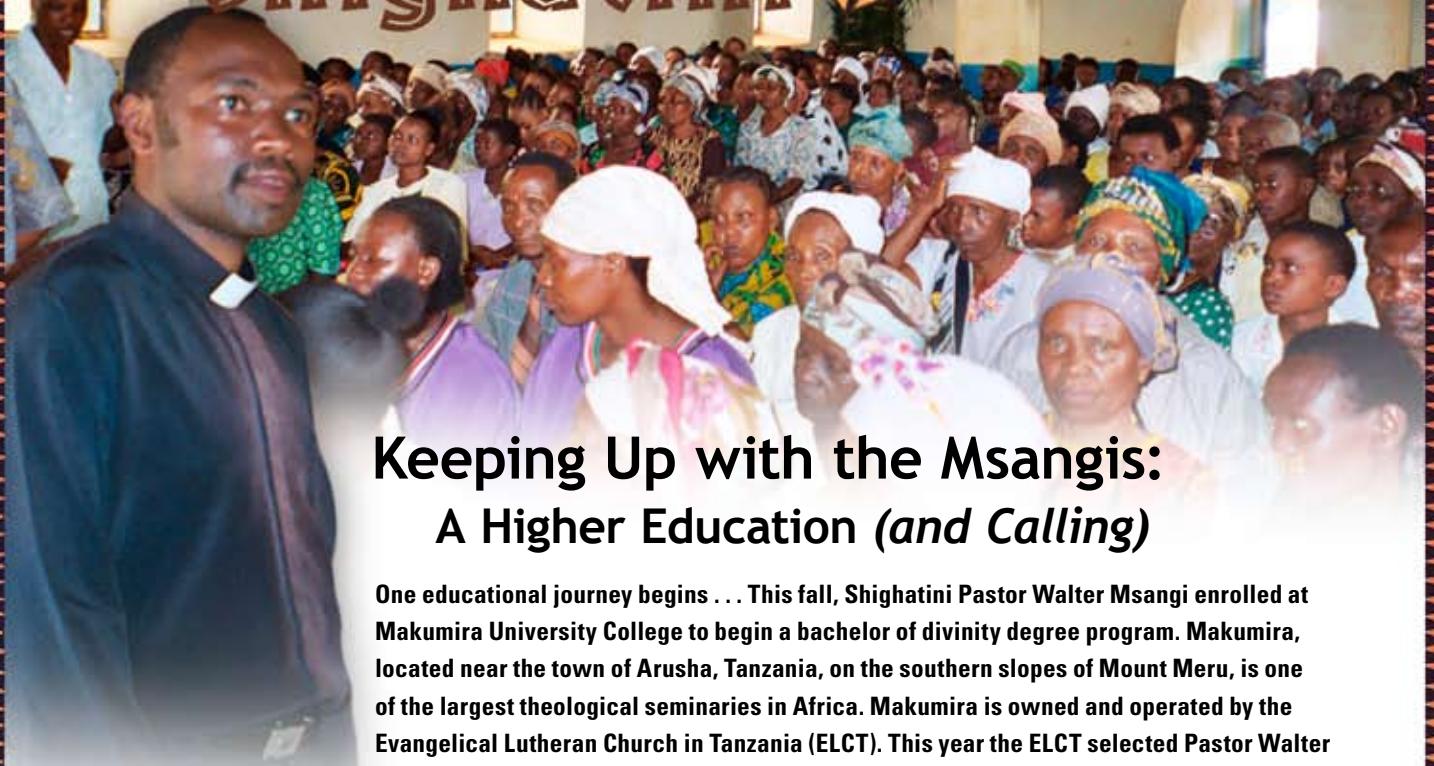




# Bethesda Shighatini

December 2008  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Ames, Iowa



## Keeping Up with the Msangis: A Higher Education *(and Calling)*

One educational journey begins . . . This fall, Shighatini Pastor Walter Msangi enrolled at Makumira University College to begin a bachelor of divinity degree program. Makumira, located near the town of Arusha, Tanzania, on the southern slopes of Mount Meru, is one of the largest theological seminaries in Africa. Makumira is owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). This year the ELCT selected Pastor Walter for admission to the four-year bachelor of divinity program. He received a certificate to be an ELCT pastor in 1995, a time when there was a tremendous shortage of Lutheran pastors. He has served the Shighatini Parish since 2004. A new pastor will be named.

*Pastor Walter Msangi*

### Bethesda supports Pastor Walter.

The Lutheran Mission Cooperative, a consortium of European churches, and the ELCA are providing Pastor Walter with tuition support. Bethesda's Christian Service and Mission Board is providing \$3,000 to help him through his first year of study, which includes courses in New Testament Greek, Survey of the New Testament, Introduction to Ministry, Communication Skills and Human Research. A phone message in early November from Pastor Walter said: "Classes are going well! Thanks to Bethesda for the seminary scholarship!"

**And one journey ends with a diploma. . .** On Dec. 5, Christine Msangi, wife of Pastor Walter, will receive her bachelor's degree in women's entrepreneurship from Mzumbe University's School of Business in Morogoro, Tanzania. More than \$4,000 collected from a special Bethesda offering taken in 2007 covered almost the entire cost of Christine's three-year undergraduate degree program. Bethesda members — especially those who met her when she visited Bethesda in 2007 — are encouraged to send Christine a congratulatory graduation card. Send to: Christine Msangi, Shighatini Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 22, Shighatini, Kilimanjaro Region, Tanzania.

*Christine Msangi*



Eileen Klonglan  
visiting with  
Pastor Walter



## Send Cards to Decorate a Shighatini Christmas Tree

This Christmas, let's shower Shighatini with messages of joy! In the past, many Shighatini families have decorated their Christmas trees with Christmas cards from family members and friends. As the holiday approaches, Bethesda members are encouraged to send at least one Christmas card or letter to a Shighatini person or family by **December 15, 2008**, so messages arrive in time for adorning their Christmas trees. How? Check the notebooks with names and addresses of Shighatini members at the Bethesda Welcome Center and in the main office. Names and addresses also will be included in The Current Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 6-7. Let's continue this wonderful tradition and help wish Shighatini a blessed Christmas! The Letters of Hope sent at Easter time, too, were a very successful exchange. These kinds of efforts help us meet the primary goal of the Bethesda-Shighatini companionship— building personal Christian relationships between our members.

Kanisa Moja, Imani Moja!

*(One Church, One Faith!)*



## Update: Work on Shighatini Guest House Begins

Job two is working on the plumbing system (sinks, showers and toilets) and electrical system. Generous support from Bethesda members is helping to address this top priority project for the Shighatini Parish.

Rehabilitation of the Shighatini Guest House began in September 2008. Job one was repairing the leaky roof before the rainy season began in early November.

