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Chimala Mission, Hospital, and Schools

August 2012



From the Coordinator

Cyndi and I just returned from our second trip to Chimala this year. We were there for three months this time. It was a great trip and it was hard to leave. The reason we were having such a hard time leaving this time was because we knew that we planned not to return to Chimala until next January. That means we are going to be in the States for almost six months. It has been six years since we have stayed here that long. It is great to be here with family, but we do miss getting to be with all of our friends and Christian family there in Chimala.

Things are going well in Chimala. As most of you know, we did suffer from a fire at the secondary school dorm, but by the time you read this, that building will have been rebuilt and all of the students will be back in their rooms. The fire did teach us all some valuable lessons and we are taking some measures to be better prepared if this ever happens again. We have some large water tanks on the mission that are the main water supply for most of the mission. I have purchased some large quick disconnects to build some "Fire Hydrants" at different locations around the mission. I have also purchased 36 smoke detectors to place in more areas of the mission. Fortunately, we had done two things in the girls dorm that helped. I built fire walls in the Girls Dorm that stopped the fire from destroying the whole building. Secondly, we had put smoke detectors in the dorm and that warned the students in time to get everyone out safely. However, we realized that we needed many other things to be prepared for a fire. We are working on correcting those. We pray that we never have to experience another fire, but it will be our fault if we do not learn from this lesson.

May and June are always the months that we do all of our seminars at the mission. We take advantage of the Bible college being on break and use these facilities to house the guests that come to hear the messages. We started in May with the preacher's seminar. We had a good turn out for Tony Hopper's lessons. Then we had the Ladies Seminar in early June. Cyndi, Susan Logsdon, and Cheryl Bode all taught a lesson. The rest of the lessons were taught by the Tanzanian ladies. The seminar lessons were on "Fruits of the Spirit". Once again, we had a large turn out and the responses from the ladies were great. Then we had the Youth Seminar. The turn out was large and we had four young people make the decision to be baptized.

We spent the last four weeks in Chimala working closely with Chad in order to help him be prepared to take over the responsibilities of mission administrator. Chad has a lot to learn, but he is doing well. I know that it will take months for him and his family to really get to where they will be completely accustomed living in Chimala, but they seem to be making a quick adjustment.

Cyndi and I have been busy traveling and making presentations at several churches that have not had presentations in many years. If your congregation would like to have an update, please feel free to contact me and let us set up a date to come. We want everyone to know all about what great things are taking place in Chimala. We love to tell the *Habari Njema (Good News)*.



Painting a New Bridge

Chad Wagner's Report



GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD! The family and I are getting settled into life here in Chimala. Family life here is very good. The mission feels like a neighborhood where everyone is welcome and accepted. We are getting settled into our house here, which is the Mays House. It is a nice home in a central location on the mission. We had the house painted so we moved out for about two weeks. Since the house is now finished, we moved back in and are about the business of making this house our home.

We shipped some of our furniture, books, and other material (along with many things for the mission) on a shipping container. The

container arrived in Dar es Salaam roughly the same time we arrived in Dar in June. However, there have been delays and hold-ups from the government. This has greatly delayed our container actually making it to the mission. In fact, the mission has our container in the port at Dar as well as another container that was shipped a month ahead of our container. The first container actually was delayed along the way and ended up arriving in Dar on the same boat as the second. Now both are sitting in the port at Dar awaiting the government to allow the containers to be on their way. The other container holds items for the mission as well as items for the farm project (including a tractor). The farm project, led by Don Logsdon, is stalled out currently awaiting their necessary tools and equipment so that they can properly launch the project. Please pray that the containers will be cleared and on the way shortly.

The primary school and secondary schools have both started their new sessions. It is fantastic to have almost 1,000 kids on campus each day! After talking with the head master's of both schools, I have agreed with them about the overall mission of the schools. We are going to work hand-in-hand to provide quality education to as many as we can. By educating and enabling future church members, we are indirectly helping the church to support itself. As you may know, a large dining hall has been constructed at the secondary school. We currently have students sleeping in the dining hall since the school dorm burned in May. However, we should have the dorm operating again very soon so that we can utilize the school's dining hall again. Our contractor has almost finished the work on the school dorm which burned. The new roof is installed, the walls are painted, and new lighting is currently being installed. It is important that we reopen the girl's dorm so that we can get the school back to normal.

The Chimala Bible Institute has restarted with a total of 22 students. I have been impressed with the dedication of the students and their commitment to preaching the Gospel of our LORD Jesus Christ. During the first week, we heard several reports from the students of their ministry and evangelism efforts during the short break from school. In fact, several baptisms were reported! That is due to our Lord's influence as well as the training these men receive from CBI. The LORD is blessing our efforts to train men to preach. I am teaching a class at CBI called "How we got the Bible." I am enjoying being in the classroom, however the students may disagree!! :)

We have five visitors on the mission currently from the Let's Start Talking program (LST). They are teaching conversational English using the Bible. Also, through their efforts, they are building relationships with non-Christians and helping them see Christianity from a different perspective. My daughter, Anna, is even down with LST every day helping them teach the Bible! They are really doing a good work and I can tell they have a heart for people and missions. They are a true benefit to the work here.

Chad Wagner's Report Continued

Finally, we are excited about a new missionary coming to the Chimala Mission. Cheryl Bode surveyed the mission for several weeks in late spring of this year. Upon leaving, she had already decided to come back to Chimala and work with the medical mission outreach. She is an RN and plans on doing mobile clinics in small, poor villages to inoculate children, educate people on proper hygiene, and help medically where she is able. She has a great heart for the people here and will be a great benefit to the work. We thank the LORD for making this possible. She is currently raising funds for her mobile clinics and could use any assistance you can provide.

Don and Susan's Report

It seems the days have quickly gone by since we arrived in May. We have had the good fortune of meeting many good Christians from the States. We worked furiously with the OC students and the Tanzanians to put out the fire at the school dormitory. It was a blessing to see the good work that was done by the doctors, nurses and nursing students from Harding University. The Let's Start Talking group is working down at the secondary school as I write this. Learning to speak English more easily and correctly is a great benefit to the Tanzanians. But more important is that they learn and understand the good news of Jesus Christ.

We have completed a lot of preparatory work for the agriculture program. Don and I have walked the bush several times to lay out positions for cutting lanes to build fence. There has been some work done on the initial fence line next to the mission. The equipment for this project is waiting in the container in Dar es Salaam. We are praying it will be sent soon.

In June, I attended the women's seminar at the Chimala mission church building. The women of the congregation prepared and taught the seminar. There were women from many congregations that attended. I am always humbled when I worship with the Christians in other countries. It makes me realize that God listens to Christians around the world and in many languages. I am amazed when walking the bush (which is very dry and dusty now) to come across a delicate flower that is growing in the midst of brown grass. It reminds me what a beautiful world God has created.

A few weeks ago we attended worship services at Chang'ombe. This congregation is about 40 minutes off the main road down a dusty, bumpy road. Since I had distributed dresses there last fall, I thought maybe it was too soon to distribute dresses again. At the last minute, I decided to put the dresses in the car. When we arrived, there was a young girl about 10 or 11 wearing one of the dresses distributed last fall. The dress was faded and well worn. There was a tear in the back. After the services, I handed out new dresses. It was a pleasure to see this girl receive a new dress. I also distributed dresses and shorts at Chosi A. The girls were happy to receive their dresses. As we left, we saw the girls had put the dresses over their clothes and were jumping and showing their family their new clothes. In June, I distributed 130 baby blanket bundles to the new mothers at the hospital. In July, 142 baby bundles were distributed. These mothers are always surprised and grateful to get their gift. Thank you to all the women who make these dresses and shorts to give to the children and the baby blankets and diaper shirts to the new mothers at the hospital. It brings happiness to the children to get something new and I have the pleasure of being your hands in delivering the gift.

