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Memorial Honor Birthday Anniversary

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Chimala Mission, Hospital, and Schools

May and June 2011



Randy Gray: Stateside Coordinator

Our Reason for Being in Tanzania

This year is flying by because all of us associated with Chimala Mission are very busy. As you read this newsletter, the Stinsons are hosting summer guests in addition to the usual activities of the mission. We have had so much activity we can lose our focus very easily. We strive, however, to never forget that we are in Tanzania to save souls. God has blessed the teaching of His Word. Since the beginning of the year, there have been 70 souls baptized into Christ.

The Dean of the Chimala Bible Institute (CBI), Joseph Haonga, leads a team of preaching students on weekend campaigns. Students from both the English and Swahili schools go out together to work in the designated villages. Some of these villages can be reached in 30 minutes. Others require 4 to 5 hours of travel one way. On the trips to the far away locations, the faculty and students spend Friday and Saturday night in the village before returning back to Chimala Mission Sunday evening. These experiences give our students first hand training outside of the classroom in evangelizing lost souls. They see what kinds of obstacles Satan puts up to discourage any teaching about Jesus Christ. This type of training will prepare them for the challenges they will face once they graduate and start preaching for a congregation in Tanzania or any other bordering country.

Evangelism has expenses to be paid, from fuel to food. The funds for such fruitful campaigns come from our supporters in the USA. Some of our supporters designate that their donations be used strictly for evangelism. These supporters are the ones keeping the evangelism work going. There is never a surplus of funds for any department on the mission. We continue to ask for your prayers and your financial support when possible to sustain this good effort.

Former Missionaries Visit

Leon and Joyce McManus served at Chimala several years ago. The Stinsons are currently hosting them for a visit in Tanzania. Speaking of evangelism, they have already lead one soul to the understanding what God wants us to all do, put Christ on in baptism. Leon and Joyce have a true spirit of loving to share the gospel. May God bless their efforts in Tanzania and the USA as they spread the gospel

Bill and Cyndi Stinson's Report

Warm Greetings from Tanzania,

The rain that took place at the end of May turned out to be the last one of this rainy season. It has been dry ever since and it will most likely not rain again until sometime in late November or early December. The good side of the change in the weather is that it has cooled off nicely with morning temperatures being in the 40's and afternoon high in the 80's. When I see what the temps have been in Texas lately, it makes being here away from family not seem quite so bad.

Things have been busy this whole month. We have had many guest and all of them have been here doing things to help the work here at Chimala. The Harding group flew out on the 21st of this month, but up until the end, they worked hard at the hospital helping heal the body while showing the love of God to all with whom they came in contact. They were also kind enough to leave a generous financial gift for the hospital which is very much needed.

Our hospital is really struggling today financially. Our situation is not unusual at this time in Tanzania. Almost all private hospitals are struggling in Tanzania. Several factors contribute to the financial challenges. Government policies have increased the minimum salaries and place numerous restrictions on how our staff can work. With inflation, the cost of operating the hospital continues to increase. Our patient population can pay only very small amounts for their care because their own income is so small. It has become harder and harder to make ends meet at the hospital.

Ron and Jan Haker arrived on the 10th of this month along with their daughter Julie and their 10 year old granddaughter, Lauren. They all came to do the program "Lets Start Talking." As last year and the year before, they have been busy with many readers. Julie who is a prenatal nurse also spent time every morning working at the hospital before she started reading with her students. Julie and Lauren, only had 3 weeks to be gone and left on the 28th. On the same trip to Dar es Salaam, we picked up my brother Eddie and Debbie Dow. This is Eddie's 4th trip to Tanzania and we are happy to have him here. Debbie is here for her 3rd time. I am sure that by the time that they all leave by the end of this month, many will have a better understanding of the love of God and some will come to understand what they need to do to spend eternity with our Heavenly Father.

We have also had the privilege to have a former missionary couple return for a short visit. Leon and Joyce McManus arrived on July 21st and have only been here a few short days, but they have already lead one soul to the understanding what God wants us to all do and that is to put Jesus Christ on in baptism. I was visiting with Leon yesterday and he was telling me that he could not believe how fast time was going by. He said "I came wanting to do so many things, but I can see that I am not going to be able to accomplish everything before we leave". Leon has a true spirit of someone who loves to share the gospel. I do believe that he and Joyce will influence several people to come know Christ in the short time that they will be here.

Cyndi and I both have been busy with our usual activities plus hosting visitors. Hosting visitors involves arranging for the houses to be cleaned and prepared, ensuing each house has people to cook, clean, and do laundry, and picking up guests up at the airport and taking them back and forth to Dar. We also handle day-to-day things that come up and try to make everyone's stay as comfortable as possible, quite a large job. But, these activities are really a labor of love as we love having everyone here doing things that help the kingdom grow here in southwest Tanzania.

Cyndi also planned the Ladies Seminar and also did the final lesson of the seminar. The seminar lead to the baptism of one lady who had came from Uтуру as a guest with a church member from there. We knew that angels were rejoicing.

I have gotten to preach and teach some in between everything else. I also got to speak at our Preacher's Seminar and spend several hours in discussion period with them. Joseph Haonga came to me yesterday and said that the preachers really enjoyed the seminar and they left feeling encouraged. He also said that there was a better sense of cooperation than he had felt in a long time.

Bill & Cyndi's News (con)

Our container arrived in Dar in late May and we spent the whole month of June trying to get it out of port and on its way to the mission. This finally happened at the very end of the last day of June, but it only got a little over a third of the way here when the truck pulling it broke down. They are still working on the truck at this moment and hopefully they get back on their way soon. Please pray to keep the truck and its contents safe for the rest of the journey. We are so looking forward to having all the items in the container to use.

We cannot close this letter without saying a couple of things. First, I want to say thank you to all of those who make it possible for this work to exist. Without all of your generous support, we could not be here doing the things that God has allowed us to do. But, I also need to mention that in these tough economic times, the support for the mission has decreased over the last couple of years. The decrease in support has reached the point that it is really starting to hurt our ability to do the work that needs to be done here, especially our ability to continue to evangelize this part of Tanzania. If you or anyone you know could give us some additional help, it surely would be a blessing to this work.

In His Service,
Bill and Cyndi

Harding University Nursing Students

As long as anyone can remember, Harding University, located at Searcy, Arkansas, has had a group of nursing students come to Chimala Hospital to work for a period of 4 weeks. This has given the students an opportunity to experience the practice of medicine in a hospital located in a third world country. These nurses are given the opportunity to assist in the healing of the physical human body and also given the opportunity to teach patients about the healing of their spiritual souls.

This year, the Harding team was comprised of ten students, two nursing instructors, and one MD. When groups like the Harding students come, the patients benefit. Because Tanzanians seem to prefer to be treated by US-trained health care professionals, more patients come to the hospital when medical teams are at the hospitals. The increase in patient censes creates more revenue for our hospital.

The hospital is under going a very, very difficult financial times right now. We are not generating enough revenue to pay our bills, pay our taxes, pay the government mandated salaries to hospital workers, and purchase needed medication to treat our patients. Unfortunately, the doctor who agreed to come to Chimala in April and work for 3 months left after 2 ½ weeks. We need Christian Physicians to come to Chimala Hospital and work for whatever time they can give. We would love to have all types of health care professionals come, whether for three weeks, three months, or three years.

Our Hospital opened its doors in 1965 with 60 beds and has grown through the years to 120beds. We would love to have you come and serve in the oldest Church of Christ Hospital in all of Africa. If you or someone you know is interested in coming to Chimala, contact the Chimala Office or Randy Gray.

The Power of Prayer: What you can do to help Chimala Mission

- Thank God for all those who have given and continue to give to support the Chimala Mission
- Thank God for the Stinsons and other who serve in Chimala.
- Ask God to open the hearts and minds of those who are reading the Bible with Ron and Janet Harker and Eddie Stinson.
- Ask God to open the hearts of more people who have the financial resources to give to Chimala.
- Ask God's blessing on our preaching students who are learning to serve God more effectively.
- Pray that the hospital will heal bodies and souls.