

# Chimala Mission, Hospital and School

*Randy's Gray's Report*

August 2010

Dear supporters,

In our June and July newsletters, we have described the visits of several groups of “summer” visitors. Remember that summer in the States is winter in Tanzania. The cool temperatures in the morning often require a light jacket, quite a contrast to the temperatures we have been having here in Texas. We seek visitors to the mission for multiple reasons. The most important is that, with more people to work, our efforts to sow the seed of God’s word are expanded. We also know that once a person has been to Chimala, the mission will have a special place in their hearts and minds. The more people that know about the mission, the more prayer and financial support we receive. We also believe that, as visitors return and tell about the wonderful people of Chimala and the potential for bringing glory to God in Tanzania, the more people who will consider moving to Chimala and working for an extended period of time. I want to tell you a little more about two visitors to the mission who are considering Chimala for that type of commitment.

The first prospective missionary family is the Logsdons from south

central Illinois. Don Logsdon traveled to Chimala Mission to evaluate possible agricultural efforts of the mission. We want to expand our capacity to raise crops to feed the students and workers living on estate grounds. In addition to the large garden on the estate that is already producing crops, we have the Ailsa farm. The Ailsa farm located in the mountains behind the mission and consists of 375 acres of good and rich farmland to grow food for our needs. Don is visiting for six weeks to evaluate, research, and formulate a business plan to start this process. He is also evaluating if the Chimala Mission Work is a good fit for him and his wife, Susan, for a two year commitment. After he finishes his six-week visit to Chimala, he will fly to southeast Asia to evaluate a position of working for a hospital ship that does medical work in that part of the world. Our prayer is that Don and Susan will decide to come to Chimala. The elders at New York Avenue Church of Christ are most appreciative that Don volunteered to fund all of his expenses for his travel to Chimala to make this decision.

The second individual making a trip to Chimala with possible plans of working at the mission in the future

is Charlene Franklin from the church in Edmond, Oklahoma. Charlene saw our advertisement in the *Christian Chronicle* newspaper soliciting workers to come to Chimala Mission. In the ad, we stated the need we have for many different positions to be filled. One specific area is a schoolteacher to assist in a number of ways, including providing continuing education for our primary school teachers. Another area of need is enhancing the teaching of English in the secondary school. All secondary schools in the country of Tanzania are taught in English only. We want to increase the proficiency of our teachers and students in speaking, reading, and writing English correctly. Charlene possesses a vast wealth of experience because of her long career as an educator in the public school systems of Oklahoma City. She would be a great asset to our schools. She is also funding all of her expenses to travel to Chimala and evaluate if the mission is right her to make a long-term commitment. Charlene will stay in Tanzania for three weeks and return the States at the end of September. She will travel with the Stinsons on their return trip back to the States. The elders at New York Avenue are

## ***Randy Gray's Report Cont.***

most thankful of the interest of persons as Charlene who would give thought and time to deciding to work with the Chimala Mission in Tanzania, East Africa.

Even if Don, Susan, and Charlene come to Chimala to work, we will still need additional workers. One of our greatest needs is for an American doctor to work at the hospital. Our Tanzanian doctors were educated several years ago and have limited access to additional training. Our clinical officer is going back to school to become a physician and that will leave us even more short staffed. The hospital not only has over 100 beds, but we also have a very active outpatient department. Last year, we accepted more than 900 new AIDS patients to receive outpatient services. It is not unusual for a physician to be called in during the night to perform a cesarean delivery, finish in time for morning rounds, and then spend several hours seeing outpatients. An American physician would increase the number of available staff, but more importantly, would possess additional skill and knowledge and could increase the capacity of our physicians and other staff through on-the-job training.

As Bill mentioned in his article in this newsletter, the economy has had an impact on the financial support of the mission. Because of this, we will be emphasizing our end of the year, fundraising campaign, ***Healing for Humanity***. Those of you who have been involved with Chimala for many years will remember this campaign as Souls not Cards. We ask interested churches and individuals to remember the work with an end of year contribution, rather than sending seasonal cards.

How can you help? First, prayerfully consider how you could reduce the number and cost of gifts that you normally give in December. Donate the difference to Healing for Humanity. Ask your friends and family to give to Healing for Humanity instead of buying you a gift. Ask your elders to allow Bill or me to make a presentation to your congregation about Chimala and have a special contribution for Healing for Humanity. Call me or email me if you need additional information or materials about Chimala to share with your family and friends.

Most importantly, keep praying for our brothers and sisters in the Chimala area who are striving to serve God. Keep praying that the Chimala Mission, Hospital, and Schools may bring glory to God.

Another servant for Christ,  
Randy Gray

## ***Bill Stinson's Report.***

### **Habari Za Leo (News of the Day),**

It is hard to believe, but in exactly one month (from the time I am writing this on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August), we will be arriving back in the states. These past five months have gone by quickly, but like the old saying, "time flies when you are having fun". Time does go by quickly when you are busy, but it could be we are just getting older, making time go by more quickly than it used to. Anyway, it will be time to get on the plane before we know it, and we still have a lot to do before that happens.

We have continued to have several guests, though the numbers are decreasing as the winter season nears its end. We currently have 4 guests here at the mission. We have Ron and Jan Haker who have been here over 5 weeks now doing Let's Start Talking. Their work load has been

tremendous and they have had full schedules every day reading with up to 3 or 4 students at a time. This is a great program introducing people to God's word. They have had one baptism so far, and another young woman has expressed interest, and probably will be baptized in the next few days. Generally, there are always more baptisms after they leave. I want to encourage anyone that has longed to teach the Gospel, but maybe felt inadequate to do so; this is a way that most people can teach others about Christ and salvation. The material makes it easy to teach. You just have to be willing to spend the time and let the Word speak for itself. If you think that you might be interested in this program, get in contact with me. I will get you in touch with the right people.

We also have a medical student from Scotland working

with the hospital. He seems to be really enjoying his time here and seems to be a hard worker. We also have Donald Losdon here from Illinois who is a retired farmer. His wife is an RN, but was not able to make the trip because of her work. Don is here looking at the possibility of them coming here to work full time in the future. We have enjoyed having him visit, and it has been especially nice to have someone here that has some mechanical knowledge to help me out with some projects that need to be done around here. I have the knowledge, but not the time, or at least that is the case most of the time.

We leave on Wednesday to take back Ron and Jan to the airport in Dar. While there, we will pick up our last guest of this year, Charlene Franklin, who is a retired school teacher coming to visit our schools. She is considering working long term with our schools. Charlene will be here until the end of September, when she will fly out on the same plane that we leave on.

Garry Hill arrived back to the mission on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. (We picked him up on the same trip that we took back the Irish medical students, and my brother Eddie and Debbie Dow.) Garry has been busy teaching long days at the school, and the students are happy to have him back. He will be here until the end of November.

We have started an English School in conjunction with our Bible College. The last few years, we have had a hard time finding enough Tanzanians with English skills to fill the classes. We have had plenty of students coming from Malawi, but we now have 10 students from Tanzania enrolled in our English program who want to join next year's class at CBC. Garry tells me that he thinks 5 or 6 of them may be good candidates.

Things were busy all over the mission this month. The Gospel Chariot was here until the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. During the four weeks it was here we had over 30 baptisms. The first week on August it was in Idunda, a village out south of Inyala. We had 9 baptisms in that one village during the 5 days we were there. I got to go out and preach on Sunday and we had a good church service there with all of the

new Christians. The last week of the campaign was spent in Mtwango, a village between Makambako and Njombe. This is a new area for us. We just started working there back a few months ago and we had 4 more baptisms there during the last 5 days. We now have 9 members of the Lords body there and we plan to continue building and strengthening that congregation over the next several months. Overall, this has been the best year for evangelism work that we have had since I have been here. We have had 80 baptisms since the first of June. What is really great is that nearly all of this work is being done by the local Tanzanians.

We also had the Freedom Torch come to the mission on the 24<sup>th</sup>. This was an exciting event and one that was interesting. I did get to participate in the ceremonies and I actually had to run, which was something that I had not done in a long time. My knees are finally getting over it; there are not in very good shape to be running anymore, too many miles, too much weight, and too much arthritis to be running. But, it was fun and the people here make a big deal over it. The main ceremony here was held at the new Dining Hall. The head official with the torch spent some time talking to me about it. It is still drawing a lot of attention for the school.

The one thing that I have spent more time on this month than anything else has been getting things in place so that when we leave at the end of September, the Tanzanians can continue to operate things on this side with me looking over their shoulder from a long distance. I have had this plan since I arrived in January of 2007 and this is going to be the first real test. We have a lot of check and balances in place and I feel confident in the men that have been chosen to be responsible. We plan to back here in January to check on things and help out with the opening of all of the schools at the first of the year. We will see then how well things worked and make any adjustments to our program that need to be made.

While we are home this year, we will be actively working to raise funds for the work. With the economy the way it has been the last two years, this is an area that really needs focus, so I will be working hard to try to help get more funds for this great work that is taking place here. We are very interested in visiting any congregation or individual that would like to know more about Chimala Mission.

In His Service,

Bill and Cyndi Stinson

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