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New York Avenue Church of Christ
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Chimala Mission, Hospital, and School

March 2010



Bill and Cyndi Stinson's Report

Habari Za Leo (News of the Day),

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. I also hope that someone is enjoying the crazy weather that we have had so far this winter. I told Cyndi while we were still in Chimala, “just wait and see, I bet this will be the worst winter in a long time.” Since this is the first time we have been home in the winter time in three years, I figured it would happen. We came home needing to accomplish some outdoor projects at our family land in Jack County. About all I have been able to accomplish is grading out the ruts in our road so we can get in and out and some days, it has been so muddy I could not even do that. Of course, several days it was so cold the ground was frozen, so you did not have to worry about getting stuck, but of course it was also too cold to do anything else outside.

But, we have been plenty busy doing other things that need to be done. We have had the opportunity to visit several congregations that support the work. We have been to Terrell, Emory, Brown Trail, Graford, Dalhart, Perryton, and of course to New York Ave in between. All of these are in Texas, but now we are on a trip that is extended; this morning we were in Meridian, Mississippi and I am currently writing this letter from Montgomery, AL. We will be attending the lectureships at Faulkner University and we will have our display for the mission set up there. From here, we go to Nashville, TN to make a presentation and end up at Wood River by next weekend. One thing that we are emphasizing everywhere we go **is the need for additional missionaries.** We really need some people who want to serve the Lord and help the people of Southwest Tanzania to come to know Christ. But, you don't have to be a Gospel preacher to help in this. We have men trained to do the preaching, what we need is people who can administrate. Chimala Mission is a large work with many different areas of works. It takes a lot of administration to keep everything going in the right direction and running efficiently. If you know someone that has these types of skills and would want to do something that could help the cause of Christ, Chimala has a place for you.

That is enough about us for the minute; there is a lot going on at the mission that I need to tell you about. Chimala School of Preaching is off to a good start. We have 11 new first year students and we have a good mix of men this year. They range in age from 19 to 62 years of age with several of them in their 30's to 40's. I have been encouraging Joseph Hounga (the School Headmaster) to try to find more men with maturity in hopes of finding men that can better lead some of the congregations. Age is respected in Tanzania, so it will help to have more men with age to teach and lead.

Bill and Cyndi Stinson's Report cont.

The evangelism work is going well also. The first Sunday of February, we sent out 4 separate teams and they came back with a good report. They had 7 baptisms, 1 restoration, and more than 30 bible Studies. Then on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of the month they sent some more teams of preachers and students and they came back with 12 baptisms and 2 restorations. It is great to see these men stepping up and doing such a good job of planning and carry out the work of spreading the gospel.

At Chimala Bible College, things are going well with students both from Tanzania and Malawi joining the school this year. They are just completing the 1st quarter and the short courses will begin this week. There are 3 men traveling to Chimala from the states to teach at the school. One of them is Garry Hill who will be staying to continue teaching full time with our school. This will be a great help and having heard Garry teach myself, it will be a great blessing to these men to have such a qualified teacher.

Things are going well at the Secondary School. We have about 110 students in the first year class. This is very good for a new school. If you don't believe so, you can ask the man down the road from us who has another private secondary school. This man is of Middle Eastern decent and a Muslim. His school has been open for several years and is doing well in the government testing. He came down and wanted to talk to Jim and Randy while they were there. He asked "how can you open with so many students". He told them he still does not have that many students and he has a "good" reputation. Of course it is the reputation of the Primary School and the mission as a whole. Speaking of the Primary School; in the last report I received, it sounds like we are once again having more students wanting to join than we have room for. This is a constant battle, getting the head teacher to tell people no. But, I keep emphasizing that we cannot keep our good standards if we do not control our numbers.

At the hospital, things seem to be about the same. We are still serving many people and the government still keeps making us promises, but not following through on many of them. We want to try to open a nursing school. This would help in two ways, it will give us more income from tuition and more help in the wards as the students would get their practical in our hospital. **We need to raise about \$30,000** to build student dorms and buy some other materials to open the school. We are still in need of some better qualified doctors and have been trying to find either someone from the states or a Tanzanian. It seems difficult to find either. There seems to be a shortage of American doctors who are able to make such a commitment and there is just a shortage of good Tanzanian doctors.

I do ask that you keep our daughter, Angela Martin in your prayers. She goes tomorrow to see the surgeon and get a date set for the removal of her colon. She has been diagnosed with a fast growing cancer, but they feel they have caught it early, but it does need to be removed. We have extended our trip because of this. We were scheduled to have already returned, but because of this, we wanted to be here until after the surgery and make sure she is doing OK before I head back. Cyndi will stay a little longer to help out with the children until she is back on her feet.

In His Service,
Bill and Cyndi Stinson

PS: My letter was written at the end of February. Since then, Angie has had her surgery and is now home. She is doing well and we appreciate all of your prayers that have gone up on her behalf.

Bill

Exciting News / Church Roofs Needed

We received some good news the other day from Chimala. Joseph Houna sent me a note telling me that the work in Dodoma is going well. For those who do not know, this is the real capital of Tanzania now. This is where the parliament meets and they have built a new university there. We sent some of our local evangelist up there a couple of weeks ago and they came back with the report that the church is doing well and that they are having several of the students from the university visiting and studying with them. The members have gotten a building up to the point of needing a roof and are asking for help in purchasing the materials for this. You can see in the picture the progress they have made and some of the members of the congregation. We need about \$800 to buy the materials for this building. If you could help with this, please send your check with a note that it is for **Roof Account/Dodoma**. They have also been given more land in another part of the town to build another church building. This group of brothers and sisters seems to be very interested in doing the Lords work and we want to continue to encourage them.



Randy Gray's Report: Stateside Coordinator

This month there have been a lot of heavy storms at night with showers into the early morning. Absolutely everything is green! The grass cutting is a major part of the rainy season, because, after you finish completing the cutting schedule of the entire mission, it's time to start over again.

Along with the rains comes another problem, however, of a more serious nature. The electrical power is off and on during the day and the evening. In January of this year, we ran the generator four times for over 10 hours. In February, the generator was needed one time for 6 hours and a couple of three-hour periods. In March, we have needed the generator much more.

We are going to run the generator all night for the second night in a row for 12 hours. It took 260,000 anzanian shillings (\$191) to refill the diesel tank today. WOW!! There are always shorter periods during the month of one, two or three hours during the day. But, those 12-hour runs are the "Diesel Killers!" We have to have electrical power in the evening to keep the refrigerated food cold, recharge our computers, prepare evening meals, and have lighting for security.

Electricity for the hospital is even more crucial, so that the doctors and nurses have power to meet any emergency that arises at night. The amenities that we take for granted in the USA are so vital in a third world country. Please continue to pray for the supporters who make monthly monetary gifts of love to the Chimala Mission so that all areas can continue to function no matter what storm may appear on the horizon.

Another servant for Christ,
Randy

**We can cut our expenses by using email more.
If any of you want to receive the newsletter via email,
please send your email address to
Carolyn Herring at chimala@sbcglobal.net.**