



# 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**

## Remembering God's Blessings

With the passing of Memorial Day, many people think of summer's beginning, even though summer officially begins June 21st. May we reflect upon Memorial Day as much more than another holiday cook-out. I can't think of a better way to reflect on this time of year than to remember the many blessings we've received from the Lord our God through the sacrifice of others. What God said to Israel, in principle, God says to us:



*For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper. When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.*

*Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, lest --- when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, in which were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end --- then you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.' And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.*

Deuteronomy 8:7-20

**Howell Ferguson**

## Shipping Goods to Chimala

Many of you reading this newsletter have already donated either items or funds for items for this next shipping container. As of this writing, the loading date is officially Friday, the 16th of June. Most of the items needed have already been donated or bought, with the hopes of finalizing as much of the remaining things as possible.

Mary and I have been working nearly nonstop collecting and packing items, and updating the packing list and invoice. There are still some processing that has to be done with the goods remaining. The two big-ticket items, the X-ray machine and the refrigerated mortuary, have already arrived and are waiting with the other items at the warehouse in Montgomery. We are very grateful for the volunteer work of two of Dalraida's good men who built a shipping crate for the X-ray, as well as others who have assisted us in many ways.

We have another Oklahoma/Texas trip planned before loading. Coming back with us from that trip will be another load of donated goods. Those items combined with what we have already prepared and stored in Jackson will all then be brought back down to Montgomery to be added to the final packing list and invoice.

And that's where the real "fun" begins when the container finally reaches the port at Dar-es-Salaam. Unlike the old days, we seldom receive any tax exemptions as the port authority makes it an extremely complex and expensive exercise. In lieu of paying expensive port charges and penalties, we have found it cheaper in most cases just to pay the taxes.

**Nathan Ferguson**

## Around The Mission

Even though the seasons are changing and the mission is slowing down, there are still a lot of things to update and report on. With regards to the farm, we have been moving forward each and every day. This is the time for us to check on all of our equipment, perform maintenance, and ensure everything is up to task for the future months ahead. Our disc plow needed some major repairs (as we originally bought it in used condition). A new shaft needed to be put in and new bearings on the discs themselves. We are now ready to go! Since we are starting the dry season, we must also be preparing for the great task of building our firebreaks both on the mission property and at the Ailsa farm. As I've written several times before, this is a vital "ritual" of the mission here. With this much wooded property it would not take much to lose it all. James chapter 3 gives us a pretty real example of what can happen!

The other departments are continuing in their respective areas. The Chimala School of Preaching still is out of session until the students return in July. On the other hand, we have our seminars starting just next week; you can see everyone is rushing around getting everything ready for all of our visitors. This is such an exciting time on the mission, and I look forward to updating you all on the successes after this month.

Both the primary school and secondary school have just let out the kids for their winter break. This means the schoolgrounds will be a little more quiet and gives us a reason to await their return. However, there will still be a few classes that remain. National exams are a huge part of the school system here, so some of those students will remain in preparation for them.

The hospital continues to move along in its day-to-day activities. Our hospital administrator has been doing a great job working through a lot of our previous issues from years past - we can now see a lot of visible progress from his successes. We are still tending to dozens of patients every single day, delivering babies, and reaching out to those who need to hear the gospel. Please continue to pray for all of our hard-workers in the hospital.

Finally, all of the other workers around the estate continue to ensure the well-being of the property. It's easy to take for granted all of the guards, yardmen, plumbers, electricians and mechanics that keep this well-oiled machine running every day. Let us always be thankful and grateful for God's providential care for the Chimala Mission.



### Visitor To Chimala

Standing next to Momma Betty, *Bailey Olive* has safely arrived to visit Chimala Mission. Bailey, studying social-work and missions at Harding University, is from the East Main church of Christ in Murfreesboro, TN, one of Nathan's supporting congregations. Welcome Bailey!

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**Howell Ferguson**

## **Visiting Fellow Missionaries in Moshi**

Nathan, Kristi, Eden, Emmy and Rowan took a few days to visit some old friends and fellow-missionaries in the city of Moshi which sits at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro in northern Tanzania.



**Noel Stafford and Nathan in Moshi—both 2nd generation missionaries continuing God's work in Tanzania.**



**At the home of Noel and Jessica Stafford with Ely & Neema Martin Njulumi and the Fergusons.**



**Nathan preaching with a translator at Kilimanjaro church of Christ in Moshi with Rowan watching.**



**Kristi teaching a ladies' class with a translator at the Kilimanjaro church of Christ.**



**Eden, Emmy and Rowan all worn-out and fast asleep from the long road trip back from Moshi to Chimala.**



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*(This form is provided for your convenience)*

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**Howell Ferguson  
Stacks of Books**

Kristi writes: *"Eden's first grade year is done! What a magical, life giving year it was! She has grown so much in so many ways. Can't wait to begin year 2!"*

I don't mean to brag on one of my granddaughters; but I do remember her reciting by memory an audio book she listened to which was quite long. For all of her life, she has loved reading and being read to. Kristi said she read all of the books on her left and helped her read the books on her right. And it's not by accident that the foundational book on her right is the Bible—the Book of books.

Even in an overseas mission field like Chimala, parents have the responsibility—and can succeed in educating their children. Learning is a life-long endeavor. And the greatest knowledge and wisdom comes from God. *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction"* (Proverbs 1:7).

