwanza which covers that and the surrounding regions.

As to the number of baptisms through the radio program, Peter is only sure of four souls. This uncertainty is because some listeners, after hearing the gospel messages, either join his or another school, or go on to find nearby congregations. Later on after contacting one of the preachers, they get baptized into Christ.

Generally speaking, the radio program is one of the best and most efficient ways to reach lost souls. In addition, it is so helpful in edifying other church members who listen regularly to the program. They learn how to teach and answer questions.

Please continue to pray for the Mbeya Bible School and the radio program. Seed is being sown in a way and to such an extent that in many ways surpasses our other efforts. We are happy to have Peter Kamatula's leadership and example to the Christians in Mbeya.



A "bush" congregation—Kimani Church of Christ