

July 2019



We are in the cold season here and while the warms up into the mid-seventies when the people stand by fires along the side of the ing some goat meat or cobs of maize to sell. scape is getting brown, and there's a dusty change here, and the months are passing routine, but my husband Gary and I have been aware of the changing opportunities and challenges which are always being presented to us in this mission. We see how the Lord faithfully provides the right people and resources needed to accomplish His work here in Africa. Here are some updates.

At our Mwalaulomwe clinic, the renovations are just about finished! The improvements include five private consultation rooms, a lab, an improved exam room for our antenatal women and a procedure room. There is better light with use of opaque roof sheets, a new floor, repairs to plastering, masonry and drainage, and new paint inside and out. Gary made sure the entrance has a gradual ramp rather than a steep step. We have been holding clinic in the church for three weeks but hope to start using the new building in early July. What's needed is more chairs, tables, and curtains for the exam rooms. Our contractor will then be starting work on a whole new clinic building at Msambo as soon as August.

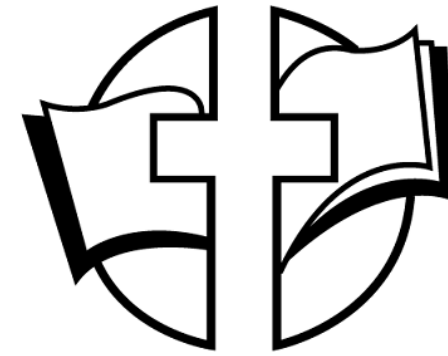
Our new ambulance, another Toyota Landcruiser, arrived in May. Thanks to Gary, it is inspected, registered, stickered, painted with lettering, and ready for use! It can carry 13 people, plus a roof rack full of our clinic supplies out to the villages and back on rough dirt roads. Our older ambulance will be sold to the Lutheran Mission. It is wonderful to have such a dependable new vehicle!

We are finally starting to see a drop in the numbers of malaria cases at all of our clinics, which happens after the rainy season ends. Our staff at Mwalaulomwe have begun to give babies the malaria vaccine, as that district was chosen as part of a pilot program. We are excited about the prospect of preventing more children from getting life-threatening malaria. We referred 22 children with malaria and severe anemia to the hospital in May, after checking their blood hemoglobin. We also test all pregnant women at their first visit. Anemia is a consequence of malaria, but also due to poor nutrition. We treat anemic patients with iron and continue to give micronutrients to infants age 6 -24 months old. Teaching mothers about feeding their families foods such as beans and dark green vegetables is also important in preventing anemia. We should be getting a newer hemoglobinometer soon, thanks to our donors.

This year we hired a young Clinical Officer named Kingsley Khonde, who's been a welcome addition to our staff. With two clinicians we can better care for the high numbers of outpatients in malaria season. He also is trained in HIV testing and counseling, and has helped to improve our medical care. Since June, we have had an unpaid public health student intern named Sydney Kambaliken working with our clinic for 8 weeks. This additional helper will survey villagers concerning their health needs and the effectiveness of our services.

God has given us the right people, including you at home, to continue the Lutheran Mobile Clinic work of Gospel outreach and healthcare in Malawi. Thank you so much for your donations and prayers!

day starts chilly, about 50 degrees, it sun is high. Driving to our clinics, we see road keeping warm, and sometimes roast. Since it's also the dry season, the land-haze over the mountains. The seasons do quickly. Some of the work has become



The Messenger

AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

I Need More...SATISFACTION

"A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work" (Ecclesiastes 2:24).

That is what the writer of the book of Ecclesiastes said, and he said it three different times in his book. It sounds simple enough: Somehow find the ability to lean back in your hammock on your day off and say, "What a satisfying life this all is!"

But maybe your expectations for satisfaction in this life are too high. Maybe they are unrealistic. Maybe they are even wrong and pivot around your own self and ego.

The Bible says about God, "You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing" (Psalm 145:16). Many believers bow their heads and speak this verse before they eat their food. In prayer at their dinner tables

they acknowledge that God is the source of their satisfaction. They recognize it too when they pray this part of the Lord's Prayer: "Give us today our daily bread."

The apostle Paul told a young pastor, "If we have food and clothing, we will be content with that" (1 Timothy 6:8). Perhaps those who demand more satisfaction from life are not thinking of the simple but sublime satisfaction that is the desire of many hearts. They forget that in their work—whatever it may be—they can glorify God with faithfulness and cheerfulness. Thankfulness that they have the ability to feed themselves and their family. Those are the aspirations of a loving God for our satisfaction.

Satisfaction in our lives does not come because of what we do but because of what God does. He takes care of us... body and soul. He feeds us. He sent Jesus to rescue us from his great dissatisfaction over our sin. He promises to be with us and bless the work of our hands. He says that what we do for him will not be in vain.

Be satisfied—truly satisfied—with that!



News...

FiSH

Spend some island time with FiSH!

Saturday, August 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The FiSH group (Faith's Social Harbor) invites adults for an enjoyable evening playing *Catan*. Called "the board game of our time," *Catan* is a fun strategy game that is easy to learn. Picture yourself in the era of discoveries: after a long voyage of great deprivation, your ships have finally reached the coast of an uncharted, uninhabited island, Catan. But you are not the only discoverer.

Other fearless seafarers have also landed on the shores of Catan: the race to settle the island has begun! Experience is NEVER required with any of our activities – come, learn and have fun! We'll meet Saturday, August 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the BRF building location. This is a great opportunity for you to invite a friend, relative, or coworker. FiSH is our social group geared toward recreational activities for adults, single or married, younger or older.



FROM THE LIBRARY

A new book series has been added to the Bible Study Aids section of our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at our BRF location. The books are the God's People Series. These are 12 short (40 pages) books that speak about the life and times of God's chosen people. In the series, you'll meet Abraham, David, Jonah, Elijah, Joseph, Paul, Esther, Moses, Peter, Jacob, Noah, and Ruth. You'll find two threads running through each book: 1 - the

MEETINGS AND GROUP GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

- Youth Group – Sunday, August 4 @ 2 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Elders – Monday, August 5 @ 6 p.m. in Cataract
- Worship Planning – Thursday, August 8 @ 9 a.m. in Black River Falls
- Child Protection Ad Hoc – Saturday, August 10 @ 9 a.m. in Black River Falls
- FiSH – Saturday, August 10 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Council – Monday, August 12 @ 6 p.m. in Cataract
- Outreach – Sunday, August 18 @ 11 a.m. in Black River Falls

FAITH OUTREACH MEETING

Sunday, August 18, at 11 a.m. in the BRF church building.

This is an open meeting – anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Motivated by the gospel, the purpose of our Outreach Committee is to help our church members live the mission of our congregation – to be “Rooted in Christ & Reaching Out with the Word.” Agenda items include evaluating the community concert and Bible Soccer camp activities. Our meeting will take place Sunday, August 18, at 11 a.m. in the BRF church building.



curse of sin, 2 - salvation in Christ Jesus. The plots and setting have been taken from the Bible. The authors speculate occasionally to give additional background to the story. To checkout, write the date, your name, and the name of the book/DVD/CD in the notebook on the shelf. To return, put the book/DVD/CD into the basket on the shelf and cross out your entry in the notebook.



YOU ARE INVITED TO BIBLE SOCCER CAMP

CAMP WILL BE HELD AT



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
N6598 COUNTY ROAD A
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI**

The Bible Soccer Camp is for children ages 4-13.

The Bible Soccer Camp will be held August 5 – August 7 (Come each day or some of the days).

The Bible Soccer Camp will be held from 9 – 12 p.m. each day.

There is no cost for this Bible Soccer Camp. Each child will receive a t-shirt and water bottle. Snacks are provided each day.

The Bible Soccer Camp activities will include physical training and Bible studies. Each child should have appropriate footwear and shin guards. If you do not have shin guards, they will be provided.

The Bible Soccer Camp registration can be done online at www.faithwels.com or by filling out a registration sheet found in the gathering area. Questions? Call 284-0772.

Birthdays

Raymond Sommers	8/1
Carmon Gilbertson	8/10
Leah Southwood	8/11
Nina Severson	8/16
Jessica Moore	8/25
Alisha Southwood	8/25
Alex Huggett	8/26
Kari Kellen	8/29
Jennifer Bedell	8/31

Anniversaries

Cody + Majesta Heller	8/4
Scott + Nancy Templeton	8/6
Dave + Lori Spaude	8/7
Dave + Kari Kellen	8/12
Gerhart + Mary Sasman	8/15
Cliff + Cheryl Kremmer	8/16
Warren + Joni Timm	8/18
Richard + Rita Selin	8/25
Ralph + Karin Jandt	8/26
Richard + Lisa Treptow	8/27

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

“Get to know your fellow worshiper”

Spotlight on: **Warren, Joni, Audrey and Ian Timm**

Warren and Joni - along with two of their children, Audrey and Ian - joined our congregation by way of transfer at the beginning May. You can find them worshipping at our Cataract location.

Warren and Joni are blessed with 4 children – Molly (28), Tyler (26), Audrey (23) and Ian (20). They also have 2 granddaughters. Warren currently works at Kwik Trip in Sparta and enjoys gardening, hiking, sports, games and old movies and music of all kinds. Joni works at the Monroe County Animal Shelter in Sparta. She enjoys working with animals, gardening, hiking, and spending time with her family.

Audrey is a recent graduate of Martin Luther College, but her love for animals has led her to pursue a career in that field. She currently is working at the Animal Shelter in Sparta as well. She also enjoys horseback riding, kayaking, gardening, and softball.

Ian is currently in college, and he enjoys hanging out with friends, working outdoors, music, biking, hiking, and spending time with his family that has spread out over the country.



N6598 County Highway A
Black River Falls, WI 54615
(mailing address)

N6774 Acorn Ave.
Sparta, WI 54656

Phone: 715-284-0772
Pastor: Joel Neumann

We're on the Web!
www.faithwels.com

The Messenger is published monthly for the congregation and friends of Faith Ev. Lutheran Church. Its purpose is to provide information regarding all areas of congregational news and to offer enlightening articles.

Anyone wishing to contribute articles, please contact Pastor Neumann either in person or at the following email address: pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com. Newsletter deadline: The submission deadline is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.

NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING IN AUGUST

A new Bible Study will be starting on **Thursday, August 8**. We will meet at **6:30 p.m.** in the Black River Falls fellowship hall. In this Bible Study we will be reading and discussing the book, “Will the Real Jesus please stand up? 12 False Christs.” Books will be handed out on the first day. If you will not be able to make it to the study, but plan to read the book on your own, please pick up your book in the gathering area and mark your name off of the sign-up sheet. Study guide answers will be posted on our website as we complete them in class. If you didn't sign-up for the book, don't let that

...& Notes

BRF LANDSCAPE BRIGADE

Saturday, August 10, from 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Consider helping the Landscape Brigade on Saturday, August 10, from 8:00-9:00 a.m. This month we will be putting down mulch and doing some weeding & pruning.

The Landscape Brigade will meet the second Saturday of each month, April through October, from 8:00-9:00 a.m. Tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own if you would like to.



WHEN WILL SERVICE TIME CHANGE AGAIN

Have you been wondering, “When will the service times change again?” It's still a month away. However, so that this information can be cemented in our minds, our service times will change on Sunday, September 8. On that Sunday, our worship schedule will be as follows:

8 am—Worship in Black River Falls
9:15 am—Bible Class and Sunday School in Black River Falls
9:45 am—Worship in Cataract
11 am—Bible Class in Cataract

PASTOR INSTALLATION

English Lutheran Church, our sister WELS congregation in Viroqua, will install their new pastor at a 3:30 p.m. service on Sunday, August 25. If you are planning to go, please let Pastor Neumann know. The ladies of English are having food brought in for the supper meal and are hoping to have a general head count.

English Lutheran Church
Viroqua WI
August 25, 3:30 pm



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

The 6th of our 6 Marriage Enrichment Events will be held this month on August 24. This session will focus on **Connecting: Completing a Great Marriage**. If you haven't been able to attend any of the previous sessions, that's okay. Each event is able to stand alone and will be of benefit to you and your spouse. Plus, you will be given the previous 5 sessions which you can work through together with your spouse. You can find the PowerPoint that accompanies each event online.

HERE ARE THE FULL DETAILS:

Date: Saturday, August 24
Time: 4-5 p.m.
Place: Black River Falls fellowship hall
Topic: Connecting: Completing a Great Marriage
What about my kids: Babysitting will be provided at church until 7 pm so that you and your spouse can go out on a date

