

MARION MEDICAL MISSION

VOLUME 25. ISSUE 3 FALL/WINTER 2022



In this issue...

3820 WELLS IN 2022

MMM GOES TO MOZAMBIQUE

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

2022 Well Season: A Record Breaking Year

BY TOM LOGAN



On September 1, 2022 well construction started, and MMM's team of 13 volunteers arrived in Malawi on Sep. 18. The volunteers helped install pumps on finished wells and took Android surveys on wells which included a GPS reading and a well picture.

On September 28, Mr. Vyalema Khosa, Well Program Coordinator in Synod of Livingstonia (SOL) and I attended the opening session of the 38th Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (SOL) Synod Assembly. Three Malawi government Cabinet Ministers attended along with two Members of Parliament. Also in attendance were representatives from the Synods of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Blantyre, and Nkhoma. The meeting was originally scheduled to take place in Bandawa in Nkhata Bay, but due to the cholera outbreak the meeting was moved to the Ekwendeni Mission Station.



Mr. Khosa and I sat at the back. The SOL General Secretary, Rev. William Tembo, saw me and had an aide bring me to a seat in the front row. After opening prayers and speeches the General Secretary introduced some of the people in attendance. After each was introduced, he told what they had donated to the Synod. MK 2 million, MK 1 million, MK 500,000 and so on. MMM donated MK 100,000 (about \$100), but it was explained that MMM, in partnership with the Synod of Livingstonia was building 240 wells in the Nkhata Bay District, the very area the meeting had moved from because of the cholera outbreak. The General Secretary then apologized for Mr. Khosa and me, because we would be leaving to install pumps on completed wells in Nkhata Bay.

I installed 17 with Mr. Foster Longwe, and Mr. Austin Nkhata, and Mr. Khosa installed 19. Mr. Longwe told me the villagers were singing with special joy because they no longer would have to get water from the stream and would not be exposed to cholera.

On October 7th and 8th Marion Medical Mission went into Mozambique to expand our Well Program. Mozambique is a country where attacks by militant groups are common, and human rights groups have reported extensive destruction. Our experience, however, was very good, truly extraordinary, and it seems a perfect fit for MMM. Mr. Jordan Banda, Synod of Nkhoma Malawi Well Program Coordinator; Mr. Watson Kapachika, Mchinji Malawi Field Officer; Mr. Kings Chidafa Mchinji, Malawi Installation Supervisor, and I went into Mozambique using only a border pass, (no passports, or visas). Initially the Mozambican official didn't want to allow me to enter because he didn't believe I had relatives in the area, but the Traditional Authority Mphonde pointed out wells had been built to provide the people in Chifunde District with badly needed safe drinking water. And we had the pumps and pipes in our pickups and were there to install them.

The Mozambican Official changed his mind. We met with the Traditional Authority, Group Village Headmen, Village Headmen, local Pastors, and government officials... Then together we installed 13 pumps on 13 wells in two days. The joy, the excitement, the love!!! You should have been there!

October 14, we had our goodbye celebration with the African Coordinators and Field Officers. Each Coordinator, each of the 23 Field Officers, and each MMM volunteer spoke. On October 16, MMM volunteers returned to the United States.

Mr. Khosa asked if MMM would fund an additional 370 wells. The need is especially great due to cholera, and they have the capacity to build them. I said MMM would fund them, bringing the total to a record 3820 wells for 2022 that will provide an estimated 382,000 people (229,200 children) with a sustainable source of safe drinking water, while eliminating the threat of cholera in at risk areas. All done while facing a fuel shortage. We brought diesel fuel in 55 gallon drums from Zambia and Tanzania. As of November 22nd, a total of 3,675 wells have been built so far this year. Glory to God!!



Through the Eyes of First Time MMM Volunteer, Maya Myers



I just spent five days in Malawi with Marion Medical Mission, for whom I'm editing a book, and I can't begin to tell you how completely amazing the experience was.



This is one of the 35 rural villages where I got to be part of installing wells that provide fresh, clean, safe water—a commodity most of these communities have never had access to. This village has 11 households, and until now, they have drawn their water from this watering hole, also a water source for wild and farm animals. The people used this contaminated water for drinking, cooking, laundry, and more.



Now, in partnership with MMM, the people of the village have built a well that they own and can maintain and repair for a flat fee of about \$15 per year. It will provide them with fresh water for generations.

Each well costs \$450 to build, and MMM builds as many wells each year as they can fund—and more, yet somehow the funds always come. They are a Christ-centered organization, and they provide wells to villages regardless of the faith of the people who live in them. Call it what you like: God's work, loving your neighbor, caring for our human family—MMM is doing all of these things, in a conscientious, mindful, respectful, devoted, and loving way.

This year alone, MMM will install about 3,800 wells in communities like this, in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique. They manufacture the pumps and purchase the parts in Africa and employ Africans as coordinators, supervisors, and skilled laborers. They have built and maintained nearly 50,000 such wells since 1990, providing over 5 million people with clean drinking water.

The last two photos are looking toward and away from the village from the well site. These villages are very remote, many of them difficult to reach, on roads that would be impossible in most vehicles. There is little to no infrastructure in most of these communities. 82% of Malawi's 19 million people live in rural areas.)



WOOD TO WELLS



Granddaughter Chapel Price, age 5, supervises as a face cord is loaded and ready for delivery.

Bob Price, MMM volunteer, has been cutting, splitting, and stacking wood from his acreage to sell during the Fall to fund wells! He received a Thrivent Action Team Grant to use for buying supplies to fund the volunteer effort: chainsaw gas, oil, tractor diesel, and delivery gas.

Since February, Bob has cut and split about 22 face cords of firewood for sales. He also made several deliveries to local people for burning this year.

This isn't the first year of the Wood to Wells project. Several 2021 wells were funded with proceeds from firewood sales.



Grandchildren SoJourney Price, age 9 and Wells Price, age 8, helped move and stack wood in the tractor bucket for movement to a pile.

MAY THE PEACE, LOVE, AND SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

When the well program started in Malawi in 1990, we were told, ***"You can't build 20 wells in a year."*** Then they said: ***"You can't build 50 wells in a year."*** Then it was 100 wells, then 500 wells, then 1,000 wells, then 2000 wells, then 3,000. In 2022 they said, ***"You can't build 3,460 wells this year"*** ... however 3,820 are being built!

The question we need to be asking is: Why not build 10,000 wells a year, or 20,000? Together as God's people the impossible is possible.

God is working through us in very special ways...using us so that others, those in the secular world and those in the churches, can see that God is alive, and active in this world. And He will use even us. **We have a fantastic opportunity, a special and blessed journey;** one that clearly shows that all things are possible with God. Look at what has happened...who God has called us to be.

When the Well Program started in Malawi, we were told: ***"You can't build wells in Euthini, the roads are no good and it's too far."*** Then we were told: ***"You can't build wells in Chitipa, it's too remote and the roads are worse, it's just too far."*** Then, ***"You can't build wells in Central Malawi, you can't build wells in Zambia, you can't build wells in Tanzania, and in 2022 they said, "You can't build wells in Mozambique, it's not safe."***

But the question we need to be asking is why not build wells in Mozambique, Kenya, Botswana, Uganda, Liberia, Libya, Sudan, Congo? Together as God's people the impossible is possible.

We can't sit on the sidelines waiting for someone else to do it. We have been called.

Marion Medical Mission's story is one that defies the logic of the secular world. It is the story of Jesus. **It's His story.**

☐ **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?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> friend or family | <input type="checkbox"/> church/presentation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> social media | <input type="checkbox"/> google search |
| <input type="checkbox"/> newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> TCT television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> email | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

\$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/Coordinator salary

- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Sustainability and Well Maintenance Training
- ☐ School Scholarships
- ☐ Where needed most

Donor Name: _____

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

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

In Honor of: _____ In Memory of: _____

Acknowledgement Card to: _____

Message: _____



Marion Medical Mission

1412 Shawnee Dr.
Marion, IL 62959

Return Service Requested

Non. Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Marion, IL
Permit No. 398



www.mmmwater.org



info@mmmwater.org



facebook.com/marionmedicalmission/



@marionmedicalmission



youtube.com/marionmedicalmission



@mmm_water



2019 WINNER
BBB TORCH Award

*Celebrating Exceptional
Ethics and Service*

BBB Serving Eastern & Southwest Missouri &
Southern Illinois



Receiving more than 1 newsletter? Please share!



A VERY MERRY MATCH

A GENEROUS DONOR WILL MATCH UP TO **\$20,000**
IN DONATIONS RECEIVED **DEC. 24 - DEC. 31**

DONATE ONLINE AT
mmmwater.org/donate

or by mail to

MARION MEDICAL MISSION
1412 SHAWNEE DRIVE
MARION, IL 62959