



The CHALLENGE of Africa

AUGUST 2026 | VOL 8 NO 8

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

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Howell Ferguson

Medical Personnel Needed

For this issue of the newsletter, I am making an appeal to our great brotherhood for doctors, nurses and other medical staff who would be interested in donating their time and talent to the Chimala Mission Hospital. I realize this is asking a lot, although not any more than asking any faithful Christian to donate their time and talent to the Lord's work. But my personal appeal to doctors and nurses is simple:

WE NEED YOU.

For more than sixty years, Chimala Mission Hospital has served the physical and spiritual needs of thousands of people in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. Patients travel from surrounding villages and communities seeking quality medical care, compassionate treatment, and hope. Every day, our dedicated Tanzanian staff work tirelessly to meet these needs, often with limited personnel and resources.

One of the greatest needs facing the hospital today is the need for medical missionaries willing to share their knowledge, skills, and Christian influence. Whether for a few weeks, several months, or even years, medical

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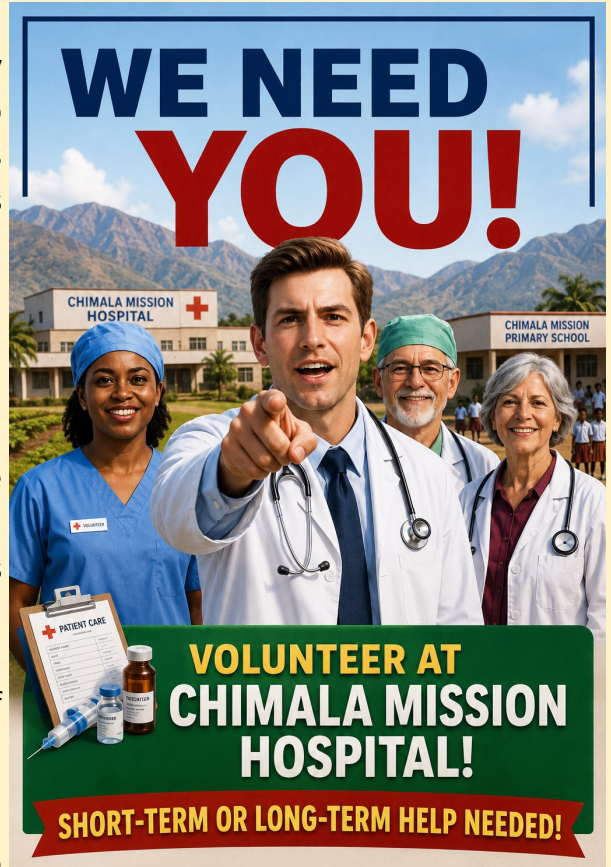
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Howell Ferguson

Polka Dots Are Ready

The next trip to Tanzania is just around the corner. My passport has been renewed for another 10 years, I still need a new visa, but the airline tickets are already booked. So, once again, two polka-dotted suitcases are getting ready for another around-the-world journey this September.

There is a red one and a gray one—both originally belonging to Nathan and Kristi. But since much of what we carry is for them, Mary and I have unofficially adopted the suitcases.

I have to admit, they have proven remarkably rugged, outlasting most of the luggage we've owned. And in crowded airports, we've never had any trouble spotting them. Leave it to Americans to travel with suitcases bulging at the seams!

These trips, however, are about much more than luggage. They are lifelines for our missionary families, delivering much-needed supplies to Chimala. This trip will include medical equipment, including a new portable dental set for the hospital. Please pray that both we and all the "stuff" arrive safely at our destination.



Howell Ferguson

Medical Personnel Needed (cont.)

professionals can make a lasting difference in the lives of patients, staff, and students.

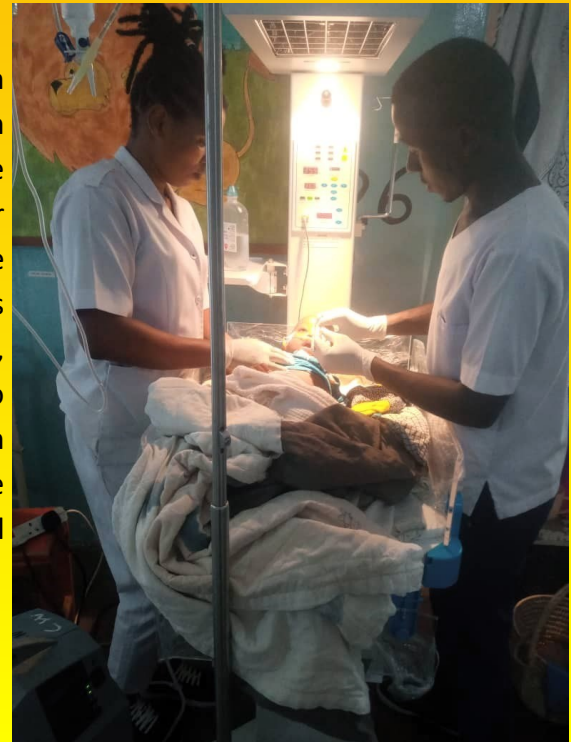
We are seeking physicians, surgeons, dentists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists, laboratory professionals, pharmacists, and other healthcare workers who are willing to serve. Short-term volunteers provide valuable assistance during busy periods, help address specialized medical needs, and encourage our local staff. Long-term medical missionaries are especially needed to strengthen departments, provide ongoing training, and help ensure the hospital can continue expanding its ministry for years to come.

Serving at Chimala is more than practicing medicine. It is an opportunity to combine professional skills with Christian service. Every patient interaction becomes an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ. Every procedure, consultation, and act of compassion helps open doors for both healing and evangelism.

Many healthcare professionals have considered mission work at some point in their careers but have never taken the next step. If you have ever wondered whether God could use your talents in a mission setting, we encourage you to prayerfully consider Chimala Mission Hospital. The need is real, the opportunities are many, and the impact can be eternal.

Whether you can volunteer for a short-term medical campaign or are interested in a longer commitment, we would love to discuss the possibilities with you. Your time, expertise, and willingness to serve could help transform countless lives while strengthening this vital ministry in Tanzania.

We need you!



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www.chimalamission.com/donate



Help Chimala Mission use our financial support more wisely!

Howell Ferguson

Polishing The Pulpit - Branson, MO

Promoting the Chimala Mission is both a challenge and a tremendous blessing. Throughout the year, many faithful churches and spiritual events provide opportunities to learn about the many good works taking place throughout our great brotherhood. One of the most well-known of these is **Polishing the Pulpit (PTP)**. Outside of our Christian colleges and universities, few events provide greater exposure to the work being accomplished by God's people around the world.

In addition to learning about these efforts, attendees are richly encouraged through sound Bible teaching, challenging lessons, and uplifting sermons presented by a wide variety of gifted speakers. We are grateful to Allen Webster, Mark Howell, Floyd Bailey, Eddie Gilpin, and the many others who helped transform what began as a small preaching workshop into what is now one of the largest annual educational gatherings among the churches of Christ, with thousands of attendees and hundreds of classes each year.

Events like PTP also provide wonderful opportunities to introduce people to the Chimala Mission and the many ways God is using it to bless others. They often open doors to recruit future missionaries as well. One of my greatest joys is watching people experience Chimala for the first time. Until they see it with their own eyes, few fully grasp the scope of the work or the tremendous opportunities to serve that exist there.



Another blessing is reconnecting with faithful Christians who share a love for world missions. This year we enjoyed visiting with **Richard Rogers** (pictured above), whose late wife, Carol, and he served as full-time missionaries at Chimala for nearly four years. Their dedicated service and sacrifice left a lasting impact on countless lives, and it was a joy to spend time catching up with Richard once again.



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MEMORIAL | HONOR | BIRTHDAY | ANNIVERSARY

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 _____

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Howell Ferguson

Meeting A Veteran Tanzania Missionary

One of the special blessings of attending the PTP event in Branson, MO, was finally meeting former Tanzania missionary **Bonnie Samford**. Bonnie and her husband Carey, devoted several years to missionary work in Tanzania, serving two years in Arusha and three years in Iringa before later spending nine years in Alaska.

Although we had known of their faithful work for a long time, it was a real pleasure to finally meet Bonnie in person and thank her for the many sacrifices she and Carey made in helping spread the gospel in Tanzania. We are grateful for Christians like the Samfords whose faithful service has touched countless lives and continues to encourage those involved in mission work today.



Bonnie Samford with Mary Ferguson standing in front of the Chimala Mission display at PTP in Branson, MO.