

NEWS FROM THE

# CLAUSING FAMILY

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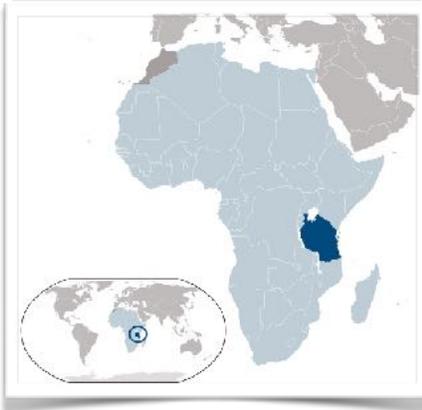
To support the LCMS through the work of Rev. Jonathan Clausing, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

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Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Include “Clausing-Tanzania” in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at [www.lcms.org/clausing](http://www.lcms.org/clausing).



About 35 pastors attended last week’s preaching seminar.

## We preach Christ crucified.

Photographs from the mission field don’t tell the whole story. It’s easy for me to take pictures of crowds of people, of church buildings with new roofs, and of pastors wearing liturgical vestments. However, the crucial question is not easily answered by photographs: “What are those crowds hearing from those men wearing vestments while standing under those new church roofs?”. Are they hearing about Jesus every Sunday? More specifically, are they hearing *good news* about Jesus?

It was my delight to spend four days last week with my brother pastors discussing precisely those most crucial questions. In the preaching workshop that I led, we considered how God both guides people and convicts them of their sin using words of Law, and how He literally brings them to new life by words of the Gospel. We practiced reading Bible passages carefully and using their meanings to create outlines for sermons. We brainstormed



## Our Family

Anita and I were married on August 16, 1997 and have been blessed with nine children.

### Back Row, Left to Right:

- Ernest (7.16.04)
- Eleanor (1.10.02)
- Emil (10.29.99), currently studying at Concordia University, Chicago
- Jonathan (8.20.75)
- Anita (12.9.74)

### Front Row, Left to Right

- Eunice (6.1.06)
- Ethan (5.8.08)
- Eric (12.16.09)
- Eileen (8.21.11)
- Elijah (7.3.13)
- Emmanuel (3.6.15)

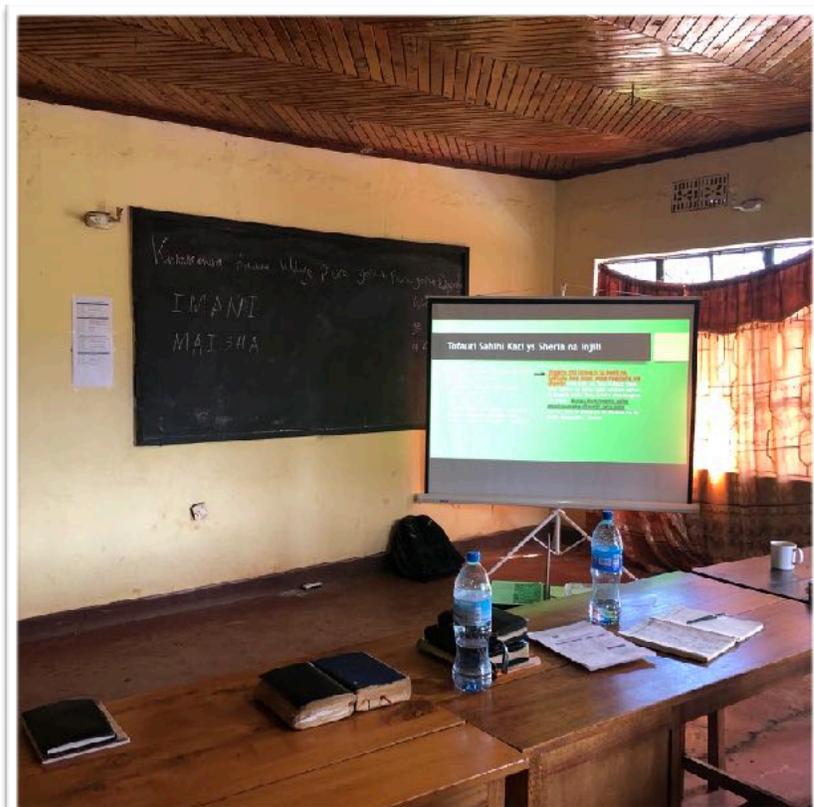
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ways of applying the universal and eternal message of Scripture to the specific sins and fears of 21st-century rural Tanzanian villagers, and, most importantly and constantly, we emphasized how every Christian sermon revolves around the news of the atoning death and victorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.

If you've read my previous two newsletters, you know that I've had a discouraging couple of months, but this past week I was reminded again of why I'm here and what opportunities exist for equipping preachers to share the good news of Jesus. At the end of the first day of the seminar, Pastor Mathayo of Karatu commented (in Swahili), "I have been built up today, because now I know how to give Law and Gospel to my people."

We're already planning another seminar for November; please pray for its success, that both believers and unbelievers would be blessed by the preaching of faithful pastors in Tanzania.



Our seminar was blessed with a projector and screen, thanks to a generous donor, and Swahili copies of the condensed version of Walther's *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel*, thanks to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation.