

# Chimala Mission, Hospital, and Schools

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## Chimala Newsletter—Chris and Tam Raynor — November 2007

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving Day. We missionaries got together on that Thursday evening and had our “Thanksgiving” dinner. We had teachers here from Bear Valley teaching in the Chimala Bible College and they were with us for dinner. Instead of having the traditional turkey, we had to substitute two chickens. It was great evening for us in giving thanks for all that God has done for us over here.

Since Thanksgiving, things have got back to normal. The Stinson’s made it back safely from their tour in America. It is good to have them here again. Tam and I were getting a little lonely. Bill and I spent about week together getting him caught up with what happened while he was gone. The first day Bill was back, we got word from the Primary School that there was a snake in the tree next to the buildings. Damson, the yard man for the school, had this terrified look in his eyes while telling us about this snake. He kept on saying, “Bad, bad snake.” When Bill and I got to the school, and found the place where it was, we saw it up in the tree. I said, “That is a Black Mamba.” The Black Mamba is one of the most poisonous snakes in the world. If you are bitten by one death is within five to fifteen minutes. Between Bill and I shooting it with the shot-gun, we were able to kill it. After we made sure that it was dead we measured it, and it was over six feet long. Some of the children wanted to know about it. I was able to tell the kids a little about how dangerous this snake was. Then the other day, Bill killed another one by the school, and this one was over seven feet long. Well, that is enough snake stories for now.

The Primary School has finished for the year. The kids are now on their summer break. The year has gone by fast. My young son in the faith, Thomas, is working around our house three days a week, with our yard man Hamisi. I am going to sit with Thomas and teach him about giving to the Lord, and also about saving money. The Tanzanians do not seem to understand these things. So, maybe a month and half working with Thomas we’ll be able to help him understand how to be a good steward of his money.

Chimala School of Preaching is closing for the summer starting today, and we have another graduating class. It will be sad to see these men go, after being with them for two years and getting to know them. My best friend, Mathias, will also be graduating and I will miss seeing him every day. He lives in the village of Mpolo, and even though it’s not that far, I will only get to see him when I’m able to go out there on a Sunday. The Christians in Mpolo have built their new church building, but they are in need of a roof and the rainy season is coming. If there is anyway any of you could help them to get a roof, I know they will be thankful. To buy a roof costs \$400.00. If you are able to help put a note with your check (For Chris, roof for Mpolo church of Christ). Thank you.

Last Friday, Tam and I went to Dar to take the visiting CBC teachers to the airport. We had a few days for some “R ‘n’ R.” We spent most of our time trying to get Tam’s computer with Windows Vista to accept printers and other external things. But after four days, Windows Vista defeated us. Tam will just have to borrow my computer and printer when she needs them.

The class that I am teaching on Wednesdays for the mission congregation is going well. I finished a study on the Sadducees, Pharisees, the synagogues, and the Palestinian leaders. The study was well received and they told me that they had never studied this before. On Thursday evenings, at the Manyolo congregation, I’m half way through with the study of the Old Testament. There are many new Christians at Manyolo and they ask many questions, which makes me happy.

We wish you all a good holiday season and a happy New Year! Thank you all for making this a good year for us with your support and prayers. God bless you all.

Chris and Tam Raynor

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