

MARION MEDICAL MISSION

VOLUME 27. ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2024



In this issue...

2024 WELL SEASON

GOAL: 4,550 WELLS THIS YEAR

1412 Shawnee Drive
Marion, IL 62959

"I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink." - Matthew 25:35

Phone: 618-997-5365
Email: info@mmmwater.org

WILL YOU HELP US TELL THE MMM STORY? By Tom Logan

MMM has gotten big...way beyond anything we planned or thought possible. God has blessed us and the Well Program. In February of this year the board approved a budget for 4,000 wells, however our 4 African Coordinators have requested **4,550 wells** because the need is great.

Without the Holy Spirit, I'm below average. With it the impossible is possible. My journey with Marion Medical Mission has been a spiritual awakening, one that started many years ago and continues on today.

MMM built **4,280 wells in 2023!** That's over 400,000 of the extreme poor (300,000 children) with a sustainable source of safe drinking water last year. At each and every well the villagers are told their well is special because Christians shared the love of Jesus with them.

People often ask: "Aren't you done building wells?" My answer... **"We've just gotten started."** You can put the U.S. inside Africa 3 times and have room left over. There are over 1.4 billion people who live on the continent of Africa. The wealth and abundance of the natural resources found in Africa is astonishing: the largest reserves of cobalt, diamonds, and uranium in the world are in Africa, as well as 90% of the world's chromium and platinum. We in the U.S. benefit from these resources, while the vast majority of the African people do not. Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest under-5 mortality rate in the world, 15 times higher than in high income countries. 50% of hospital admissions in Sub-Saharan Africa are because of water-borne disease.

Our well costs \$475. It would cost anyone else 5 times as much. We have one paid staff in the US and several wonderful volunteers. In Africa we have 4 programs run by 4 African Coordinators, 22 African Field Officers, 104 Installation Supervisors, and 1100 African well builders who are recertified every year. They are doing it. The Africans are building the wells, making the Mark V galvanized steel pumps, organizing and training the village communities.

Let me tell you about the 22 Field Officers. Their contract requires 100 wells to be built yearly. If they build more than 100, they receive no additional compensation. There were 4280 wells built last year. That's 194 wells per Field officer! Last year Wilfred Kamanga said: **"Working with MMM is a calling by God to serve Him by providing safe drinking water to communities... I feel God pushing me saying, 'Look at the other villages that need clean water, go and provide it.'"** Mr. Kamanga was responsible for 280 wells being built last year and he plans 300 this year.

We have 34 US volunteers going to Africa September and October. Their purpose, their job, is to provide independent verification the wells have been built, taking a GPS reading, a well survey, and a picture of each well on an Android device. And, most importantly, the volunteer's purpose is to come home and tell the story.

Please help us tell the story. My "ask" is that you email and/or text everyone on your contact list telling the story, then ask them to do the same. In today's world we receive so many "asks" it is impossible to know what's legitimate. People are skeptical of what they receive unless they know the person who sent it. There is power in the small donations of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100...A well for an entire village costs only \$475. Small donations fund many wells.

This is a story that also needs to be heard in our churches. Please share with your Sunday School classes and mission committees. We are in a great battle. **People... children will live or die based on what we do.** Only together can we be who God created us to be. When we pray we move our feet.

If you are still breathing, it means God isn't finished with you yet. Many times, we "Gray Hairs" have lost direction, and feel life has passed us by. We feel no longer needed... that we are in the way...that we can't keep up. Yet, more than any age group we have the resources, the time, knowledge/skills, and have less at risk. We are old. Do we step aside? Are we done? We are not dead. So, let's not act like we are. We still have much to offer... let's not hide it. **We are needed.**



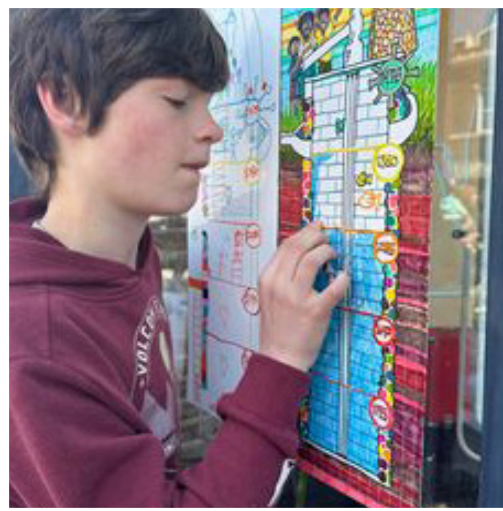
"WE ARE READY!"

Mr. Vyalema Khosa, MMM Well Program Coordinator in the Synod of Livingstonia, Malawi, reports they are ready for this year's well building. Pictured is a training well in Dwangwa, Malawi. All 1,100 of the well builders must participate in a training well and be certified to build wells every year.

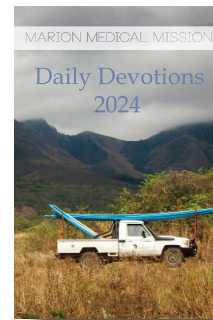
Thank you HILLSBORO PRESBYTERIAN



When the children at Hillsboro Presbyterian Church in Hillsboro, IL heard about MMM at the church Lenten Supper, they saw how these wells greatly impact the health of children in those areas. Some of the children at the program told their parents they wanted to use their own money and raise more money in order to pay for one of those wells! They decided to have a bake sale on Sunday, March 24th. The kids made the treats, ran the bake sale, and made enough for 3 wells! Church member, Kristen Lee wrote, *"Just wanted to thank your ministry for inspiring our kids to be generous. It was so awesome to hear the kids explaining that the wells will save lives."*



We would love to hear about your fundraisers for MMM wells! Email the details and photos to info@mmmwater.org



MMM
Daily
Devotions

COMING SOON



Our story; **"When You Pray, Move Your Feet"**, written by Tom Logan, MMM President and co-founder. The book is scheduled to be released by the end of this year and will be available for purchase at www.mmmwater.org. Reserve your copy today by emailing info@mmmwater.org or call 618.997.5365. All proceeds go to Marion Medical Mission. \$25 per book or free upon request with any donation of \$500 or more.

These devotions were written by the African staff and U.S. volunteers. They include one devotion for each day of the 2024 Well Season (Sep. 1 through Oct. 31). Get a copy so you can participate! Email devotions@mmmwater.org to receive a daily devotion via email or download a Kindle version for .99 cents at Amazon.com. If you signed up for the daily devotion emails last year, you will automatically receive them this year.

Special thanks to **Jane Swanson**, who year after year volunteers countless hours to put the devotions and book together.

2024 WELL TEAMS

TEAM ONE

SEP 15- SEP 29

Jennifer Bunker
Terry Mason
Patti Nussle
Kent Zindars

SEP 15- OCT 6

Hayden Boyd
Michael Daly
Rick Delaney
Slade Exley
Tim Exley
Suzanne Gorhau
Doug Kee
Tom Logan
Carol Nussbaumer
Jim Nussbaumer
Mario Rafe
Gary Setterlund
Francine Snider
Jessi Stitt
Jeff Weill
Douglas West

TEAM TWO

OCT 6- OCT 27

Richard Ashe
Jim Calloway
Daniel Graff
DiAnne Hughes
Jamie Jones
Doug Kee
Jocelyn Logan
Tom Logan
Carol Nussbaumer
Jim Nussbaumer
Meg Packard
Betty Samelson
Matt Samelson
Wayne Schultz
Francine Snider
Hugh Stempfley
John Stempfley
Paulette Stempfley
Jessi Stitt
Jan Van Heiningen

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



MMM'S WELL PROGRAM
THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES
MMM AFRICAN STAFF
OUR 32 U.S. VOLUNTEERS



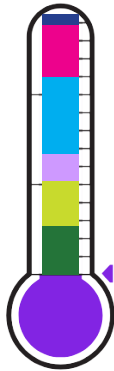
"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." - Mark 12:30-31

PROOF THAT EVERY PENNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE



ONE WELL = \$475

- 7TH DONOR \$15
- 6TH DONOR \$100
- 5TH DONOR \$125
- 4TH DONOR \$25
- 3RD DONOR \$85
- 2ND DONOR \$50
- 1ST DONOR \$75



We sometimes receive donations with precious notes, apologizing because the donation could not be larger, yet it is because of all of these small donations that many villages have a well.

Did you know?

Of the 4,280 wells built last year, 143 wells were funded by multiple partial-well donors. Together, donors of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 provided **143 villages**, approximately **14,300 people**, with a sustainable source of safe drinking water! Each well provides life-saving water for an average of 100 people, which means **\$4.75** will provide one of God's children with safe drinking water indefinitely!

Every single donation throughout the year is a gift from God. Without every penny that God graciously provides, these wells would not be possible. He stirs in the hearts of His children to be a part of MMM.

We can't say thank you enough. You make a difference...the difference between life and death. Together we will persist. Together, our efforts will continue until every village has a sustainable source of safe drinking water.

Jamie Erikson, Executive Director

"The world is dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing." ~ Albert Einstein

YES! I want to share God's love by providing clean water

Send check to:
1412 Shawnee Dr. Marion, IL 62959
OR donate online: www.mmmwater.org



How did you hear about MMM?

- friend or family
- church/presentation
- social media
- google search
- newsletter
- TCT television
- email
- other _____

\$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$475 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 _____ Other \$ _____

- Please apply 5% of my donation for administration
- Well (partial or \$475 for full well)
- Full well plus \$25 admin. (\$500.00)
- Help sponsor African Field Officer/Coordinator salary
- Administration
- Sustainability and Well Maintenance Training
- School Scholarships
- Where needed most
- Reserve Book: "When We Pray, We Move Our Feet"

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

In Honor of: _____ In Memory of: _____

Acknowledgement Card to: _____

Message: _____




Marion Medical Mission

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Receiving more than 1 newsletter? Please share!



In 2019, during a conversation with Tom Logan, he suggested that I research the word “Ubuntu”. It is how I strive to be. Shortly after the conversation I shared these thoughts of the beautiful little girl pictured here. I took this photo in 2019. She lives in an extreme remote village in Malawi, Africa. The poverty in these areas is devastating. The love you feel there is overwhelming.

This beautiful child has a small piece of food. She is breaking it into smaller pieces, without an adult telling her to do so. (They do not need to tell her to.) The other children are watching (silently). They are not grabbing; they are waiting patiently. They know she will share; it is the right thing to do. It is the way the African children treat each other.

By Francine Snider, MMM Volunteer

“We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.”

~ Archbishop Desmond Tutu