

Two 'new looks' mark improved water boards

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By WIL HOWIE

Missionary in Residence

"Reformed, always being reformed" was the motto of the old Presbyterian Church (US). It applies to Living Waters for the World.

What a wild and most productive year 2005 continues to be. LWW's ability to purify more kinds of available but contaminated water has dramatically and rapidly increased. Necessity was the mother of our inventions.

We discovered through our regular water testing regime over the last several years that the water in many communities has problems our standard treatment board could not handle. The "old" board treated bacterial contamination fine. But other solutions were required to deal with high levels of hardness, salinity and, in several potential sites, heavy metals.

Spurred by this knowledge, LWW's Technical Task Force formed a Design Team, moderated by Remi Van Compernelle of Houston, Texas. The team hosted four extended work weekends in 2005 at Camp Hopewell to develop and test a variety of operational units.

Various processes and configurations of hardware were sorted through to come up with systems that were as simple and easy to operate as possible.

The Design Team was also charged with overseeing the de-

Fall work days: Two weekends are scheduled for volunteers to work on the water building at Camp Hopewell: September 9-10 and November 11-12. Come join the fun! Call 615.261.4008 for details.

velopment of a Field/Emergency unit: a complete, preassembled, transportable system designed for quick and immediate operation.

The Lord has blessed all of this studying and working in many surprising — and at times not altogether easy — ways. The most important and surprising result has been the significant redesigning and engineering of our "old" standard board into a simpler, more powerful system also capable of powering new components for filling and washing bottles.

As a result of all of this focused study, plus the hard work and travel of three of our partners in a number of locations, LWW is grateful to announce that two additional options are now available — through Clean Water U — to churches and organizations working with international partners where the water needs more than just disinfection.

• Our first new unit deals with situations where the water has high levels of hardness, a common problem in some areas where calcium deposits tended to clog filters and build up in valves. Adding a water Softener to our

standard unit (S/s) removes troublesome calcium and magnesium.

• Our second new design handles water containing unacceptable levels of salts and/or heavy metals. The team found the process requires Reverse Osmosis and a water softener (RO/s) in combination with the core board.

New IOM (installation, operation and maintenance) Manuals are currently being developed, and the new processes are being taught at CWU beginning in September 2005.

Let more and more clean water flow!



Design team member Paul Johnson of Campbellsville, Ky., demonstrates the size of a water softener unit.

THREEPEAT! Kentucky churches install three systems in one trip

For the first time in the experience of Living Waters for the World, a team of installers and educators from one state completed three water systems in one region in the same week.

The team, from two Kentucky presbyteries, accomplished the feat in early July in the Campeche area of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula.

Eighteen members of five Kentucky churches — Danville, Millersburg and Corbin in Transylvania Presbytery and Greensburg and Campbellsville in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery — divided itself into three coordinated squads.

Working at the same time in three locations, the team installed systems and taught health education at the El Divino Jesus Church in Carillo Puerto, the Principe de Paz Church in Pich and the Iglesia Presbiteriana in Villa Madero.

And while they were at it, they went to the Filadelfia Church in nearby Lerma to retrofit an existing system with new equipment.

"This approach gave us the advantage of seeing several different communities as we visited each other's sites while focusing our efforts on a single system," one team member said.

The installations were complicated by



Matthew Farr of Transylvania Presbytery pours water as part of a health education lesson in the Principe de Paz Church in Pich, Mexico.

the fact that the quality of available water made it necessary to install reverse osmosis equipment in two of the sites, and all three required water softeners. Both are an addition to LWW's standard system.

"Would you do it again?" one team member asked another. The reply came back, "Absolutely — after a year to rest!"

The installations were numbers 38, 39 and 40 in the LWW system.



This faucet runs merely two hours a day, and its water is contaminated.



Will this little girl be given a chance to grow healthy and strong?

But some still wait ...

Living Waters for the World has installed over 40 purification systems in eight countries on three continents — a remarkable achievement. Thousands of people who previously had only contaminated water now have access to pure, clean water. Thanks be to God!

But our work has just begun. Still, there are hundreds of thousands who will die from preventable water-borne diseases, and millions more who suffer the effects of chronic water-related illness.

So we rejoice in our successes to the glory of God, and we redouble our efforts on behalf of those who still wait for the privilege of clean water.



The exhibit hall at Rotary International's convention. LWW was there.

LWW has exhibit booth at biggest Rotary event

Living Waters for the World thought it was a huge crowd when we displayed a full-size treatment board at the 216th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in June 2004 in Richmond, Va.

And there were a lot of people there, but not compared to this June, when LWW had a booth at the Centennial Celebration of Rotary International in Chicago.

Some 45,000 Rotarians and guests attended the largest convention in the service club's history, and Living Waters for the World was there.

A major emphasis for Rotary International in 2005-2006 is the delivery of clean water to the world. LWW was one of five clean water organizations that had booths at the convention's trade show.

Interest was high throughout the five days, and as a result, over 400 individuals, representing clubs from 53 countries, signed up to receive more information.

We have made initial contact with these individuals and will communicate with them again in August to determine each club's level of interest. It is our hope that U.S.-based and international clubs will form partnerships to



Katy BeDunnah at LWW's display at the Rotary International Convention.

sponsor and implement LWW projects in areas throughout the world.

LWW thanks Katy BeDunnah and the Rotary Club of San Antonio, Texas, for sponsoring us at the convention. Katy chairs the World and Community Service Committee of the San Antonio club, Rotary's largest, and is also LWW's regional coordinator for Guatemala and an instructor in the leadership course at Clean Water U, CWU 101.



Offering proceeds near goal of \$85,000

Churches asked to include LWW in year's giving

Giving Sunday, the annual offering taken within the synod from which LWW derives the majority of its support, has to date received cash and pledges totaling \$68,300 from 115 churches.

This puts the offering at 80 percent of its \$85,000 goal for the year. Due to rapid growth in the Clean Water U program, it is our hope to exceed this goal and hit the \$100,000 mark by year's end.

Letters to the session of each contributing church, along with personalized 'thank-you' posters, were sent out in late July. A full list of contributing churches for 2005 will be listed in an upcoming issue of *Water of Life*, as well as the *Presbyterian Voice*, the synod's newspaper.

Correspondence to churches in the synod that have not yet received the offering was mailed in early August, asking them to prayerfully consider receiving the offering.

The letter pointed out that receiving the offering has the added benefit of raising awareness of the project among their members and is often the jump-start of the process to build a clean water mission team.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If your church has not yet received the 2005 offering, we ask that you encourage your session to move quickly to schedule it.

An offering materials request form, for specifying the needed amount of bulletin inserts, offering envelopes, etc., is available for download at our web site: www.livingwatersfortheworld.org.



The April 2005 class, CWU's fourth, included 40 students from 11 states and two foreign countries.

September class CWU's biggest

The September 2005 class, fifth in the history of Clean Water U, is shaping up as the biggest yet.

Enrollment totals 54, compared to the 40 who attended in April. Full enrollment at CWU has always been calculated at 45 — 15 in each of the three classes.

CWU's September 21-25 session has 15 enrolled in the leadership course, CWU 101, and a like number in the education course, CWU 102.

The buster group is the installation class, CWU 103, which has 24 enrolled. To accommodate the crowd, CWU is doubling the number of its service training bays, from two to four.

Two temporary bays are being added on the outside of the water training building. They will serve until a planned new auxiliary building with two permanent bays can be constructed.

CWU's inaugural session in March 2004 enrolled 50 students, which has stood as the record high until now. The September 2004 session enrolled 37 and the March 2005 session was the smallest to date with 31 students.

Limiting factors include classroom

size, sleeping accommodations at the Hopewell Camp and Conference Center and the number of training bays for CWU 103 students.

The class of April 13-17, 2005, included students from 11 states — Mississippi, Texas, Minnesota, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Alabama — as well as from Guatemala and Brazil.

They came from Presbyterian, Baptist and United Methodist Churches and planned water purification installations in nine countries: Ghana, Cambodia, Mexico, Haiti, Guatemala, Nicaragua, West Africa, Brazil and El Salvador.

Before 2004, LWW installed water purification systems and trained recipients in their purpose and operation with its own volunteer personnel.

Tentative plans of Living Waters for the World include the possibility of four CWU sessions in 2006, two in the spring and two in the fall.

Hopewell, the camp and conference center of St. Andrew Presbytery in northern Mississippi, is near Oxford, Miss.

It is full of youth campers in the summertime, leaving fall and spring as the likeliest opportunities for CWU to rent the facilities.

CWU students pay a per-person fee that includes meals, lodging and instruction covering a period from Wednesday afternoon to Sunday noon.

LWW's governing committee is considering whether to raise the enrollment fee in light of the fact that the school is not entirely self-supporting.

Operation of CWU is subsidized by other funds that come from general contributions to Living Waters for the World.

"The committee's feeling is that a fee totally covering expenses might discourage some people from attending," committee moderator Bill Williams said. "Our purpose is to train people in helping to provide the life-saving gift of clean water in the name of Jesus Christ, not to make financial ends meet."

The committee provides scholarship assistance in certain cases to enable people to attend.

It's what the CWU 101 class calls "The Economics of Jesus."

The Holy Spirit keeps blessing us with the gift of more work to do

By WIL HOWIE

Missionary in Residence

The multiplication of the minor into a miracle lies at the heart of Jesus' way of working in the world. From the child's gift of five loaves and two fishes, in the blessing, breaking and giving of these simple gifts, there was abundance for thousands.

So the Holy Spirit is working through the many gifted individuals, churches, presbyteries and other organizations, including Rotary Clubs, to bring more and more clean water into the world.

Through the multiplying effect of those attending our Clean Water U sessions, a miracle is taking place. Before CWU began, 2003 was our best year ever with four installations. With the first two CWU sessions in 2004, eleven units were installed. This year with the two sessions held this spring, our partners have installed eighteen units to date.

And the year is not yet over. Our fifth Clean Water U takes place September 21 – 25 with a waiting list now for several months. In the remaining months this year, somewhere between eight and twelve more installations are in process. All



Wil Howie

- Installations since the April 2005 *Water of Life*:
- #33 – El Ayudante Mission, Leon, Nicaragua (Norcross, Ga., United Methodist)
 - #34 – Playa el Tunco, El Salvador (Trinity, Starkville, Miss.)
 - #35 – Peto, Mexico (South Alabama)
 - #36 – Suc Tuc, Mexico (First, Haverhill, Mass.)
 - #37 – Matagalpa, Nicaragua (First, Murfreesboro, Tenn.)
 - #38 – Carrillo Puerto, Mexico (Transylvania and Mid-Kentucky Presbyteries)
 - #39 – Pich, Mexico (Transylvania/Mid-Kentucky)
 - #40 – Villa Madero, Mexico (Transylvania/Mid-Kentucky)
 - #41 – Champoton, Mexico (First, Columbus, Miss.)
 - #42 – Rose of Sharon PC, Sibilia, Guatemala (Minnesota Valleys Presbytery)
 - #43 – Maya Quiche Bible Institute, Xela, Guatemala (Shepherd of the Hills, Austin, Texas)

together we anticipate that twenty-five to thirty units will be installed in seven different countries, including our first units in India and China.

Let's continue to expect miracles and give God the glory!

A word to church sessions: Thanks!

Churches are key to the LWW mission.

Recognizing that, LWW administrator Steve Young sent this letter to sessions of Presbyterian churches in the Synod of Living Waters, from which the mission receives the bulk of its support:

I am writing at the year's mid-point to share an update on the activities of Living Waters for the World, and to extend our gratitude for your partnership with us.

In early 2004, we began a five-day intensive training program called Clean Water U. Taking the knowledge gained from over a decade in the field, we now train and equip church mission groups and others to share the gift of clean water with communities in need, and to empower their partners to continue purifying their water on an ongoing basis. It's life-changing work at

its most fundamental level.

The results of the program have exceeded our greatest expectations. In 2003, Living Waters for the World set an all-time record of four systems installed in two countries within that 12-month span. This year, directly as a result of the Clean Water U program, 25 systems will be installed in seven countries! And, it appears that this pace of growth will continue as more and

more teams are trained.

As you can imagine, the resources required to manage and support this level of growth are more than what they were two years ago, and will continue to increase as we continue to grow. Your support has directly helped make this level of growth possible and sustainable, and we thank you. I have included personalized 'thank-you posters' for your use, as we want all of

your members to know how much we value what they have helped make possible.

The world's water crisis is immense, and at times can seem overwhelming. However, one community at a time, Living Waters for the World and partners like you are making a difference, sending the clear message that Jesus Christ is indeed living water for our bodies and our souls.

Young back as LWW administrator

Steve Young is back at LWW. Actually, he never really left.

Steve, who lives in Franklin, Tenn., and has a background in sales and marketing, has been a volunteer for LWW for many years. He was part-time administrator of LWW in 2004 when he left to undertake a private business venture.

His work pace hardly slacked, however, as he continued on in a volunteer role. On June 1 he accepted a contract with LWW for his full-time services as administrator, overseeing all awareness-raising, financial development and administrative matters.

Welcome back, Steve!



Steve Young