

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 12

THE FERGUSON FAMILY

SHARING OUR WORK IN CHIMALA, TANZANIA



IN THIS ISSUE:

THE YEAR END - 1

HYDRAM- 2

FARM - 2

DECEMBER SERIES - 3

CONCLUSION - 3

THE YEAR END

WRITTEN BY NATHAN FERGUSON

As the rains are coming into full swing, it is a reminder of all of the blessings that we have. Certainly we can look back at this previous year and see all the ways that the Lord has blessed each one of us. Especially here on the mission, there are countless areas we can see the Lord's hand working day after day.

As we look into the next year, we are pleasantly anxious about the many upcoming students and individuals who will be making their way here for the new year. Kids will be flocking to the primary and secondary schools, and a small group of men will be starting their journey at the Chimala School of Preaching. We are so looking forward to each one of them joining us on the mission, and we eagerly await their arrival.

Looking further ahead, we see the necessity of planning as we look at the next 12 months. There is a lot we must be preparing for - regarding the farm, the hospital, the schools, even the estate. We plead for our brothers and sisters back home to pray for our successes in this new year, and may we always stay true and faithful to the Lord's work in Chimala.

HYDRAM

WRITTEN BY NATHAN FERGUSON

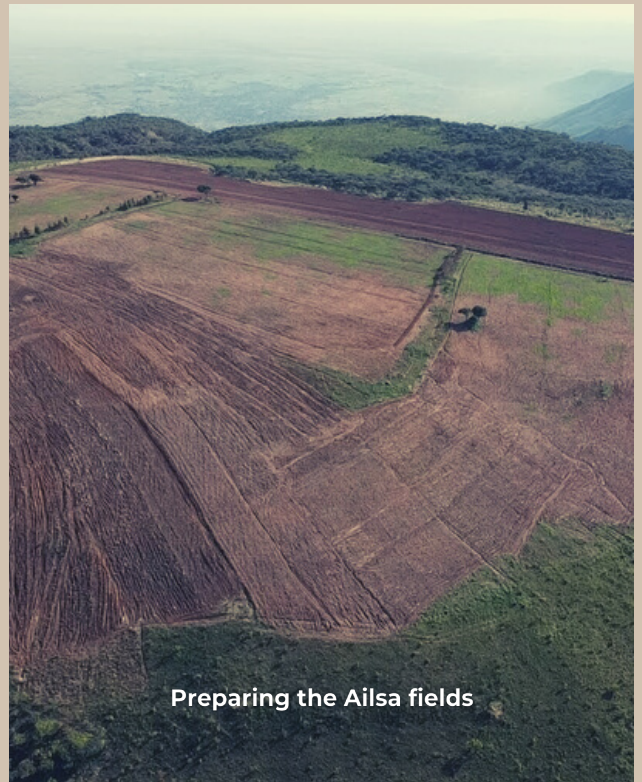
Months and months have passed, but we have finally been able to install the new hydraulic ram pump on the mission. It was a headache (in multiple ways) to finally get the parts here, but we are so grateful all of that is in the past. Once we received the parts on the mission, we immediately started to work on the hydam and clean all of the various components to the system. There is a deep reservoir nearly 12 ft. deep that was completely filled with mud that had to be cleaned out by hand. All of the incoming and outgoing water channels also had to be cleaned from silt, mud, and debris. Thankfully, everything is now in working order. We have a few small things to do still, but the water is pumping great, and our cisterns have stayed completely full - allowing plentiful water to the hospital for sanitation and all the spigots and water accesses throughout the mission. Once again, thanks to all of you who helped get these parts repaired and replaced. We are so extremely grateful.



Cleaning out the reservoir



Pumping fresh water!



Preparing the Ailsa fields

FARM

WRITTEN BY NATHAN FERGUSON

Now that the rains have come full-swing, there is a lot to do around the mission regarding the farm program. Down on the lower side, we have already tilled and planted our garden fields for corn. These fields are easy to control and maintain since they are right here near where we live, and we are fortunate to be able to plant twice a year on these plots.

At Ailsa, we are nearly ready to plant the beans on the large plots on the mountain. There are still a few small areas we need to till beforehand, but we are nearing the end of that stage and preparing for the planting stages.

Lord willing, this will be the largest amount we have grown in the farm's history. While we should be nearing 60 acres, due to property slopes and angles outside of our control, the actual number we can plant may be slightly less. While we face these challenges head on, we are hopeful and praying for good weather for this season. We will be planting full-maturity beans that should grow better than last year's and have slightly better fungus resistance.

I look forward to updating you all once the seed hits the soil!



DECEMBER SERIES

WRITTEN BY NATHAN FERGUSON

It is always a joy to participate in worship at the mission congregation. I have noted before that the church here schedules one preacher for a certain month, and they have the entire month to choose what lessons / topics they want for the month. For December, I was fortunate to have that opportunity. My theme was primarily focused on "Preparing the Saints", discussing the ways in which we can all prepare ourselves for the work of the church - individually and as a congregation.

Having great translators makes preaching a breeze, and I am extremely grateful to the men who helped me deliver these lessons to the congregation.

The month and year concluded in the best way possible with a new brother being added to the Lord's church on the final Sunday of the month. While his family are not strangers to the mission, pray for our new brother Alvin Mkwama!

CONCLUSION

As I conclude this newsletter, I wanted to share just a few things about the upcoming months ahead. Just next week my parents will be coming for around 7 weeks. Dad will be doing his usual rounds around the mission, and mom will be working a lot in the store rooms organizing many of the individual container items. On the container we also received a large donation of laptops and computers, and we are going to find the best places for them to be used. Additionally, there are always tons of boxes of clothes, school supplies, and materials that need organized and put together for the upcoming year.

Joining them will be **Randy Rice**, a member at the North Jackson church of Christ in Jackson, TN. He has volunteered to help teach a short-course at CSOP for two weeks. We are looking forward to his arrival.

Finally, I have mentioned that **Lee Wright** and his family will be moving to live on the Chimala Mission this year. We thank the Lord for their decision, and are happy that they have made the commitment starting in **June** of this year. Please continue to pray for Lee and Tara, and their two children Emily and Brody as they finalize everything in the states and begin their transition in a few months.

Especially as we begin this new year, may God continue to bless you, your families, and your congregations.

Nathan, Kristi, Eden, Emmy & Rowan

Overseeing Congregation:
Dalraida church of Christ
3740 Atlanta HWY
Montgomery, AL 36109

A work in conjunction with
The Chimala Mission
www.chimalamission.com

Contact:
+17313948986 (US/TZ)
+255752259674 (TZ)
nathan.kferguson@gmail.com