



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

Time to Return to Chimala

We offer praise and thanksgiving to our Great God to Whom we have received so many good things. God has bestowed upon each of us another year of life and a host of new opportunities. While TODAY is the only day God has promised us, the completion of 2023 demonstrates God's patience, longsuffering, and a desire that all people everywhere come to a knowledge of His truth and call upon the name of the Lord in faithful gospel obedience.

January is an exciting time at Chimala. The rains have returned, everything is turning green, and the frenzy of the planting season is evident as farmers are in the fields planting corn, rice, beans and a host of other crops. On the mission grounds, everything is alive with the returning of younger students at the Chimala Mission Primary School; and the older students at the Herring Christian Secondary School. Accompanying the students are their parents helping their children to get moved and settled-in to their dorms. New students are also arriving to begin a new year at the Chimala School of Preaching.

Mary and I along with Randy Rice (see page 2) are truly looking forward to the mission Saturday afternoon, Jan. 13th. Among other visitors arriving at the same time in January will be **Mark and Edith Givens** from the Arlington, TX area. They will have spent part of their time in Arusha and the remainder of their time at Chimala. We pray for their safe travels as well.

Besides the warm fellowship of being back with our brothers and sisters at the mission; we are also anticipating to see some much-needed things coming to fruition. First of all, we are so happy that a new infant warmer has finally been purchased and delivered at the Chimala Mission Hospital. This is such a huge blessing to the hospital where so often newborns (especially preemies) were having great difficulty staying warm in spite of the hospital's best efforts. We're certainly thankful to those of you who reached out to us wanting to help to alleviate this dangerous obstacle to the health of our newborns.

Another great blessing the mission has finally received is the repair part for the "hydram" (hydraulic ram) that not only supplies the mission with general purpose water, but is also the primary source of water for the hospital's water purification system. Mary and I are personally proud of Nathan who basically navigated the entire process from researching and finding the sole supplier in Great Britain to getting the part cleared and transported to Chimala. From the last images and videos I saw, the hydram was pumping-away while the large water reservoir was literally overflowing with water. I can't wait to see it. Thanks to all of you who made all these wonderful events happen!

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New Masai Christians

Nathan reported that Sunday afternoon, Jan. 7th, six young people obeyed the gospel of Christ following worship services at Matabete where Patrick Kiana, a Masai tribesman, is the preacher. It is always encouraging to hear of conversions among the Masai people.



Infant Warmer Has Arrived At Chimala Mission Hospital



Howell Ferguson

Beginning Classes at CSOP

It has been nearly six months since our last visit to Chimala Mission. We're always excited to return to be with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters as they continue to serve the Lord in that part of East Africa. I always like to emphasize that this is "their work". It is true, that we are co-workers with them, and are willing to share with them the resources that we, by God's grace, have been given stewardship over. But the Tanzanians are letting their own light shine by their hands -on approach to accomplishing God's will.

One of these areas of the Tanzanians' works is the Chimala School of Preaching. January 15th will mark the first day of class for the new intake of students at CSOP. They come from all over Tanzania to begin their two-year study program of the Bible and Bible-related classes. The philosophy of this approach to preacher-training is nothing new to the Lord's church.

Around the world, brethren realize the wisdom of teaching people the Bible in their own country, in their own culture, by their own people. Not only does this make it possible to teach many more people at once; but it also saves the Lord's church a ton of money that otherwise would be spent bringing foreign nationals into the United States. This is especially true today with the "open-border" crisis that has resulted in over 10 million illegals into our country in the past few years.



Randy Rice

Furthermore, it is much more practical and far less expensive to occasionally invite biblically sound, experienced and educated short-course teachers from the States with unique talents and background to compliment the indigenous Chimala instructors.

One of those individuals that we have invited to teach at the Chimala School of Preaching is **Randy Rice**. Randy and his good wife, Kathy worship with us at the North Jackson church of Christ in Jackson, Tennessee. Randy recently retired from working at Fed-Ex, and is excited about visiting Tanzania for his first time and teaching a short course on a "Survey of the Bible". Randy received his Bachelor's degree in Bible and Missions in 1982 from Oklahoma Christian University. He received the Master's in Counseling in 1987 from Harding Graduate School of Religion. Before moving to Jackson, Randy preached for 25 years near Evansville, Indiana.

Please pray for Randy (and Kathy while he is away), and Mary and me for safe travels; and especially pray for our new students at CSOP.

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Preachers' Kids Program—Chimala Mission Primary School

Around this time last year we made a special effort to help preacher families who sacrifice many things in life so that they may preach the gospel at very little or no cost to the congregations. This assistance is in the form of the "Preachers' Kids" scholarship program. With this program, preachers' children are able to attend our Christian schools. Pictured below are children currently enrolled at the **Chimala Mission Primary School**:



Agnetha Oden

Grade: 2—Her father preaches at Chimala "B", the "Mission" congregation.



Beatrice Oden

Grade: 3—Her father preaches at Chimala "B", the "Mission" congregation.



Shango John Mbuga

Grade: 7—Her father preaches for the church in Ilongo/Inyala.



Irene Mhanga

Grade: 6—Her father preaches for the Ipogolo church in Iringa.



Robin Paul

Mwalugamba
Grade: 2—His father preaches for the Chimala A church.



**Evance Emmanuel
Nkyami**

Grade: 6—His father preaches at the church in Mbuyuni.



**Bless Ezekiel
Mwafwandilo**

Grade: 7—His father preaches for the old Airport church in Mbeya.



Jeska Mark

Grade: 7—Her father preaches for the Chang'ombe church at Ukwavila.



Zanibu Daniel

Grade: 7—Her father preaches for the church at Luhovelo in Ruaha.



Esther Naamani

Grade: 7—Her father evangelizes in the Kitekelo area.



Shilo Obed Naamani

Grade: 3—His father evangelizes in the Kitekelo area.

The total scholarship tuition needed for CMPS to continue the program for the 2024 school year is 13,200,000/- tsh (\$5,739); or \$522 average per student per year.

The most noticeable and natural difference between these children and those enrolled in the preachers' program last year is: the absence of two of the children, the addition of two new children, and the grade advance of all the children. These changes speak to the program's positive effect as some children graduated and moved-on to the secondary level school, new preachers' children were added, and all of the children passed their requirements to transition to the next grade. The success of this program gives us great joy to know that the children of these preachers who work and sacrifice so much for the gospel's sake are receiving a Christian education. **Can you help?**

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	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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2023 Chimala Mission Year End Brief Review

- 43 baptisms (additional baptisms, but not reported)
- 11 restorations
- 13 graduates of Chimala School of Preaching
- 6 campaigns conducted
- 3 seminars conducted
- 7,650 tracts distributed
- 558 Bible courses set up
- 454 students - Chimala Mission Primary School
- 115 students - Herring Christian Secondary School
- 30,834 patients, 1,099 births - Chimala Mission Hospital

