

# MARION MEDICAL MISSION

VOLUME 28. ISSUE 3 FALL/WINTER 2025



*In this issue...*



COVER PHOTO TAKEN IN 2025:  
OLD WATER SOURCE IN MOZAMBIQUE

## 2025 WELL SEASON RESULTS MMM 40TH ANNIVERSARY BIKE RIDE FUNDRAISER

1412 Shawnee Drive  
Marion, IL 62959

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

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# Making the Impossible, Possible

By Tom Logan

**“Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity; it is an act of justice.” - Nelson Mandela**

On October 31st, after only 31 days in the field, our US volunteers had verified that 3,138 pumps had been installed, providing a sustainable source of safe drinking water in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique. Impossible! It is a God thing. Holy ground. We've been involved in a miracle... and more wells are being built.

Our goal this year is to build 200 wells in Mozambique, a relatively new country for our program. With the help of Rev. Banda, the Moderator of the Synod, I was able to get into Mozambique with Jordan Banda, Coordinator of the well program with the Synod of Nkhoma, Watson Kapachika, Field Officer for the Mchinji District, and Kings Chidafa, Installation Supervisor. Together we verified wells being built in the Chifundi District. At each well site the villagers were so very thankful...they lined up to give us gifts of maize, nsima flour, greens, bananas, chickens, even small denomination Kwachas. We stayed at Jonah's resthouse in the town of Nkantha. Nkantha had an estimated population of 20,000 people, yet there were only 3 boreholes to provide safe drinking water. The need in Mozambique is critical...desperate. I saw no paved roads or electric power, and only a few vehicles the whole time I was there. Their gratitude was overwhelming. The impact of MMM's well program has been dramatic. Its importance can't be overemphasized. It represents self-help and is a means for people to get up off their knees. Self-help frees people.

4,150 villages have been told they will get a well this year. They have made the brick and have gathered the stone and sand, and provide the unskilled labor. 4,150 wells is over 400,000 people (240,000 children) with a sustainable source of safe drinking water this year!

The MMM well program is run and administered in Africa by Africans. That's what makes it special. That's what makes it powerful. That's what makes it different. They are doing it... They are the experts, not anyone from the US. They, the Africans are building the wells, making the pump and downhole parts, organizing and training the village communities.

Many times people have asked: "Why can't the Africans pull themselves up by their bootstraps?" They don't have boots. Our job is to provide the boots.

You are needed! You are important! You make a difference! Together we make the impossible, possible. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. explained, "I must not ignore the wounded man on life's Jericho Road, because he is a part of me, and I am a part of him. His agony diminishes me, and his salvation enlarges me." Jesus said whatever you do to the least of these you did it to me. Matt 25:40.

**Tell the story, tell the story, and tell the story.**

**“Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.” Hymn by Daniel L. Schutte.**

**What you do speaks so loudly I can't hear what you say. Only together can we be who God created us to be.**



Pictured: A village in Mozambique experiencing clean water for the very first time



40  
Years!



## 2025 MARKS A HUGE MILESTONE FOR MARION MEDICAL MISSION!

40 years of providing clean drinking water.

40 years of loving the least of these.

40 years of saving lives.

40 years of working hand-in-hand with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Africa; and having a lot of fun doing it along the way.

It is a God thing.

It has been made possible through the hard work of those that have gone on before us, those that are currently a part of the mission, and will continue to be made possible through those that God guides to it.

We are thankful and blessed beyond belief. If you have been a part of this mission for decades, or have just decided to join today, we at MMM thank you for your support in this life-saving mission.



Marion Medical Mission has earned the highest rating on Charity Navigator and is a Better Business Bureau accredited charity, a 2019 BBB Torch Award Recipient, and Platinum Guide Star Participant!

## WAYS TO GIVE IN 2025

On line at [mmmwater.org/donate](http://mmmwater.org/donate), by mail, or through a monthly withdrawal.

**Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):** Individuals age 70½ and older can donate up to \$108,000 directly from a Traditional or Simple (inactive) IRA to a qualified charity in 2025. This is an effective way to satisfy Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) while reducing taxable income, as the QCD amount is not counted as taxable income. For Example: You are required to make an RMD of \$60,000 a year. You donate \$15,000 to a QCD with a check **directly** from your IRA account to your charity. Your taxable income is \$45,000.

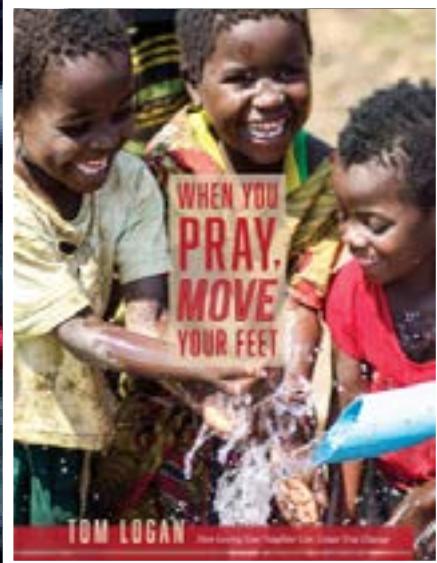
Donating Appreciated stock offers significant tax advantages. It serves as a double advantage by allowing you to give more and avoid capital gains tax. If you itemize, you can potentially claim a deduction for the stock's full market value. For example: you purchased stock at \$1000 and your stock is now worth \$5,000. You gave the full value of stock at \$5,000, and you do not have to pay capital gains tax on the difference of \$4000. If you itemize, you get the full value of \$5,000 deduction. The stock transfers go **directly** to MMM investment account. Contact us at [info@mmmwater.org](mailto:info@mmmwater.org) for MMM's investment account for direct transfers. Notify us that a transfer will be made so we can credit your donation to you.

## SPREADING THE WORD Rev. Dave Fisher, MMM Ambassador

Last Fall I had the opportunity to tell people about the important mission work of MMM at the annual gathering of my denomination, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. This international convention was attended by 775 people. For three days I shared and answered questions at an MMM display table in the missions exhibit hall of the gathering. I had a great location near the entrance of the hall and was able to hand out many brochures and newsletters telling about our effective work of bringing clean, safe, and protected drinking water to the rural poor of Africa. The word is spreading and we can all thank the Lord as God leads us to these kinds of opportunities. As Tom Logan keeps reminding us, "Only together can we be all God created us to be."



## Christmas Shopping List Done!



### "When you Pray, Move Your Feet"

Forty years of making the Impossible Possible and answering God's call.

Heartfelt, humorous, inspirational, and adventurous stories by the Logans on their background and the vision and growth of Marion Medical Mission.

MMM is a remarkable illustration of what can be done when we love our neighbors.

Give a copy today for Christmas. \$25 each. Order from our newsletter website, or mail a check with memo. All proceeds from sales go to MMM!

## THE MIRACLE OF CLEAN WATER



Last week I returned from Malawi, working with Marion Medical Mission, building protected wells in rural African villages. It is an incredible program! First, the local water board meets with interested villagers and decides where the next year's wells will be built. In August, the villagers make bricks and deliver the cement to the site. A trained well builder then arrives and oversees the villagers digging the well. He then bricks up the walls and installs a cement cap to seal out surface water. I was part of an Installation team. I drove the truck, helped install the pipe and pump, documented the location of each well along with important information and dedicated the well. This process is under the guidance and help of a trained installation supervisor and team. Our truck installed 119

wells and as of now, the program has built over 3,000 wells on their way to a goal of over 4,000! One volunteer from the US said MMM's mantra should be from Star Trek, "We boldly go where no one else (no well builder) has gone before!"

This really describes the program; no huge truck or expensive rigs. Each well only costs \$475 and is built locally with easily available spare parts! It's hard to overstate the need for safe drinking water. One day, a villager told me his grandparents had lived in that village since 1950 and never had safe drinking water. They had to dig open water holes in the valley that were contaminated by wild animals. Once a Marion Medical Mission well is installed, no more waterborne diseases and no more walking for miles to access water. It's as close to a miracle as I've ever seen, and the awesome joy expressed by the villagers tells the story! To learn more, check out [mmmwatert.org](http://mmmwatert.org). Please think of this story when you drink your next glass of water. Thanks for reading.

Doug West, MMM Volunteer. Chestertown, MD

# A DREAM COME TRUE

Cycling has always been one of Patrick Murphy's most adored passions. It holds many memories for him.

On September 10th, he set out to create one more: ride across the entire United States in 28 days. After 28 days, Patrick completed his goal of riding nearly 3,000 miles across America.

Patrick had also hoped to raise enough funds to cover the cost of one of our Field Officer's salary for one year, along with one well for each day of his ride. Patrick raised sufficient funds to cover the cost of the Field Officer's salary, and raised enough funds to cover the cost of **58 wells! 58!**

Patrick Murphy set out to complete a lifelong dream of his, and he did. Because of his efforts, and the generosity of our donors, 58 villages will also have their dream come true; **clean drinking water for years to come.**

To Patrick and our generous donors: **THANK YOU!**



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](http://www.mmmwater.org)



How did you hear about MMM?

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## Marion Medical Mission

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wishing you a Christmas filled with the peace of Christ's Love and the Hope He brings. As we celebrate this season of giving, let us share that love with others with kindness, compassion, and support.

Let us reach out to our neighbor, the homeless, the hungry, the sick, those broken in spirit, those who are struggling this season.