



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!

howellferguson@gmail.com

(731) 267-4935

Howell Ferguson

A WORK OVERSEEN BY



PO Box 3085
3740 Atlanta Highway
Montgomery, AL 36109
(334) 272-2561
www.dalraida.org



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Howell Ferguson

There's No Place Like Home

After a three-month furlough to visit supporting churches, family, and friends; **Nathan, Kristi, Eden, Emmy and Rowan** began the long return journey back to Chimala.

While some may believe this is a "vacation" for missionaries; I assure you it is anything but a vacation. Whether you're serving in the military or as a missionary; living overseas and becoming acclimated to a different lifestyle and culture can make coming back to the US less-than relaxing. Chimala has become their "home". And as accommodating as we try to make things back here in Tennessee, living out of suitcases is similar to living in a hotel.

While the fall weather was very moderate Nov 8th when they departed Nashville, they boarded in the rain on their last flight from Dar to Mbeya. We

tracked them on a "flight tracker" phone app to see their flight progress (Sorry, you never get over keeping up with your kids when they leave home—especially the grandkids!). They made all of their connections on-time, and eventually arrived in Dar late Thursday night with only a few short hours of sleep before the next-day early morning departure aboard a Precision Air flight. They were met at the Mbeya airport by a mission mechanic/driver, Nyenye who drove them the final 3 hours to Chimala, including a short stop at a store for food and supplies.

Mary and I could finally relax knowing they had completed that all-too-familiar grueling two-day trip—with kids including a 2-year old! Lord willing, in January, Mary and I will be returning to Chimala to join them as we begin a whole new 2024 agenda. We will also have a new visitor accompanying us about whom I will have more to say later. But for now, we're thankful to God that Nathan, Kristi, Eden, Emmy and Rowan are finally and safely home at Chimala Mission.



Howell Ferguson

The Lack of Power

Less than a day since Nathan and family returned back to Chimala, I asked him in a text message if he had any ideas for a final article in the *Challenge of Africa* newsletter. His reply was both a little humorous and insightful: “*The challenge of hydroelectric power in a country with 6 months of no rain.*” Why didn’t I think of that?

This truly is a challenge when nothing electrical works because either the power is off all-day; or any power stored in a back-up battery (that is, if your house or mission department is so equipped) has already been exhausted. And you also will find that running a large diesel generator every night will very quickly exhaust any money budgeted for the generator.

So what do you do? You get used to living life as a third-world person. But more seriously, departments where having consistent electricity is critical, such as Chimala Mission Hospital, run the risk of facing dangerous consequences to the lives of its patients.

For these reasons, and so many more, we will be looking at alternative energy sources for the Chimala Mission in the form of solar and wind. This will never be a complete solution (as Tanzania needs to look into better management of its natural energy resources); yet it can fill the gap at times when electrical power is inconsistent or nonexistent. As readers, I invite your input and suggestions. And while there exists a few solar powered systems at the Chimala Mission, we will eventually need funding for adding more.

Howell Ferguson

Newsletter Mailing List Update

During these days of staggering inflation and economic stagnation, nearly all businesses and institutions are having to make cuts. At the same time in the work of fundraising for missions, one of the greatest challenges is keeping good communication with supporters. However, it’s somewhat of a catch-22. How much do you spend to DO mission work, and how much do you spend to COMMUNICATE about the mission work being done? With Chimala Mission, communication is done in a number of ways:

- Scheduling church report visits.
- Keeping our webpage updated.
- Sending out our colorful monthly newsletters by email.
- Printing and mailing out our colorful monthly newsletters.

We believe that the *Challenge of Africa* newsletter is a quality and attractive publication with which we do our best to keep our readers informed. While physical visits are becoming increasingly expensive due to rising fuel costs; the cost of printing professional-looking newsletters is also on the rise. This is naturally causing us to look for ways to reduce costs thereby allowing your hard-earned support to be used more efficiently. That is why I will be evaluating our current mailing list to see where we can be more effective.

We believe the priorities for those receiving the physical copy of the newsletter should be as follows:

- Those churches and individuals who make financial or physical contributions to Chimala Mission, its various works, and its missionaries. We feel that those of you who make such sacrificial gifts should receive our best attention. Without you, Chimala Mission could not exist.
- Those individuals who have had “skin in the game” - you who have physically spent time, sacrificed, and served at Chimala.
- Those of you who communicate with us about the Chimala Mission on a regular basis, and actively promote this work.

We realize that some of you have already opted to receive the email version rather than the physical newsletter. We truly appreciate your conscientiousness in helping us cut expenses. By focusing on those who look forward to reading the Chimala newsletter, we hope to greatly reduce the large expense for paper, ink and postage currently being spent. However, this will not be a perfect process. Therefore in the course of adding or removing names, please notify me of any mistakes. Also, please contact me if you wish to replace your existing paper newsletter by signing up for the email version.

The bottom line is we want you to be well-informed however you may receive information about Chimala. Your cooperation and patience would be greatly appreciated.

Donate With
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Set up a custom donation sent automatically to Chimala Mission each month through PayPal

www.chimalamission.com/donate



Help Chimala Mission use our financial support more wisely!

Howell Ferguson

CSOP Graduation 2023

On Saturday morning, November 4th, the graduation commencement exercises of CSOP Class of 2023 took place before a host of family, Christians, and visitors at the Chimala Mission. CSOP director, **Remmy Mfaume** writes:

"Praises and glory be to the almighty God in whose power all things are possible. The GRADUATION event is done, all things worked out great, many preachers, students' relatives, Christians from Congregations, three government officials and mission heads of departments attended. More would have come, but [of necessity] we limited the number. We are glad that CSOP teachers, other workers and all students have worked cooperatively with high standard of performance throughout the event."

Among this year's graduates, there were also four ladies who completed the program of studies. Their purpose of study was not to preach or teach as the men (cf. 1 Tim. 2:8-12), nevertheless they completed the same basic study requirements as the men. And while we started out with about 20 students; these 13 graduates, "*tried by fire*", endured the 2-year course program of studying the entire Bible and Bible-related subjects. We will continue to pray for them as they leave Chimala to return to their homes better-prepared for greater service in the kingdom of God. Please join me in praise to God expressing how thankful we are of these students' commitment and accomplishment. We know that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is well-pleased.

We also anticipate with excitement meeting new students in January for the beginning of the 2024 CSOP school year. We know that without God, we can do nothing. But if God be with us, there is nothing we cannot do together in the body of Christ at the Chimala Mission.



MAY GOD BLESS THE CSOP GRADUATION CLASS OF 2023!

Get your newsletter in your email! **SIGN UP TODAY @ www.chimalamission.com**



**DALRAIDA CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHIMALA MISSION**
PO BOX 3085
3740 ATLANTA HIGHWAY
MONTGOMERY, AL 36109
(334) 272-2561
chimalamission@gmail.com

Stateside Coordinator:
HOWELL FERGUSON
howellferguson@gmail.com
(731) 267-4935
www.chimalamission.com

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You can give a gift of any size to Chimala Mission to *honor* someone special or *in memory* of a loved one who passed from this life. Your gift will help the poor and help continue the preaching of the gospel to many that have never heard the truth.

(This form is provided for your convenience)

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

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Please send a copy of gift acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to: **Chimala Mission**

✓	Designate My Gift Toward	Amount
	Evangelism	
	Radio Program	
	CSOP Student Support	
	Bibles	
	Farm Program	
	Hospital	
	Chimala Mission Primary School	
	Herring Christian Secondary School	
	Missionary Support—Howell Ferguson	
	Missionary Support—Nathan Ferguson	
	Missionary Support—Lee Wright	
	Preachers' Kids School Fees	
	Estate	
	Where Needed	



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Subscribe online to our newsletter and you will save Chimala Mission postage and printing costs! That money can be used for other things in Tanzania and help more people.

Please subscribe online at www.chimalamission.com/get-updates and let us know if we can remove your name from our snail-mail list.

Howell Ferguson

Needed: Infant Warmers

Anyone working with a hospital knows that there are times of great joy when a sick or injured person recovers. But we also know there are times of sadness when people who are sick or hurting die. But when a newborn infant perishes because he could not be kept warm enough, it is nothing but tragic.

In a recent email from CMH director, **Exavery Ngullo**, he told me the hospital is losing newborns due to the fact that the equipment is damaged beyond repair. He was told we can buy a new infant warmer for around 5 million T-shillings (**\$2,174**).

The image below is a typical infant warmer as used in hospitals. Please help assist us in the purchase of such needed items to help keep our Chimala newborns alive. Thank you!

