

# Chimala Mission, Hospital, and Schools

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

It's hard to believe that another month has gone by. Tam and I are hanging in there being all alone here on the mission (the only missionaries). It is good that we have many Tanzanian friends here. I have been spending some off-time with Boaz. I have gone with him on some of his trips he makes in buying food for the School of Preaching. Tam also spends some of her time with the ladies. She is also teaching English at the Primary School to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

Since the last letter, we had the 7<sup>th</sup> grade graduation which lasted most of the day. They sang tribal-style songs about education and saying goodbye to the graduates, using the drum. It is quite fun to watch, and is nothing like our graduations in the States. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders have also taken their national test, but we won't have the results until some time in December. The rest of the grades have until the end of November before school is out.

In the Chimala School of Preaching, we just finished the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The students and we teachers are on a short break. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter was a challenging one for me. I was in the class room 23 hours a week and I enjoyed every hour of it. Now the school is out for a week, and I can get caught up on my other duties.

Talking about time going by, this month also will go by fast. With Bill and Cyndi Stinson in the States, I've taken over Bill's job as administrator. This is a big responsibility, as we have around 200 employees here on the mission. This job also has its challenges, but it's a good opportunity as it allows me to personally see how the mission is run.

During our first week after the Stinson's left, we had a bad fire in the night. It burned the whole back half of the mission, from the river across to the witch doctor's house. Witch doctor? Yes, there is a witch doctor on the mountain behind us. Our mission workers managed to stop the fire before it could damage any buildings here. There are fires every year; this was just one of the bad ones. We're thankful nobody was hurt putting it out.

I don't think I have given you an update on Thomas in awhile. He is doing quite well. He is growing both physically and spiritually. He calls me, "Father." It made me feel funny at first, but now I don't mind it. His mother seems to be doing some better, at this time. She asked me one day if there were any jobs on the mission she could do. We have her cleaning the buildings for both of our preaching schools. She has been doing this now for about two months and the exercise has been good for her. Mama Thomas really appreciates having a job.

Tam and I thank you all for the prayers  
and for your support.  
May God bless you all.

Chris and Tam Raynor

“...into all the world...”