

# Mission of the Month:

## Africa Fire Mission

*Train — Empower — Support — Encourage*

Kenya, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Ethiopia, AFM, Fire Networking Africa

**Africa Fire Mission** is a 501(c)(3) committed to increasing the sustainable capacity of fire departments In Developing Communities. We accomplish this through training, empowerment, support, and encouragement:

**Train** – We partner with African governments, NGO’s, missionaries, schools and corporations to provide education and training to firefighters and local communities. We use Community Health Education (CHE) to teach firefighters and community members in Africa to protect themselves from the dangers of fire.

**Empower** – We work to increase the ability of communities in Africa to respond to disasters and provide relief when disasters occur.

**Support** –We provide personal protective equipment and communication tools to fire services throughout Africa to allow fire departments to operate in a safer and more coordinated manner.

**Encourage** – We build the capacity of African fire services so that local communities are able to provide sustainable public safety and disaster management services.

**Core Values:** + Partnership + Community Ownership + Development  
+ Transformation + Sustainability + Advocacy + Innovation

by: **Brad Banz**- Retired Fire Chief, Colwich Fire Dept., Retired Captain Wichita Fire Dept.

During COVID-19: Probably one of the easiest things we can do is *handwashing*. Everyone should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. *Don't use the same bar of soap and don't share the same towel* to dry with. Because first responders make frequent contact with the public, they should also *wash their hands after contacting the public*. If possible, *keep hand sanitizer on your vehicles*. *Keeping our quarters clean and sanitary* should also be important – washing bedding and towels frequently. Take the time to *clean and sanitize areas*, especially surfaces with a disinfectant solution at least once a day, and preferably more. This should occur in the *bedrooms, toilet facilities, showers, kitchen, and common areas*. These are just a few of Brad’s ideas.

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Jesus answered Thomas: “*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*”  
John 14:6

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Buchanan Christian Church is to be and to make disciples of Jesus who serve God by serving others.*

**BUCHANAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
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Buchanan, MI 49107-1229  
Electronic Service Requested

*Est. December 17, 1854*

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**Sunday Services** Due to the virus, we have limited seating. Call the church office if you would like to attend. Starting **Sept. 6: only 10 am or 6 pm** available

**Office Hours:** Mon & Tues: 8-12 & 1-5  
Wed & Thurs: 8-12 & 1-4; Fri: **CLOSED**

### Prayer: for a Worrying Mind

I know that worrying gets me nowhere, yet I still allow it to consume me.

In times such as these, Lord, I ask you to grant me a great amount of strength, faith and courage to fight off the doubt and fear within my mind.

Faith casts out fear while fear casts out faith.

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*Deeper In the Word*  
*Nate Babcock, Senior Minister*

## Taking the Rule of Christ to the World

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*

We are witnesses of Jesus Christ. What does that mean? As Thomas Long has written, “the verb ‘to witness’ has two main meanings: to see and to tell.” We are witnesses of Jesus in both senses of the word. First, we have “seen” Jesus for ourselves, which is to say that we have experienced his saving and transforming Lordship in our lives. We received the gospel message about Jesus which the church has always believed and preached (1 Cor. 15:1-11), we have decided to follow Jesus, and we have been transformed by his saving grace. Second, we are called to “tell” others about the Lord Jesus who has so changed our lives. We are called to tell them the same gospel on which we have taken our stand, and to invite them to come and follow Jesus as well.

For the apostles and the early church, this work of bearing witness to Jesus began in Jerusalem and spread from there throughout the Roman Empire. For us, our work of bearing witness to Jesus begins in our homes, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces and extends to the nations. When we follow and bear witness to Jesus in our daily lives, we are taking his rule to the world. Jesus rules in our hearts, and when we obediently live for him among our neighbors and the nations, we are showing forth his rule over us and inviting other people to submit to his rule as well. Pastor and author Bill Hull writes,

“The model for the church is to take the rule of Christ to the world... This is where the church fits. It is the vehicle to take Christ’s rule to all of life. This is big enough to motivate me for a lifetime; we have the responsibility to take His righteousness to the earth. We are His representatives.”

Brothers and sisters, what a high calling and exciting mission we have! To bring to our neighbors the good news that Jesus reigns over all! To demonstrate the power of his rule by the way we live our lives! This is why we need the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)! We cannot do this job in our own strength. It is too big for us. But it is not too big for God -within-us! So, let’s live our daily lives in the power of the Holy Spirit, and let’s take the rule of Christ to our world!

## - THANK YOU NOTE & ANNOUNCEMENTS -

**Hi BCC family,** I want to *Thank You* all for your loving concern for my health the last 7 weeks. You have no idea how much I appreciated the calls, emails and cards. It's so nice to be remembered when you are homebound and hurting. I am doing so much better now. I had a set back with infection, but it's cleared. Pain is under control and I have full weight bearing permission. *Thank You All* for your loving care, my heart is full. God Bless, Cindy Blaine.

- \* **Operation Christmas Child** gifts in shoe boxes will be collected this year. Packing will be on **Nov. 10** this year.
- \* **Socks** needed for the **Homeless Ministry**: Heavy men’s and women’s socks; Granola Bars; Meal Bars (Cliff Bars or similar); Individual packages of peanuts or other nuts; Fruit snacks with real fruit; water enhancer packets for individual water bottles; Beef jerky or beef sticks – individually packaged; other food items that will fit into a sock and provide a “meal” for a homeless person; gallon zip bags to pack them in.  
 Please bring to the church by September 27. *American Heritage Girls* will be packing them on September 29 and giving them to *Jerry Seals for the Homeless Ministry*.

### Greetings BCC,

The elder's have decided to transition from having three worship services each Sunday to having two worship services. **Beginning September 6th, the 2:00 pm service will be combined with the 6:00 pm service. So, beginning on the 6th and moving forward, we will have the 10:00 am service and the 6:00 pm service each Sunday.**

- If you are currently attending the 10:00 am service and wish to continue to do so, you do not need to do anything different and you do not need to sign-up again. Simply continue to join us for worship each week at 10:00 a.m.
- We will rearrange the sanctuary to create a few more seats for each service. There will be some additional seats available for the 10:00 a.m. service. Those seats will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis beginning on Monday August 31st. **Beginning on August 31st you can contact the church office via phone or email to sign-up for these additional seats for the 10:00 am service.**
- If you are already signed-up for and have been attending either the 2:00 pm or 6:00 pm service, **you do not need to sign-up again.** Simply attend the 6:00 pm service.
- If you have been attending the 10:00 am service, but would like to transition to the 6:00 pm service, please contact the church office to let us know.
- *If you have not been involved in any of our services, but are now ready to join us again for in-person worship, please contact the church office to sign-up for the 6:00 pm service, or, beginning on August 31st, for one of the additional seats in the 10:00 am service.*
- Beginning on September 6th, there will be **Junior Church** during the 6:00 pm service. This will be for children in **K - 5th grade**. It will take place upstairs in the Youth and Heroes Rooms. **Social distancing will be observed** and both **Children and Adults will wear masks.**

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact the church office.

The elders and ministry staff wish to thank everyone for their good attitudes, cooperation, and commitment to Christ and neighbor which have allowed us to be together for in-person worship services over the last two-months in ways that are safe, responsible, and unified. These steps forward which will begin in September would not be possible without how well our congregation has handled everything to this point. Thank you and thanks be to God!

Nate

## BCC PRAYER NEEDS

*Mission of the Month:*  
**Africa Fire Mission**

*Prayer Focus:*  
**Education**

*Please Remember in Prayer:*

\*Our Nation, \*BCC Leaders & Teachers, \*Those hurting from loss of loved ones  
\*Our shut-ins & home bound, \*Victims of tragedy in our nation & elsewhere  
\*President Trump & family, \*US Troops, \*Lord to send forth laborers for the Kingdom

\* All Families With Loved Ones Passing From Covid-19  
\* Our Nation with Discontentment and Unrest with Law & Order Enforcement

Jamie Becker - depression & anxiety, experiencing jaw problems, may need more surgery  
Roland Earnst - battling Lyme disease  
Carson Hernandez - teen with burns over 24% of his body due to accident, Kathy Furst req.  
Lowell Kosak - sabbatical from ministry, asking for rest, renewal, clarity, wisdom  
Marilyn Maly - melanoma (deadly skin cancer), mother of Carrie Strzykowski  
Mike Raven - (wife, Molly) ultra sound to evaluate tumor, nephew of Vickie Kitchell  
Janet Robinson - stage 4 brain cancer, grandma of Keith Robinson  
Lisa Summerfelt - having difficulty  
Pat Williams - test found crushed disc in back, surgery 9/8, mother of Cyndi Roberts  
*Family of: Bob Patton* - brother of Chester A. Patton II (Chet is the uncle of Vickie Kitchell)  
*Family of: Garold Bennett* - brother of Shirley Peterson  
*Family of: Edward Pastryk* - father of Gwen (John) Snyder  
*Family of: Norma Clem* - husband Charles, both former members at BCC

**PRAISE: Cindy Blaine** - much better, now can bear weight on healed ankle  
**Tad Smith** - finally able to squeeze with his right hand (had suffered a massive stroke)

### *FACTS & FIGURES for AUGUST:*

BCC's Modified Worship Services at 10am, 2pm, 6pm				Starting September 6		
<u>ATTENDANCE</u> (No BIBLE SCHOOL)	Worship: 10 AM	2 PM	6 PM	Worship:	10 AM	6 PM
	8/02 — 45	— 26	— 24	9/06	—	—
	8/09 — 38	— 23	— 12	9/13	—	—
	8/16 — 43	— 29	— 23	9/20	—	—
	8/23 — 47	— 22	— 18	9/27	—	—
	8/30 — 64	— 16	— 37	—	—	—

### TITHES & OFFERINGS (BUDGETED AMOUNTS)

(General Fund: 4,702.00)      (Missions: 787.50)      Building Fund Received

8/02 — 2,997.00	8/02 — 340.00	8/02 — 265.00
8/09 — 3,877.02	8/09 — 310.00	8/09 — 377.00
8/16 — 5,504.00	8/16 — 235.00	8/16 — 255.00
8/23 — 3,362.00	8/23 — 359.00	8/23 — 195.00
8/30 — 2,026.00	8/30 — 370.00	8/30 — 207.00

### SPECIAL OFFERING TOTALS: JUNE

BENEVOLENT FUND	1,055.00	MCCAMPUS MINISTRIES (His House)	50.00
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	20.00	NEW CHURCHES OF CHRIST EVAN.	100.00
MEMORIAL - ANONYMOUS	30.00	MEMORIAL - DON PETERSON	500.00

General Fund	Missions Fund	Building Fund	
August online giving	1,828.36	224.18	750.00

*"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

*Worship  
Music & Ministry*



*Judy Earnst  
Director of Worship Arts*

### Thought for the Month **"How Great Is Our God"**

Chris Tomlin wrote this praise song after meditating on Psalm 104. It was his desire to express God's greatness thru this song. Let us consider the attributes of God that are mentioned by Tomlin. First God's greatness is described by His splendor that is clothed in majesty. He is Light ("darkness trembles at His voice"). He is Eternal ("age to age He stands"), Beginning and the End ("Time is in His hands"). He is the Godhead three in one ("Father, Spirit, Son"), the Lion and the Lamb, and His name is above all names. God is worthy of all praise. May our hearts daily sing, "How great is our God."

### Psalm 104

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God while I live. May my meditation be pleasing to Him; I will rejoice in the Lord."

### Special Thank You's

- to all who contributed school supplies for the BAMA Backpack Project. BCC contributed 63 backpack bundles that were distributed on "Faith and Family Day"



- to Phil, Brackett, Garret Brackett, Cindy Benson, Kegan Mark, Linda Brunke, and Tom Hoyt who provided special music for our worship services in August.





*Brandon Smith  
Associate Minister*

## **STARTING THIS SUNDAY**

We are changing from 3 services to 2 services, and as we do, we are starting up KIDS CHURCH. A service just for kids!

Kids church will run concurrently with the 6PM adult service, upstairs in the youth room. This will run the entire time of the service. When entering the through the main entrance, kids k-5<sup>th</sup> grade come upstairs and we will begin!

We will have music, lessons, activities, communion, offering: All opportunities to mimic the service downstairs to prepare to integrate smoothly with the Adult services.

We are looking forward to gathering once again and being able to learn more about Jesus, grow in our faith and being sent out into our community to spread the Good News!

### **Lesson**

Read: Acts 18:5-11

Discuss:

- Have you ever been afraid to say something you knew was true?
- Have you ever been afraid to tell someone about Jesus?
- What did God say to Paul?
- Did Paul listen?

Pray:

Dear God

Thank you for protecting Paul. Thank you for being with us just like him. We want to be bold like Paul was. Please help us to keep on speaking the truth about Jesus even when it is scary.

In Jesus Name,  
Amen

Do: Keep on Speaking! Do not be silent!

# *BCC Prayer Focus*



## **September Focus: Schools & Education**

Father, we lift our schools, administrators, teachers, staff, and students before Your throne. As our school systems face massive changes and challenges, we ask for You to work in mighty ways which reveal Your glory.

Lord, may school administrators humble themselves and seek Your face. May You give them wisdom and discernment to make good decisions, implement wise policies, and provide the structure and guidance which will help education to flourish.

Lord, may teachers humble themselves and seek Your face. May you bless them with Your guidance, that they would care for and teach their students to the very best of their ability. Give them Your wisdom, Father, for handling all the changes and challenges they will face this school year.

Lord, may staff members humble themselves and seek Your face. Give them strength to carry out their responsibilities with diligence and integrity. Thank you for all they do to make our schools safe and welcoming places.

Lord, may students humble themselves and seek Your face. Be with the children who are going to school in-person, and be with the children who will be learning from home. Work in their lives, O Lord, and show them how much You love them. Help them as they deal with physical, mental, and emotional challenges.

Father, please protect our schools from the evil one. May Your kingdom come, and Your will be done in our schools. May Christian adults and kids be faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. Show Your grace and truth in our schools this year, O Lord!

**We pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen!!**