



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
May, 2024 *Fortress*

Celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord

He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe. (Ephesians 4:10)

On Thursday, May 9th this year, we will celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. Sadly, it is a celebration that sometimes gets lost somewhere between Easter and Pentecost, and if truth be told, there are many congregations, even in our synod, which do not celebrate it.

However, it is a noteworthy festival. It marks the 40th day from the time that Jesus rose from death to prove that he was alive. During that 40 day period he appeared, disappeared, and reappeared to his followers on many different occasions. St. Paul records the fact that he appeared alive to over 500 people at once. St. John reminds us that Jesus also demonstrated he was really alive with many infallible proofs, which included showing them his wounded hands and side, and eating in front of his disciples to prove he was not merely a ghost or apparition.

But then, on the 40th day, Jesus took his apostles to the Mount of Olives, and there he ascended into heaven before their eyes. Clouds of glory covered him from their sight. And as they stood there gawking at the sky, we are told in **Acts 1:10-11: Suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."**

The apostles were wondering what would happen next. They were sinners, just as we are. Perhaps in a brief moment of wonder and forgetfulness, they might have thought Jesus was deserting them. We've had those kinds of doubtful thoughts cross our sinful minds at times when the devil or the sinful world around us or the Old Adam within us whisper disparaging things about God, and try to make us think he's forsaken us, too. But no, he had not forsaken the apostles, nor has he forsaken us. Jesus Christ who had died on the cross bearing the sins of every sinner had risen from death. He proved that he was alive to show us that his sacrifice on our behalf was acceptable to God and that he paid the debt for our sins. Jesus who had risen had now ascended into heaven in clouds of glory to prove that he was exalted to the throne of God. He was returning to the place from whence he'd come.

The angels came with the promise that Jesus who had ascended into heaven to be exalted would return in glory, just as he'd left. He would return to take his people home. For it is he who promised: **John 14:2-3 "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."**

St. John's invites you to come to our Ascension Day worship service on Thursday, May 9. Services will be at 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. It is a good opportunity to bring a friend to hear the Good News of Jesus' redemption and to share that message with others that Jesus ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us there, and that he will return for us.

In Christ,
Pastor Bovee

May Sermon Texts

May 5	1 John 4:7-11, 19-21	Perfect Love Drives Out Fear
May 9	Luke 24:44-53	This is What I Told You While I was with You
May 12	John 17:11b-19	Sent to the World!
May 19	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Where Hope Never Runs Dry
May 26	Isaiah 6:1-8	Be in Awe of the Triune God

Bible Classes meet in the Church Basement
The class can also be found online at bit.ly/SJBibleClass

Thursdays at 10:30 am	The I AM Statements of Jesus	Pastor Jeff Bovee
Thursdays at 7 pm	Jude and 2 Peter	Pastor Rob Guenther
Fridays at 7 am	Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians	Pastor Jeff Bovee
Fridays at 9:30 am	Mary: Mother of God	Pastor Rob Guenther
Sundays at 9:30 am	Worship	Pastor Jacob Behnken

Stewardship

Humble Service in the Body of Christ

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us...if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Romans 12:6-8.

Talents. We all have them! But as the old saying goes, we can be our own worst critic.

We may think that we don't have very much to offer regarding talents. Sometimes, we may forget that certain talents we have can be used to glorify God. For example, are you a good driver? There may be someone who would like to attend services but needs a ride to church. Do you like to pray for others? The power of prayer can help many individuals in so many situations. Even mentioning your prayer life to others is uplifting and encourages them in their prayer life!

Our talents can be used in a structured way, such as serving on a committee or task force, or informally, like helping your neighbor. If you're not sure what your talents are, just ask a family member or friend! We can let our light shine in so many ways as we glorify God during the Easter season...and throughout the year!

Mark Maurice,
 Chairman

Council Digest

The Church Council met on April 16, 2024. A summary of reports and actions from the meeting not reported elsewhere in the Fortress follows:

Membership Changes

- A. Release
Ruth Aufderheide
- B. Adult Confirmations
Lisa Fischer
Randy and Rachel Shoen; Raelee, Radley

Pastoral Acts

- A. Baptism
31 Mar David Lee Haferman
- B. Youth Confirmation – 28 April 2024
Britta Berg Mia Schmoller
Liza Filzen Rogan Scriver
Judah Guenther Gabriella Smith
Jakobi Olson Eric Ulicky

Board of Properties. Chairman Sam Hunter shared that the church received a report from the state of MN detailing the need to comply with an upcoming potential new statute (ASME A17.3-3.10.12) focused on a door-locking mechanism for elevators. In a discussion with MEI, St. John's elevator servicer from Mankato, it was determined that the reasoning for the new statute revolves around the required installation of a camera and keyboard in order to accommodate the deaf, mute, and/or blind population. For most installations, this requires a new motherboard for the elevator as well. MN, WI, and CO states are the only states looking at mandating this installation.

An initial cost estimate to bring our elevator into compliance is \$93,954.51. Once notified by the inspector after the new code is adopted, St John's will have 5 years to comply after it shows up on another inspection report. Every church/ school/ public building/ business in Minnesota that has an elevator will be affected by this, this is not exclusive to whoever the state chooses. This price will likely increase over time as we get closer to the code being adopted due to the number of buildings that will have to comply, increasing demand for code modernizations, and possible inflation of supplies.

Stewardship. The Stewardship Board Chair, Mark Maurice, underscored that there will be additional reminders in various media to members about progress on our ministry plan and benchmarks/trends regarding how we are doing in the fiscal year toward our budgetary commitments. Coordination is underway for a fall Bible class presentation by WELS Christian Giving Counselor Rev. Mike Hatzung.

Elders. Chairman Mohror updated the council on Mr. Phil Scriver's substitute teacher (Mrs. Alyssa Nash) as a shared, emergency expense with St. Paul's church. (In the same way that other urgent costs are shared.) The cost of this will eventually come to St. John's in the St. Paul's School budgeting process.

Board of Evangelism. Chairman Zahrt reported the Easter activities and getting dates locked in for summer events.

- June 21-23: Annual church campout at the Sleepy Eye campground.
- July: Working on locking in a date and reserving the Sleepy Eye water park for our annual fellowship event there. This has now become a joint St. John's-St. Paul's fellowship event.

- August: Annual church picnic fellowship event. Working on locking in a date and reservation for this.
- August 22: MLC Orientation. We will once again co-man a table at the MLC campus to welcome incoming freshmen.
- September 7: Annual Summer Send-Off event at St. Paul's school. Fellowship, fun, games, and outdoor worship service are followed by the ideal spot for viewing the Hermann Fest fireworks.

Campus Facility Task Force. The work toward the sanctuary renovations will begin the week of April 29 with painting the walls and registers of the nave. Later in the month of May, the chairs, pew upholstery with padding, and flooring materials will be delivered. The chairs will be set up and kept in the narthex. The upholstery, padding, and floor materials must be kept out to acclimate to the church climate. This acclimating may lead to some open storage in the narthex and basement. Ahead of installation, volunteers will be needed to help clear the side rooms and closets of the sanctuary. Installation is tentatively set for the first weeks of June. The facilities task force continues to check the schedules and hear from members to coordinate the renovations and avoid conflicts with worship services.

Financial Reports. The treasurer and financial secretary shared that Easter is a high point of thanksgiving during the year. This year is better than the previous one. Initial projections have St. John's \$40,000 ahead of the 2024 budget amounts to the end of April. This is thanks in large part to our members who have increased their thanksgiving, some of whom have given their annual gift out of their retirement funds during the first quarter of the year!

There are many areas of ministry that St. John's is working on, a major theme is supporting Christian education by offering ministerial education support through the Ministerial Education Endowment in conjunction with an MLC program that matches dollar for dollar up to \$1,000 for each son and daughter of the congregation attending MLC. Further assistance is being provided through needs-based support to member families through the K-12 Education Assistance Fund. These two are just a couple of examples of how members, out of thanksgiving for Jesus, are "[spurring] one another on toward love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24).

St. John's Insurance. Vice-president Berg provided information about a letter from Church Mutual notifying St. John's of the non-renewal of their coverage effective May, 2024. Apparently, Church Mutual has overextended itself by insuring churches and organizations at very low premiums and deductibles considering current inflated prices. From what was discovered, they are letting go of around 50% of their policyholders due to the current shakeup in the insurance industry. Since the number of insurers who insure churches is already small, the council inquired of St. Paul's about who's their insurer, American Brethren. After looking into several different options, some of which increased premiums by \$50K or more, the St. John's Council approved moving to American Brethren as the congregation's insurer beginning in May of 2024. The move increases the annual premiums (by \$10,000 to around \$18,000) as well as the deductible. The chosen coverage was the lowest quote received, and the congregation maintains current coverage.

Future meetings:

- Next joint council meeting with St. Paul's at St. John's– Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. (5:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal to precede it)
- Next council meeting – Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
- Next voters' meeting – Tuesday, July 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Jonathan M. Schaefer
Congregational President

*In
Loving
Memory*

<i>Ikuko Poetter</i>	Undesignated	\$20
<i>Edgar Poehler</i>	DVD's	\$100
<i>Robert Dretake</i>	Sanctuary Renovation	\$20



Cancer Group

St. John's Cancer Group will meet on Sunday, June 2 at 3:00 pm in the church basement fellowship area.

Our purpose is encouragement from God's Word and each other. Consider coming if you have experienced a cancer diagnosis of any kind, either recently or at any time in the past.

Our gatherings are not just for the person diagnosed with cancer. Spouses, adult family members, or other support persons are also very welcome to attend. For more information contact Wayne Wagner at wwagner50@outlook.com.



Women of St. John's

Stump the Pastor ~ Do you have any questions that you wish you could ask a pastor? Perhaps a question came to you in a Bible study and you thought it would take too long to answer, or seemed too off-track, or perhaps it's a question that you have wondered about from time to time and never asked.

**STUMP
THE PASTORS!**

Tuesday, May 7, at 7 pm, the Women of St. John's are hosting a Stump the Pastors night, open to everyone. A box is available in the narthex to place your questions. A sign-up sheet is located next to the box for you to sign up to help us plan for refreshments.



WELS Women's Ministry Conference

Save the Date! July 28 - 30 at the Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee, WI.

Watch the bulletins and future newsletters for more information!

Board of Youth and Education

Psalm 78:1-7

- ¹My people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.
²I will open my mouth with a parable;
I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
³things we have heard and known,
things our ancestors have told us.
⁴We will not hide them from their descendants;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD,
his power, and the wonders he has done.
⁵He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
⁶so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
⁷Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.

This psalm of Asaph is a lengthy psalm that details the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. God had acted with grace and mercy at so many times through the course of Israel's history to save his people because of the great love that God has. Recalling these great acts of God is one of the ways that the Holy Spirit works. As we hear of the love and power of God, the Spirit strengthens our faith and points us to Christ's sacrifice on the cross as the ultimate act of love and power of God as Christ rose victoriously from the grave.

But in these opening verses of this psalm, there is another point of emphasis when it comes to these great deeds of God. We want to spread abroad about how good God is to those who don't know him yet, but also to the next generation so that they in turn can know him and give him the praise he deserves. Teaching the next generation about God is vitally important so that his mercy and grace are remembered. Twice in the course of history, at the time of Adam and Eve and Noah and his family, all the world worshiped the true God. However, we also see in history that it only takes a generation or two for the truth to be lost. At the same time, when God's Word is taught to the next generation there are exponential benefits to the spread of the gospel as they in turn teach these truths to others.

Christian education has always been an important part of the mission of St. John's Lutheran Church for these very reasons. And we praise God that so many St. John's members have passed through the doors of St. Paul's Lutheran School and have heard these precious truths about the love of Christ. St. John's has encouraged parents to enroll their children in St. Paul's School and the congregation has, and continues, to financially support the work that is done at St. Paul's School to make this possible for numerous families.

At the fall voters' meeting of 2023, the voting members of St. John's decided to reduce the operating budget of St. John's to better reflect the ministry that can be conducted with the offerings that the members of St. John's generously give to the Lord in support of the gospel ministry at St. John's. In years past, often St. John's relied upon gifts from endowments and estates to balance the budget, but the voting

members decided that this was neither wise, nor sustainable to continue in perpetuity. Because of this decision, many areas of ministry were tasked with reducing expenses to pass a balanced budget. One area of ministry that was reduced was the subsidy provided to the St. John's students at St. Paul's Lutheran School.

The financial burden of Christian education on the parents in the form of tuition will still be less than 25% of the total cost of education. However, even though the cost of education is drastically reduced by support from St. John's, tuition costs are still increasing for the families of St. John's for the coming year. Therefore, St. John's has established an Education Assistance Fund to provide additional financial support for families that do not feel that they will be able to afford the tuition for St. Paul's Lutheran School. We encourage all families who consider it a financial hardship to pay the tuition to apply for additional assistance. If you are moved to give a special offering to the Lord, please consider contributing to this fund so that the blessing of Christian education can be shared with all of the families at St. John's. You can write "Education Assistance Fund" on your offering envelopes to designate a portion of your offerings to this cause. Please consider doing so!

What a privilege we have to have heard about the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord ourselves. Through this message we have the blessed hope of heaven and live and stand in God's grace (Romans 5:8). And also by God's grace we have the privilege and opportunity to provide the same for the next generation of our St. John's family as we pass the torch of God's grace to them.

Ministerial Student Financial Assistance

We are pleased to report that for the 2024-25 school year there are 11 students from St. John's who are planning to attend Martin Luther College or Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to prepare for serving in the public ministry. To encourage these students and assist in meeting the rising cost of their education, we plan to send MLC and WLS financial assistance to be applied to each student's account. As of April 14, \$4,760 has been contributed. Please consider making a special offering for this purpose. MLC's Congregational Partner Grant Program will match the support that a congregation provides up to \$1,450 per student.

If you make a contribution for this purpose, please indicate whether you want your offering to go to the regular Ministerial Student Assistance Fund or to the Ministerial Student Assistance Endowment Fund. Offerings to the endowment fund are invested, and only the investment earnings are distributed each year. Offerings to the regular student assistance fund are distributed in the current school year.

You are Invited to Usher/Greeter Training

Are you interested in serving at church in a different way? Consider joining an usher crew or greeter team.

We will meet on Saturday, May 18th, from 9 - 10:30 am in the sanctuary to review basic usher and greeter duties, such as greeting worshippers, lighting candles, and collecting the offering.

Currently, the usher program serves as an entry point for male leadership at St. John's. With this in mind, the usher program is open to males in confirmation class in 7th grade and higher. Greeter teams are open to students in confirmation class, 7th grade and higher. Contact Deacon Brad Price at deacon@stjohnsnewulm.com if you are interested or if you have any questions.

Staff Minister

Sanctuary Renovation Projects – In connection to the flooring project being completed by an outside source, the flooring will be going not only on the sanctuary floor, but also includes 1) the closet which had stored the Hymn Board numbers-front right of sanctuary, 2) the Sacristy from which our Altar Guild serves in various ways, 3) the Vestry that serves our pastors for service preparations, and 4) another closet that currently stores a variety of things from Christmas Altar Decorations to AV Equipment that had been used for showing the WELS Connection, Archive papers, and a lot of miscellaneous items. Items that will be saved and returned to their prospective rooms will be stored in the basement. Therefore dates are being considered to have volunteers help to clear those areas after Sunday School is completed. Times in late May will be used to clear these areas before the flooring begins in early June. If you would be willing to help in getting these areas cleared, please email me at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com I will send a more definite time schedule once I hear back from the Altar Guild and pastors. The normal “All Church” Cleaning won’t take place until after the renovation project is complete – a time will be set most likely in July. Thanks for your consideration.

Stewardship Time & Talents ~ It has been a couple years since the Time & Talents Booklet that describes various ministry and service opportunities at St. John’s was updated. Leaders of the various areas of ministry can expect to receive an email from me during May asking you to update any information about the area of ministry you were active in for the last update including any change in leadership. Please update as best you can by the end of May.

In June, we hope to have a distribution of those booklets along with the encouragement for every member to fill out a survey, either paper or online, to indicate areas of ministry that interest you. The interest “survey” does not sign you up for activities, but gives me and others who serve in those areas a chance to reach out to interested members to help fill roles of ministry that are important to St. John’s congregation. Perhaps you are interested in choir, handbells, advancing slides, or substitute teaching in Sunday School. There are many opportunities! Perhaps you are no longer able to serve in ways you had indicated in the past. Please fill out these surveys when they become available. It takes many people to complete the ministry done each year at St. John’s!

Visiting the Homebound - If you are not on our list to be visited but would like to be included, please call or text me at **507-217-7604** or email me to get on the list.

St. John’s Tech Services - Use the following links or internet address shortcuts to reach our online resources.

- 1) <https://stjohnsnewulm.com> - Our church’s Website - Check it out!
- 2) bit.ly/SJNUPodcast to listen again to the pastor’s sermon message on your phone.
- 3) bit.ly/SJyoutube - St. John’s YouTube Channel- Watch services again at your convenience.
- 4) bit.ly/SJBibleClass - Online Bible Class sign in with Google Meet

Respectfully submitted, Jim Dretske sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com

Church Library

Welcome to spring! The winter that wasn't, is over. But we can still get snow, so don't put the shovels away just yet.

This month we have 3 fiction books to introduce. The first one is a donation from a member. It is a fictionalized version of Noah's ark, but from the wife's point of view. The author gave her the name Zarah. She has three sons, and the neighbors watch them building a boat with no water nearby. The neighbors shunned them. The animals came on their own because God sent them. The book helps us visualize life many centuries ago. The title is *The Ark Builder's Wife, Zarah's Story*. It is part of a series written for *Guideposts Magazine*, called *Ordinary Women of the Bible*.

The other two books are part of a different series called *Love Finds You*. One book is by Loree Lough where we find ourselves in Paradise, Pennsylvania. The families live near Amish families. Simon is a veterinarian who also helped birth an Amish boy. Now 5 years later, the boy is killed by an evil teenager. Julia is an attorney who has to defend this teenager. Simon resents her doing that but gets a lesson in forgiveness.

Janice Hanna wrote her story to take place in 1904. *Love Finds You in Poetry, Texas*. Belinda lives in a small town and aims to find wives for all the single men in their town. She checks newspapers from big cities that have ads for women looking for husbands. She pairs them with someone in Poetry. Funny thing is that many times the pair she paired up fall in love with someone else. Belinda wants her best friend Georg to find a wife but gradually they realize they are already paired. Meanwhile the town is growing.

If you have a book belonging to St. John's Church Library, and checked it out a while ago, please return it. We are aiming to do an inventory of all the books and need all of them. Thank you. And have a good end to the school year.

LeiLani Rahn,
Church Librarian

St. Paul's School

It's Time to Rejoice, To Share, and to Partner

We REJOICE together in Psalm 118:24: "This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."

"Who is Jesus?" A few months ago, I met with a potential new school family. While I talked with the parents, their preschool-age child played with the manger set in my office. When she heard the baby was Jesus, she asked me, "Who is Jesus?" I was moved by her simple question that has such an amazing answer.

We SHARE in the glory of heaven, as Romans 8:17 states, "Now if we are children, then we are heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory."

St. Paul's School prioritizes Christian education. That's why we renovated and expanded the school, adding

more preschool rooms so we can tell more children about Jesus. The total building cost was \$7.4 million; we have almost \$3.2 million left to pay. Together, we'll accomplish this with God's help.

We PARTNER in the blessings of the gospel summed up in Philippians 2:1-4: "Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Our goal: raise \$775,000 by October 31 and reduce our loan amount. Will you partner with us and give extra offerings to reach the goal? We're excited to share that matching dollars are available. The first \$60,000 received will be matched by individuals and families committed to Christian education.

There is an amazing answer we get to share. I knee the parents had come to the right place. I hope to see their child in our school next year. Every day, she'll have the opportunity to hear about Jesus along with three hundred other students. What a great privilege we share: telling people about their Savior!

Pete Markgraf
[St. Paul's School](#) Principal

Memorial Day is About Life

This Memorial Day, in towns across our land people will gather at local military monuments and memorials to remember and honor those who gave their lives for our benefit. American flags will wave near headstones. "Taps" may be heard in the background as onlookers stand at attention or salute. Veterans may have tears in their eyes, transported back to another place in time as they recall fallen brothers and sisters in arms while deployed to another country.

When we gather at military monuments and memorials are we celebrating war or honoring life? Army General Colin Powell shared in a 2008 address that these sites "tell us a great deal about America's commitment to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all." Martin Luther in his treatise, *Whether Soldiers, Too, Can Be Saved*, expressed a similar thought that a warrior's work is an act of love that "protects the good, preserves the home, wife and child, and honor and peace." We do not gather at these places of honor to celebrate war, but to honor those who gave their lives in war for their fellow warriors, their family, and our Country. We reflect on their lives of courage, selfless sacrifice, and leadership with the purpose of teaching these traits to future generations. We are reminded that if our Nation has warriors that place duty first, we will have a future as its citizens.

Similarly, Resurrection Sunday is like Memorial Day, but better! It is not about death but life. Because of the life, death, and resurrection of one man, Jesus Christ, eternal life has been earned for us. It is important to instruct our children about the importance of Memorial Day, yet it is more important that we share the good news of Easter Sunday. He is risen! He is risen indeed! Because of Jesus, we have a true and lasting freedom through faith in him. Our salvation won and future secure, we are free to serve our Savior in a variety of ways, including as a Soldier, Airman, Marine, Sailor, Guardian, or Coast Guardsman to God's honor and in defense of our Nation.

God be with our Gold Star Families, Veterans, and Nation this Memorial Day.

Brad Price, President & CEO [Lutheran Military Support Group](#)

Central Africa Medical Mission

As CAMM operates a mobile clinic in Malawi, we depend on having reliable ambulances for our daily trips to our clinics. While the Toyota Land Cruisers we use are rugged and tough, after a few years they start to require more and more maintenance. For that reason, we replace them every 5 years.

We use a company called Toyota Gibraltar. Toyota Gibraltar specializes in providing vehicles to non governmental organizations who operate in third world countries. The advantage is that we see significant cost savings over the local dealer. The bad news is that it takes a while for the vehicle to arrive, and we (CAMM) must deal with all the local customs and vehicle registration issues instead of the dealer. We ordered and paid for the vehicle in September of 2023. It arrived in Lilongwe on March 30, 2024. To get here the vehicle travelled from Japan to Gibraltar. There, it was put in a container where it left Gibraltar by ship in late December enroute to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania via Oman and Jakarta. Once in Dar es Salaam the container was put on a truck for the 1,000-mile overland trip to Lilongwe. The ambulance is now at the clinic house/office in Lilongwe, but it will be a while before we can put it on the road. Lusungu still needs to get final customs clearance before we can begin the registration process. As we use the vehicle as an ambulance, we can import it duty free. A savings of \$35,000, but duty-free status requires a lot more paperwork.

It is getting toward the end of the rainy season in Malawi and Zambia. Malawi had a period of 3 weeks with no rain in the middle of their growing season. So, even though rains had returned by early March it was a little too late. The people are not expecting a good harvest. In Zambia this year, rains have been very sparse. The government has already declared a state of emergency and began scheduling power cuts because of low water levels in the Zambezi River - the country depends heavily on hydroelectric generation for its power needs. Normally by this time of year the fields are lush with freshly grown maize. Very likely, this is not going to be a good harvest and hunger could be a very real possibility.

Thank you to everyone who made our new ambulance a reality and please pray for our brothers and sisters in Malawi and Zambia. They are going to need a lot of prayer and support this year.

Gary Evans, Field Director

Read more at: www.camm.us
facebook.com/camm.wels