



The CHALLENGE of Africa

JULY 2022 | VOL 4 NO 7

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

Can We Raise It By Ten?

In a previous newsletter this year, I mentioned an economic change occurring in Tanzania due to the government's decision to raise the country's minimum wage by ten percent. This will naturally be felt by Chimala Mission support as we fund the employment of the CSOP and the estate. Since we cannot ignore the government's demand to increase mission wages by citing separation of church and state (remember, Chimala is not in the United States), then we must comply.

In an effort to find a solution, I am asking for help from our current supporters. **Would you be willing to raise your current support by ten percent?** If we could raise just ten percent more from current supporters, we would be able to meet the new financial requirement for the mission's operation. And remember, this is not for the hospital or primary and secondary schools as they are primarily self-supporting. This is for the areas of the mission normally supported by churches and individuals.

As suggested, a ten percent increase in regular support would not put an unnecessary burden on any one church or person; and yet, it would resolve this deficit. That means that if a church donates \$300 per month, they would only have to increase their monthly amount by \$30 making a total of \$330. Depending upon the amount of monthly support, a ten percent increase would likely be negligible and yet would help Chimala in a huge way. Or you could decide to increase the amount by twenty or thirty percent, or more. And of course, this might be the right time for a church or person to decide to begin supporting Chimala Mission.

Having these kinds of financial demands at Chimala right in the middle of the year where we also have our Bible seminars and Gospel Chariot campaigns always puts a large strain on the mission budget. We work very hard to reduce or cut costs wherever we can without affecting the Tanzanians' salaries as they make so little; however, this is a permanent financial increase that will not go away. Will you help us climb and conquer this hill? As the Tanzanians depend upon us, we depend upon you. Help us keep this great mission "light" shining as it has done so well for nearly 60 years!



Howell Ferguson Gospel Chariot Campaigns



This summer's Gospel Chariot campaigns continue to have an effect in the planned areas where they have been working. CSOP director, Frank Mwashikumbulu has sent a couple of reports thus far on the success of the four separate GC campaigns. The areas chosen this year were Rujewa Isisi, Itumpi Imbozi, Uyole, and Kyela. To my knowledge at this point, there have been at least four baptisms.

Most of you reading this article probably have no idea where these places with strange names listed above are located. But to the people living in these areas, the Gospel Chariot is bringing the good news of the gospel of Christ in an unforgettable big bright red truck. That's an image they will not soon forget. And the message preached by those who have entered their village is distinct from the typical denominational "faith-only" and "choose to come your own way to Jesus" message. Objective propositional biblical truth echoes from their loudspeakers and private Bible studies rather than subjective human emotionalism.

The terms of salvation are easy to understand to honest and good hearts (cf. Luke 8:15). Some people need a little time for the "seed" of the kingdom to germinate and bear fruit. Others are already prepared and simply need to respond by an obedient faith (cf. Rom. 1:5; 16:26). Chimala Mission is ever grateful for all the tools God has given for our use. And we are thankful for you as partners in this wonderful opportunity to seek and to save those yet-unsaved-souls in Tanzania.

Howell Ferguson CSOP Class of 2022



Students and staff of the Chimala School of Preaching—July 2022

From the beginning days when a preacher-training school was believed to be imperative to growing the Lord's church in the ripened fields of Tanganyika; the Chimala Mission has taken the training of men to become gospel preachers and leaders in the church to be a top priority. The Chimala Mission Hospital was necessary to gain acceptance by the Tanzania government; and the Chimala Mission Primary School and Herring Christian Secondary School were built to provide a means of Christian education not only for children from Christian homes, but also for anyone who wished to gain an education with a Bible worldview. These quality programs served by talented men and women strive for excellence and promote many good works; but the ultimate goal of all of these programs is to promote the welfare and growth of the church of God in East Africa. As Paul wrote so eloquently: *"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:14). There is no higher ambition in all of the earth than for people to heed and obey the upward calling of God.

The task of training and sending men to be the "feet" by which the Gospel is taken to the people is the greatest need and challenge known to mankind (cf. Romans 10:13-15). This is the reason preacher training has always been at the core of mission works around the world. True, all of those who study the Bible at CSOP are flawed and imperfect men, as we all are. But this is God's plan; and besides this, God has no other plan. But in His wisdom, the *"folly of what we preach to save those who believe"* (1 Corinthians 1:21, ESV) is the charge not only are we ourselves to keep, but also to *"commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also"* (2 Timothy 2:2). May God bless the students and staff of the Chimala School of Preaching. The charge is great; but the eternal rewards are greater! Pray for them.

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www.chimalamission.com/donate



Help Chimala Mission use our financial support more wisely!

Cheryl Bode

Returning To The States

Dear Mission Supporter:

It is with a sad heart that I report I have returned to the United States. This decision was made after a month of breathing difficulties, sleepless nights and mood swings. I tried different solutions, but the difficulties remained. After much discussion with family, friends and, of course, time spent in prayer with God, I returned home Saturday July 9th. The quick date was chosen so that I could travel with some visitors who were also returning at that time. This allowed me to have some assistance with traveling.



This was not what I expected nor am I happy about it. However, I cannot give to others what I myself do not have. A question heavy on my heart is why I felt so strongly that I should return and yet, felt unable to continue. I hope each of you can be understanding of this decision. We did help with many things while I was there. We helped with baby Promise and Brayan; provided some computers, new mattress covers, new floor for Female Ward, assisted with some cash flow for maintenance issues and I was able to assist in restarting some management plans including Hospital Management Team meetings, Quality Improvement Teams, etc. So some foundations were put in place for the new HMT and Director.

As of this time, I am requesting you stop support for my work fund, but would encourage you to continue sending support to the hospital if you can. The hospital is a very important part of the mission. There are 110 employees who depend on it for work, and thousands of patients in the area who need medical care which will not be as easy to access without this hospital and clinic. I do still have some funds which have been donated. I will be happy to return any funds which I received in June and those which come in July, unless you would like me to donate the funds to the hospital. Please let me know what you would prefer.

Please continue to pray for Chimala Mission and Hospital.

In His service
Cheryl Bode, RN

Follow-up Comments by Howell Ferguson

The words written above by Cheryl Bode were not easy to write. They are the words of a dedicated and hard-working Christian lady who gives 110 percent of herself to help others. Having experienced a similar situation myself several years ago, I know that a missionary's best efforts and intentions do not always go as planned. All of us involved with the Chimala Mission are saddened by the decision she has made; but at the same time we completely understand. Truthfully as is stated above, Cheryl—in the short time that she was at Chimala—was a great help in areas of the hospital that were falling behind. She also used her work fund effectively and unselfishly in areas that had been suffering due to a lack of funds. Her experience and knowledge of hospital systems and management were a great help when we hired a new hospital director who had no formal education or experience in this area. But Cheryl's insight and advice has helped make our new director a much more capable and knowledgeable hospital director.

As Chimala says good-bye to Cheryl, I would like to encourage her supporters to please help keep the Chimala Mission Cheryl loved moving onward by continuing your financial support. Not only does the hospital have continuing needs; the remaining areas of the mission such as the preaching, primary, and secondary schools are always in need of help. Please contact me for details.



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(This form is provided for your convenience)

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

In memory of _____

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	Missionary Support—Howell Ferguson	
	Missionary Support—Nathan Ferguson	
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Nathan, John "Sparky", and Naaman working on the wind turbine at the Ailsa farm house.