



# Ferguson Report



Vol. 5 No. 1

*“Go ye unto all the world”*

January 2008

## On The Table For 2008

God continues to be faithful to His people promising to bless us if we remain committed to Him and His church. Here are some of the highlights for my calendar year of 2008.

- Freed-Hardeman University Lectureship in Henderson, TN – Feb. 3 – 8.
- Thirteenth Annual Missions Workshop in Pikeville, KY – Feb. 22 – 24.
- Teach the book of Job at the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Gorlovka, Ukraine – March 17 – 21.
- Campaign work in Krasny Luch, Ukraine – March 23 – 29.
- Teach homiletics at the Bible School of the Americas in Panama City, Panama – April 14 – 18.
- Teach Joshua, Judges, Ruth and 1 & 2 Thessalonians at the Chimala Bible College in Chimala, Tanzania – May 26 – June 6.
- Graduation: conduct the first graduation class for the Chimala Bible College, Chimala, Tanzania tentatively June 6.
- My daughter, Sarah’s wedding to Jeremy Hall – July 19.
- Teach Joshua, Judges, Ruth at the Bible School of the Americas in Lima, Peru – Aug 18 – 22.
- BVBID Denver & extension staff retreat – Aug 24 – 26.
- Teach 1 & 2 Thessalonians at CSMT School of Biblical Studies in Abakaliki, Nigeria – Sept. 1 – 9.
- Possible campaign in Krasny Luch, Ukraine sometime in the fall 2008.
- Teach 1 & 2 Samuel and World Religions at the Chimala Bible College in Chimala, Tanzania.

As you can see, there will be quite a bit of traveling this year mostly for short courses. By the time you read this newsletter, the FHU lectureship will be history. But this event merits noting here because we will have our booth open on display in Bader gym giving our extension work perhaps the greatest exposure to sound brethren—who obviously are essential to any good work—of any Christian college we could visit.

One special highlight in this year’s line-up will be my March trip to Ukraine since Sarah & Seth will

be going with me. They will assist in the Bible campaign in Krasny Luch which will give them college credits towards their missions’ majors at Freed-Hardeman University. This will be their fourth major mission trip; first to Tanzania (3 years); the next two were campaigns to Guyana in 2005 and 2006; and now to Ukraine in March. Unique to this campaign is that it will serve somewhat of a “following-through” of the work that has been done by the North Jackson church in Jackson, TN under the leadership of one of its elders, Paul Norris. As you may remember, the North Jackson elders asked BVBID to take over the Krasny Luch work due to the close proximity of our extension school in Gorlovka. Since, as a member of North Jackson, I have been involved in the last two campaigns in Krasny Luch, this will enable me to remain somewhat of a “link” in that work and North Jackson.

Another highlight for 2008 will be the announcement of the first graduating class of the Chimala Bible College. This will be personally rewarding for me since I was asked to serve as the coordinator for this new work back in 2004. It was both a privileged opportunity yet very humbling because I knew I was standing on the broad shoulders of some very great men who had served at Chimala before me. These ten men who will graduate are the product of the sacrifices and dreams of more people than I could even imagine – both past and present. David Hamrick, director of extensions, plans to be our distinguished speaker to the graduating class. It is my prayer that you please pray for these graduates and their families as they begin to launch out in this new phase of their lives serving in the kingdom of God. May our labors not have been in vain!

On another personal note, Sarah will be getting married this summer, July 19<sup>th</sup>. As I write these words it sounds mostly academic. But I know when the time nears a lot of thoughts will be going through my mind. People keep saying to me, “It doesn’t seem like Sarah’s old enough to be getting married.” I usually respond with a simple, “Yea, I know.” The truth is I think our little girl is ready. She’s grown up in a Christian home, obeyed the gospel, wants to be of service to the Lord, and has chosen a faithful Christian

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***“Ferguson Mission”***

Monthly commitments and one-time  
donations still needed

***Bear Valley Bible Institute of  
Denver***

A work of the Bear Valley Church of  
Christ, 2707 S. Lamar St, Denver,  
CO  
80227 (303) 986-5800

Howell Ferguson, Ext. Coordinator  
Chimala, Tanzania, E. Africa and  
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man who likewise wants to serve God. But the reality of “letting go” probably won’t be that easy. Yet Mary and I know that is God’s plan; and we pray for them the very best as they form a new family. We won’t worry, though, for God will be in the center.

Later that summer, I’ll be teaching Joshua, Judges & Ruth to the students at our extension school in Lima, Peru. This will be my second trip to Lima at exactly the same week a year ago just before the BVBID faculty retreat in Denver. Lima is far enough south that they do have winters. And August will be their winter but without the snow. Actually, it’s a great time to be there; and the students as well as the Leonardo Espinoza family make me feel so welcome.

After arriving back that Saturday to Memphis (Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>), I’ll meet Mary and together we’ll fly to Denver for the annual retreat. This is always a highlight of my year as anyone who’s ever been to Denver can attest. It gives the extension staff a chance to “regroup” and to fellowship the Denver staff as well as the Bear Valley church and its fine elders.

In early September, there are plans to visit for the second time the newest addition to my mission assignment: CSMT School of Biblical Studies. Denton Landon and I plan to travel together to teach in our new school in Abakaliki. I will be teaching 1 & 2 Thessalonians while Denton teaches one of the graduate classes. As a new school, I have a fresh financial challenge. That is to raise \$1,400 per month

to assist in the school’s operational costs – most of which is student support. One group of Christians in an adult Bible class in Greenville, TX has taken on the challenge to contribute \$350 per month for one year. We are so thankful for their commitment. That leaves me with trying to find an additional \$1,050 per month. If you know of a congregation that would like to assist in sponsoring this newest BV extension school, please contact me. God is giving us the opportunities that we’ve prayed for to establish preaching schools. Now, we just have to “follow-through” with our part.

In October, I’m leaving the month open for another possible campaign in Krasny Luch. This will depend upon the success of March’s campaign and also available funding. The church there is very weak and isolated. I have gotten to know these people and truly want to help prevent this congregation from collapsing.

Last on the 2008 calendar will likely be another visit to Chimala to teach two additional short courses. It is not always easy to get teachers during the Nov-Dec session due to the conflict with Thanksgiving. But God has been so good to me personally and to CBC that “missing some turkey” in order to serve is not really a sacrifice at all. I plan to travel with another teacher for that trip who is likeminded. Please pray for us and these works. “Now the God of peace be with you all” (Rom. 15:33).  
Howell