



# “How Shall They Hear?”

**Training Men to Preach in Their Native Lands  
A Work of the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver**

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## A PROVEN MISSION WORK OF GOD

It has never been about the “man or the missionary” but always, from the beginning, about the plan—the **Plan of God**. The apostle Paul teaches that God has always desired that all men everywhere be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth (1 Timothy 2.3-4).

The Tanzania Mission effort began in **1998** with a twenty year mission plan to use a Church Growth Model that would lead to a mature church, able to be self-reliant and self-propagating. After 15 years of labor, we can now see clearly the hand of God working in **Tanzania** and throughout **East Africa**.

The Tanzania Mission plan included the building of two **Bible schools**, one in Moshi and the other in Arusha, and the **Andrew Connally School of Preaching**. We now have a total of five Bible Schools. We also have a “second generation” school in **Kisumu, Kenya**. These schools have enabled us to teach God’s Word to the good people of Tanzania and other East Africa countries. They, in turn, are better equipped to take the saving message of God’s Word to their own people and in a more productive way (2 Timothy 2:2).

We have graduated several classes from the Bible Schools and **154** full-time evangelists from the School of Preaching. We have planted over **200** congregations throughout the **six** different countries of East Africa, including the Congo. Highlights of the Lord’s work being done through our graduates in 2013 and part of 2014:

- 57** campaigns
- 47** new congregations planted
- 881** active Christians in these 14 congregations
- 28** souls restored to the Lord’s Church
- 278** conversions

Another aspect of our mission efforts was the use of **summer campaigns**, allowing our supporters, friends and co-workers an opportunity to come and witness *first century Christianity and evangelism in the 21st century*. During our 2013 **Safari for Souls** campaigns, **84** souls were added to the Kingdom of our Lord. Two new congregations also resulted from this effort.

All genuine mission work begins with God. As our dear brother V.P. Black once wrote, “**What God Controls, Grows.**” If a mission work is to succeed, it must begin with and be dependent on God. My wife of 38 year, Stephanie, and I began our missionary journey in the Fall of 1990 when we met **Andrew and Claudine Connally**. Andrew invited us to join a team bound for Chimala Mission, Tanzania in 1991. This was an answer to 10 years of prayers, asking God to use us full time in His service. We never dreamed He would send us to Africa, but Africa it was.

We served three years at Chimala mission, with our three sons and our niece. We returned to the States so that I could attend the Brown Trail School of Preaching while Stephanie studied to become a nurse. She now serves at the Tanzania Christian Clinic, Monduli, TZ, a couple of days a week. While attending at Brown Trail, I met my brother, instructor, yes, my mentor, Gary Fallis. Little did we know we would be working together one day in Tanzania.

All successful mission efforts also include a huge supporting cast of fellow servants. We brought this 20 year mission plan to the **Kensington Woods church in Hattiesburg, MS**. This began an amazing relationship that has

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brought us to where we are today. The Hattiesburg congregation served as our sponsor and primary supporter for 15 years. They continue supporting this great mission effort, though the sponsorship has now been moved to the **Bear Valley church in Denver, CO.**

We have also been blessed with **14 missionary families** over the 15 years. The Gee family has been with us for 10 years, the Hochdorf family 6 years, the McVeigh and Gaines families joined us this past year. Each family has done some level of good, making this work of God what it is.

The success of any mission work can also be seen in the **indigenous Christians** taking ownership of the work and carrying it on to future generations. We have been blessed to see this very thing happening. One example of this is the growth of the Arusha and area wide congregations. When we arrived in **1998**, the Arusha church had about two dozen members. Today, they are a strong congregation in the process of selecting elders. They have also been responsible for planting many sister congregations. They, along with the other 4 sister congregations in the Arusha area, have a plan to plant 5 new congregations in 5 years. They have already begun 3 (making up the current total of 8 congregations) in the last two and a half years.

**Yusuph Mdaki** is another great example. After graduation, he and his family moved to Ushirombo, just South of Lake Victoria. In the last few years, they have planted 12 or more congregations. We have many examples of congregations beginning other congregations, a testimony to the fact; that they are self-reliant and self-propagating.

Last year we joined hands with the **Bear Valley church, and the Bear Valley Bible Institute** more fully. The vision and purpose of the BVBI is to *entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also* (2 Tim. 2.2b). Through this union with BVBI and 17 extension schools of preaching around the world, God is being glorified and countless souls are being saved.

I close with a request that you join us in prayer. Please **pray** for every mission effort, stateside, overseas, and every Bible class teacher, preacher, evangelist, missionary, that God's will might be done and that His Kingdom might continue to grow. **Until all have heard.....**

**Cy Stafford—missionary to East Africa**



One of three new congregations planted in Arusha

## FROM THE BEGINNING

No, I am not referring to the beginning of the world but the **beginning of the Andrew Connally School of Preaching**—well almost from the beginning. I became Bear Valley Coordinator of ACSOP in 2002. I made three trips each year to Tanzania from 2003-2006. The first class of nine graduated in 2003.

From 2003-2006 I taught the students in the original location in Arusha built under the leadership of the Kensington Woods church in Hattiesburg, MS. The building is now used by the Arusha Bible School for the purpose of teaching those who are Christians as well those who are not. Many have been converted to Christ as a result of this ministry, and the church has been greatly strengthened.

During these years, Sarah and I also attended **Safari for Souls**, a term coined by Andrew Connally, for the purpose of evangelism. Each year dozens of Americans and more than one hundred native Christians from Arusha and Moshi gathered to distribute Bible literature and teach those whom they met in homes and on the streets. In the afternoon an outdoor gospel meeting followed the teaching of the individual disciples. Sarah and I taught alongside American and Tanzanian Christians.

Two other important ministries – **Leadership Seminars for the Men and Women** and a **VBS** – were a part of the Safari for Souls in the two cities of Arusha and Moshi, each about forty-fifty miles apart. In each city, the street teaching and outdoor meeting would be conducted one week and the VBS and seminars the next week.

Sarah's translator was quite often Margaret or Lydia Wachesa, wife and daughter of Francis Wechesa, director of Arusha Bible School. She had a particularly joyful experience the first year when she helped convert the mother of one of our students. Equally exciting the next year was the baptism of two ladies whom she had studied with. She could be seen on the street corners and in the huts of native women—often as many as six or eight at a time. Sarah had learned the Bible from her youth and the need to teach it to others. (I was her first convert). She also presented lessons to as many as 50 + in the Ladies Leadership Seminar.

**The Men's Leadership Seminar** was conducted during the same time the ladies met. Christians came from all over northern Tanzania and Kenya. More than one hundred often attended. Again, American Christians—preachers, elders and others—contributed good, practical, Bible lessons. I was privileged frequently to be among those who were assigned relevant Bible subjects.

A **VBS** was also conducted in the morning during the same week as the Seminars. If a building could be more packed with children than those VBS, I have not seen it. Classes were conducted for those pre-school through middle school. Again, native and American Christians worked together, each preparing lesson handouts and visual aids. Children were taught inside the building Andrew Connally built as well as under the trees and in the shade. They were fed physically as well as spiritually, somehow order was maintained among the two hundred or more who attended. Our friend, Penny Cabler, was one of the fine teachers and strict disciplinarians. Like any American VBS, the benefit is for the children who are there and potentially for their parents who are not.

Sarah and I were part of more than two hundred Christians working in the various evangelistic ministries—personal teaching, outdoor preaching, leadership seminars and VBS. The Kensington Woods church and its elders, who planned, piloted and supported this twenty-year ministry referred to as **Tanzania 2000**, deserve thanks and respect from brethren in Africa and all over the world. Their vision, zeal and courage is not found that often among congregations.

Now Kensington Woods has handed off the pri-

mary direction of the school to the Bear Valley Bible Institute. Cy Stafford, with his wife Stephanie, who partnered with Hattiesburg to pioneer this worthy work of God, is now continuing as the Director/Coordinator and fund-raiser. Actually, Cy likes just being called “a servant or helper of the helpers.”

However, hundreds, even thousands of others, some maybe known only to God, have likewise contributed the widow's mite or a cup of cold water to this unique ministry.

—Gary Fallis



Leadership of the TZ 2000 and Andrew Connally School of Preaching

## FUTURE TRIPS IN SPRING

In May, Sarah and I will be going to **Paraguay**. I will be teaching 2 Cor. Since the congregations is installing elders, Sarah will teach the ladies about the work and qualifications of elders along with other subjects.

In June, I am scheduled to teach in **Ukraine**, which was the first Extension School established in 1998. Obviously, this trip is not certain due to the unstable situation. The native teachers are, of course, carrying on the work of the Lord in Gorlovja, near the city of Donetsk. Keep the students and teachers in your prayers that God will still be magnified regardless of circumstances.

—Gary Fallis





**Graduate Program, Andrew Connally School of Preaching, Arusha, Tanzania**

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