

MARION MEDICAL MISSION

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In this issue...

3155 WELLS • 394,375 PEOPLE

1412 Shawnee Drive
Marion, IL 62959

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

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WHO ARE WE? • • • • • • • • • BY TOM LOGAN

Enough of this divided, angry, self-righteous, self-centered world that leads to hatred and fear.
Enough already!

Who are we?

Jesus says loving your neighbor as yourself is like loving God the first and greatest commandment, and that all the law and the prophets hang on these two commandments. This is where the power, excitement, adventure, joy, and the love we seek is found. This is the fire that burns but does not consume.

We have come together as God's people. We have participated in the impossible though we are culturally, physically, economically, visually different, and 8,500 miles apart.

Who are we?

Marion Medical Mission built a record 3155 wells this year. The wells cover roughly 60,000 square miles in Malawi, Zambia, and Tanzania and mean an estimated 394,375 people (236,625 children) now have a sustainable source of safe drinking water. These wells mean the children no longer die from waterborne diseases and the people are healthier and able to work longer in their fields, producing more food meaning less starvation. Not just the year the well is built, but the next year and the next year and the next...

Who are we?

Because of the corona virus, Marion Medical Mission could not send U.S. volunteers to Africa, the first time in 35 years. Yet a record number of wells have been built because our African partners continued on, skillfully and passionately organizing the villages, making the Mark V galvanized steel pumps, and building the wells.

Our role in this partnership is to continue on providing the necessary financial resources. The opportunities are here. Join us. Make a difference. Help build a well for a rural African village for only \$450, and we'll send you a picture of the well you helped build.

Who are we?

Only together can we be who God created us to be. What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say. When we pray we move our feet.

**Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding
a deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.
Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.**

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King



Curbside Volunteers

By Jamie Erikson

Donna Youngblood and **Rita Pearce** volunteering at the Marion Medical Mission office several hours a week is nothing new. They ensure donations are processed, thank you letters are mailed, and various other office duties. Without their commitment to MMM, we would be unable to complete these administrative tasks without paying additional staff. The donation of their valuable time enables MMM to keep administrative costs down, resulting in more funds for safe drinking water in Africa.

Since the office is temporarily closed due to the pandemic, Donna and Rita have continued to express their support and commitment to MMM by picking up and delivering their volunteer work! Because of their dedication and determination, we can count on over 3000 well cards and photos being assembled in 2020. We thank God for His provision. He has provided amazing, faithful volunteers!



At the office in 2019



"I feel very appreciative to play a small part in this fine ministry. I'm honored to be a part of it."

~Donna, Volunteer since 2011

"I really feel blessed to be even a small part of MMM's work in Africa, demonstrating God's love for all people."

~Rita, Volunteer since 2019



Our Redeemer Lutheran, Marion IL Exceeds Goal for Field Officer by Rev. Marlin Otte

Our Redeemer Lutheran (ORL) wanted to challenge itself for the 35th Anniversary of MMM and sponsor a Field Officer for 2021. They chose Luseshelo Magwaza in Tanzania. The 7 ORL members who had gone as MMM volunteers showed the way with leadership gifts & pledges totaling \$12,000 of the \$13,000 needed! These MMM veterans understood the critical importance of MMM Field Officers and gave generously. Some ORL members did "Walking Together" to raise funds in the month of September. People secured sponsors for every mile they walked. The average woman in sub-Saharan Africa walks 3.6 miles to get water and even then, it is often not safe. Many donors simply gave one-time donations. One dedicated MMM veteran walked 300 miles and raised \$3,450! The other major event was a "Parking Lot Concert" on Sept. 27. A stage was set up on the ORL parking lot and for 2 hours 3 groups sang and played. The audience was seated in their cars or lawn chairs, social distancing and wearing masks. Interspersed throughout the evening were MMM testimonies from ORL MMM veterans, kicked off by MMM Founder Tom Logan. An Ice Cream Truck was there to begin the evening and soft drinks were provided courtesy of Thrivent Financial. The evening was Live Streamed on MMM's Facebook page, Union Street Arts of Marion providing all the tech support. ORL also collected "Noisy Offerings" through the summer & September. They had a "Hat Sunday" on Oct. 18. For \$5, you could wear your best hat in church or pay \$10 if you didn't wear a hat. As of Oct. 27, over \$23,783 had been raised in gifts and pledges, exceeding our goal for Field Officer Magwaza and sponsoring 23+ wells!





The gift of JOY The gift of WATER



Field Officer Support is Key to Sustainability

by Doug Kee

Over it's 35 year history, Marion Medical Mission (MMM) has created a unique infrastructure in Africa to build and maintain almost 40,000 protected water wells in remote villages. One key component of this system are the 20 Field Officers serving around MMM's network in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. These full time employees supervise teams of installation supervisors and builders in their region to install new wells each year and to provide guidance and training to instruct villages how to properly maintain their wells. Their relationships with the local communities are vital in building ongoing trust and communications with village leaders responsible for their wells.

Due to the pandemic this year, MMM's American volunteers did not travel to Africa to assist Field Officers and their teams in installations. Installations have progressed very well this year as the African teams have ably filled in for our US volunteers. At our church, (First Presbyterian in Plymouth, Michigan) we decided to help support the African team in 2020 by sponsoring a Field Officer. The total cost to support a Field Officer (salary and expenses) is \$13,000 per year. Since two people from our church didn't travel to Africa this year, we were able to use the travel and visa funds we saved as a base of support, but needed additional help from our mission committee and church members. Over the years we had "shared the story" of MMM's unique African organization, so people at home understood the critical importance of Field Officers to the sustainability of life-giving wells. We fundraised within the church membership, and by God's grace we achieved our goal. It's not easy but we pray others will take up this opportunity in the years to come. If your church or organization is interested in funding all or part of the cost of a Field Officer, please email info@mmmwatert.org to learn more.



Edwin Nyondo,
Field Officer

SECOND MILE CENTER IN DETROIT SHARES THE GIFT OF LIFE

by
Doug Kee



One of the many joys of volunteering with Marion Medical Mission is meeting so many inspiring, generous, Christ centered people. Several years ago, our church in Michigan started a partnership with Second Mile Center (www.secondmilecenter.org) in urban Detroit, MI. Second Mile Center teaches and mentors young people to become responsible, faithful, caring adults through their Christian faith, education, and service to others. I offered to speak to the students about one of my trips to Malawi with MMM. The students and their pastor, Pastor Ruth Azar, were inspired when they heard about the need for clean water in rural Malawi. They realized they could help brothers and sisters in Africa and began supporting MMM in 2013! **Through water, pop and snack sales, the students at Second Mile Center will soon fund their fifth MMM well.** Their efforts remind me that every one of us can help others in need. The young people at Second Mile Center have lots of energy, hearts to serve others, and great leadership that has guided them to organize and carry out their fundraisers. We thank God for the movement of the Holy Spirit within the Second Mile Center community in Detroit. These young people provide me with a powerful example of the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36-39):

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'[a] 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

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

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



Complimentary 35th Anniversary t-shirt with donations of \$475 or more! Adult size _____

T-shirts also available for purchase for \$15 each.

\$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$450 _____ \$475 _____ \$1,000 _____ Other \$ _____

- Please apply 5% of my donation for administration
 Well (partial or \$450 for full well)
 Full well plus \$25 admin. (\$475.00)
 Sponsor African Field Officer/Coord

- Administration
 Sustainability
 School Scholarships
 Where needed most

Donor Name: _____

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

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In Honor of: _____ In Memory of: _____

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Message: _____



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CELEBRATION

35 Years | 2020 Season | Praise
Register Online Today!

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Presented via Zoom

Learn how you can help Marion Medical Mission NOW
Hear from Special Guests and Founder, Tom Logan

GIVING TUESDAY

give on
12.1.20

