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BRIEF HISTORY OF CHIMALA MISSION

CHIMALA MISSION WAS BEGUN WHEN THE PARK ROW CONGREGATION IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS SENT THE ANDREW CONNALLYS TO CHIMALA, TANZANIA, EAST AFRICA, IN 1962. PREVIOUS WORK DONE BY OTHERS OF A PURELY EVANGELISTIC NATURE WAS IN JEOPARDY. THIS FAMILY WAS TO BEGIN A MEDICAL SERVICE TO HELP THE PEOPLES OF THEIR AREA SEE WHAT CHRISTIANITY REALLY COULD MEAN TO THOSE IN NEED. THIS HELPED SECURE CHURCH RECOGNITION WHEREBY OUR MISSIONARIES AND EVANGELISTS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO PREACH AND TEACH WITHOUT UNDUE RESTRICTION. THIS WAS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE FOR THE CHURCH TO CONTINUE TO WORK IN TANZANIA.

IT WAS SOON EVIDENT THAT A HOSPITAL WAS GREATLY NEEDED TO DO THE JOB AT HAND; SO, PLANS WERE BEGUN TO PROVIDE SOME 50 BEDS PLUS AN OUT-PATIENT BLOCK CAPABLE OF CARING FOR 150 A DAY. THESE FACILITIES HAVE NOW BEEN PROVIDED, BUT ARE NOT IN FULL OPERATION DUE TO A LACK OF REGULAR SUPPORT. THIS IS OUR GREATEST NEED.

THE FIRST DOCTOR AND FAMILY TO ARRIVE, WERE THE JERRY MAYSES OF LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS. DR. MAYS AND HIS FAMILY ACTUALLY BEGAN THE MEDICAL PHASE OF THE OPERATION.

SHORTLY AFTER MAY 1, 1963, THE DAVID CASKEYS OF CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS, ARRIVED TO HELP IN THE EVANGELISTIC PHASE OF THE PROGRAM. THE CASKEYS ARE DUE FOR LEAVE IN DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

DURING THIS TIME, AN ENGLISHMAN, KEN POSTLETHWAITE AND FAMILY WERE CONVERTED BY THE CONNALLYS AND THEY, TOO, HELPED IN THE BUILDING OF THE MISSION. THEY NOW RESIDE IN ENGLAND.

WHEN DR. MAYS RETURNED HOME IN 1964, HE WAS SUCCEEDED BY RON W. HUDDLESTON AND FAMILY. RON IS THE PRESENT DOCTOR. OVER 40,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TREATED TO DATE. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT BEGINNING NEXT YEAR 30,000 A YEAR WILL BE HELPED.

IN JULY OF 1965, THE WAYNE SMALLING FAMILY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE MISSION. SIS. SMALLING IS THE FIRST REGISTERED NURSE TO GO TO EAST AFRICA FOR THE CHURCH. THE SMALLINGS ARE WELL QUALIFIED FOR THIS WORK AND A GREAT ASSET TO THE PROGRAM.

SOME 43 CONGREGATIONS HAVE NOW BEEN ESTABLISHED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WITH WELL OVER 4,000 PEOPLE BEING BAPTIZED. THE EVANGELISTIC WORK IS STRONGLY PUSHED AS IT TAKES

FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MEDICAL WORK.

THE MARY ELLEN AND HARVESTER CONGREGATION IN PAMPA, TEXAS, CONDUCTS A PREACHER-TRAINING SCHOOL NEARBY. THIS SCHOOL TRAINS AFRICAN MEN WHICH ARE UTILIZED BY THE MISSIONARIES AS INTERPRETERS, SCHOOL TEACHERS, AND PREACHERS.

WE ALSO HAVE ONE LARGE SCHOOL AND A NUMBER OF SMALL ONES IN WHICH AFRICAN CHILDREN ARE TAUGHT THE BIBLE DAILY. FROM THIS SOURCE WILL COME SOME OF OUR STRONGEST CHRISTIANS AND LEADERS. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS A WONDERFUL POWER FOR GOOD.

PERHAPS THE FUNDAMENTAL POINT TO ALL OF THIS IS FOUND IN THAT, WITHOUT CHIMALA MISSION, NO MEDICAL FACILITIES OF ANY CONSEQUENCE WOULD BE FOUND FOR THE SUFFERING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THIS AREA. ALSO, CHURCH RECOGNITION WOULD NOT BE A REALITY AND IT IS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL IF ANY WHITE BRETHREN WOULD BE IN TANZANIA TODAY. SURELY THE POWER OF PRAYER, THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE OF GOD, THE WISDOM OF GODLY ELDERS AND THE SACRIFICE OF THOUSANDS OF CHRISTIANS COUPLED WITH THE UNSWERVING DEDICATION OF CHRISTIAN FAMILIES IN THE FIELD, GREATLY AIDED BY THE AFRICAN CO-LABORERS HAVE PRODUCED A WORK OF FAITH SELDOM SEEN IN OUR GENERATION.

THEY NEED YOUR HELP. THEY NEED IT NOW. WILL YOU NOT SEARCH YOUR LIFE TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS OF HELPING THIS GREAT WORK? REGULAR MONTHLY SUPPORT FROM CONGREGATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS IS VITAL TO ITS FUTURE. THE SPECIAL "SOULS NOT CARDS" DRIVE, WHEREBY, CHRISTMAS CARD MONEY IS DIVERTED TO THIS WORK IS NEEDED EVERY YEAR. IF ALL WOULD HELP A LITTLE, SO MANY COULD DO SO MUCH. WILL YOU PRAY ABOUT IT AND DO WHAT YOU CAN? GOD WILL BLESS YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE AND THOUSANDS WHO CAN NOT HELP THEMSELVES WILL BE YOUR ETERNAL DEBTORS.

THANK YOU,

ELDERS
PARK ROW CHURCH OF CHRIST
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