

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

Chimala Mission Hospital Upgrades

It only takes one visit to the Chimala Mission Hospital to realize how much can be done with so little. Medical professionals or students who visit Chimala are often unsettled by the contrast between modern American hospitals and clinics and typical "bush" hospitals such as CMH. But it is truly amazing what these talented Tanzanian doctors and nurses can do with what they have.

Our philosophy is to provide the best medical treatment possible considering all things. Occasionally, however, circumstances suggest that improvements and updates have to be made to the hospital. And there are usually individual Christians who are ready to step-up and provide finances for these needs. A couple of updates that we have planned include two items: 1) a new sterile operational theater; and 2) a new Zeiss Primo Star iLED microscope. Fortunately, the funds are already available for both of these.

As soon as I return to Chimala in April, we plan to commence in the construction of the new operational theater. By then, the rains will likely have subsided making it easier to start digging the foundation. We hope to have the construction primarily finished by the time our three-month visit is completed. The construction alone is obviously only part of the improvement. We also hope to equip the theater with more up-to-date lighting, equipment, and sterile procedural supplies and processes. I will send pics whenever I can.

A much simpler acquisition will be the purchase of the new Zeiss microscope. This will be bought from a company in Dar called Anudha, LTD which sells medical equipment which already has the scope in-stock. The newer LED light technology of this scope will enable the tab technicians to diagnose and treat TB more quickly and accurately. Furthermore, the Zeiss scope will be replacing the only microscope which the hospital had previously.

These may not seem like major improvements by western hospital standards; but they are a huge deal when working in the "bush" country of southern Tanzania. Thanks to all of you who made these improvements possible.

Nathan's Family Reunite

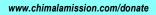
After finally getting Rowan's passport and other documents, Nathan, Kristi and Rowan flew back to Massachusetts to reunite with Eden and Emmy who have been with Kristi's parents for the past few weeks. Mary and I didn't want to be guilty of not sharing the grandkids. So you do what any rational in-laws do—you split up the grandkids!

In preparation for the trip, they packed bags with as much as they had collected and could take for the Chimala trip. Eventually from Boston on the 18th of March, they are scheduled to fly back to Tanzania. Running out of room, there still remains more items and supplies that Mary and I will carry to Tanzania with us when we depart on the 14th of April.





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Frank Mwashimbukulu, CSOP director

Finding Solutions

Hello brethren! This is a short story about a couple, Mr. Daniel MNDALI who was born at Kasisi Chitipa, Malawi in 1976. He was married in 1995 in Malawi Kasisi and has seven children. They were baptized at Kapoka Chitipa, Malawi Church of Christ in 2017 by a preacher who was called Chauma. Now the preacher of this church is called Ghambi [former CBC director, hf]. They came to Tanzania in 2017 to find a better life. From that time life was not good to them, and two months ago they lost their beloved son who has 17 years old.



I met with them yesterday afternoon after worship at Kapunga when I was doing evangelism from house to house. These people live in a house which could fall down anytime. The step which I took was to give them TSH 30,000 [\$13, hf] for building another house near the Kapunga church building.

They don't have even food to eat. If we can help them two bags of maize, they can stand themselves. I gave them small portion for cultivating maize which can help them to have food. I prayed with them and gave them advice on how they can live at Kapunga.

I printed the above story not to ask anyone to give money. Such stories could be repeated hundreds of time. With rare exceptions, simply giving money from Americans is not a long-term solution. Instead, a well-thought-out plan that can be duplicated is always to be preferred. Frank, working as an evangelist as well as CSOP director, actually shows us a good pattern: give temporary assistance followed by a way to help themselves. Not only does it provide a long-term solution, it also helps people maintain their dignity. Howell

Cheryl's Corner

Ready.....Set.....WAIT!

Chimala Mission is where my heart is. I strongly believe the Lord wants me to be there to help in whatever ways I can. I love the people and the culture. For 6 years, I put my all into serving the Lord in that place. For the last 3 years, I have been home with family and longed to return to Chimala. For the last 4 months, I have been excited to be able to plan my return

to Chimala. Things were going really well until I hit a speed bump with the Tanzanian paperwork. Some of the government rules have changed since I was there before. I was first informed I should plan to go around mid-February. As that date approached, I received notice that things were moving a little slow, but I could come around the 1st of March. March is here and I am so ready...to...go! Last night (February 25), I received a note stating the paperwork still wasn't ready. Now they are saying to give them 3 more weeks.

So WAIT it is. There is nothing left for me to do. I have been praying and am turning the timing over to God. There is a saying that God's timing is always right! And as we know he is in control. But, if you know me....waiting is hard. I want to be there yesterday. Maybe this is God's point. I must be quiet and patient and wait upon the Lord.





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God requires Christians to let their light shine, be the salt of the earth, imitate Jesus Christ in their lives, and teach and make the gospel available to the world. Those are the things that we CAN control. What we cannot control is the response and receptivity of people. Control the things that you CAN control. And let God control the things that only HE CAN control.