

No. 17 — December 2008

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## Another Banner Year

**A record-breaking 88 additional water systems installed in 2008**

Blessings continue to rain down upon the Living Waters for the World ministry. For the fifth consecutive year, a record-breaking number of water systems have been installed by LWW-trained teams.

Clean water now flows at 88 more locations, providing an estimated 25,000 more of our brothers and sisters the opportunity to drink affordable, clean water.

"It is clear that the decision in 2003 to move from doing this work ourselves to training and equipping others was a Holy Spirit-led, watershed moment", says Wil Howie, LWW director.

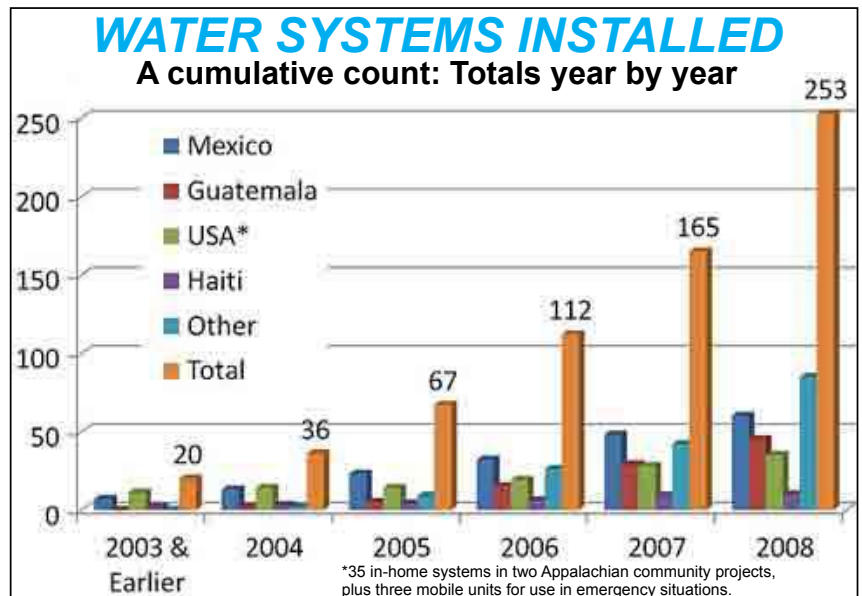
"Since our first Clean Water

**Since 2004, LWW has averaged one new system per week.**

U training session was held in March 2004, an average of one LWW water system per week has been installed. We are humbled and amazed by God's grace and abundance."

After those first two sessions of Clean Water U in 2004, demand to attend the program has steadily grown, and five sessions per year are now conducted. But the increase in training sessions does not alone account for the exponential growth in water systems.

"Perhaps the most unexpected and beautiful part of this journey is the empowerment of the teams that's taken place," states Steve Young, administrator of the organization.



**Partners Nueva Jerusalem PC and FPC Lexington, Ky., tote water tanks and celebrate installation at Bethania, Mexico.**

"Instead of working with a single community to install a water system, the vast majority of our teams partner with new communities again and again to share this gift, creating a multiplication effect that we don't anticipate slowing down for the foreseeable future." Young adds, "While the numbers are impressive, the real lives behind those numbers are

what drives this ministry."

Real lives indeed. One such example is the partnership between First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Ky., and the Nuevo Jerusalem Presbyterian Church in Bethania, Mexico, which resulted in clean water flowing just weeks ago. Jim Booth, a member of the FPC Lexington team, describes

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# Close Knit

1437 miles away  
Worlds apart  
Yet closely connected  
As flesh and blood.

Culture and language barriers  
Flooded through like ancient levees.  
Human need, compassion  
Core of our connection.

Pipes, pumps, filters  
Bottles, caps, seals  
Knowledge, technology  
The visible deliverables.

Hunger for knowledge  
Thirst for living water  
Drive learning curve  
Complete pieces of the puzzle.

Unrestrained hospitality  
Ox-strong faith  
Hope overpowering despair  
Immeasurable gift we receive.

Clear, cool water flows  
Life-blood between us  
Courses through the veins  
Of our single beating heart.

Guatemala, Tennessee  
Guastatoya, Fayetteville  
Two dots on the globe  
Forever intertwined.

Agua Viva  
Living Water  
Cuerpos y Almas  
Bodies and Souls.

This poem is copyrighted April 2008 by the Rev. Todd Jenkins of Fayetteville, Tenn.. He is an instructor in Clean Water U, the LWW training program.

## A Banner Year Continued from Page 1

the moment the water flowed:

"We had a wonderful celebration! The presentations went well except that I choked up a little (big surprise). There were prayers and singing and the presentation of certificates and, best of all, the drinking of the water. I can't begin to tell you how good it tasted! Partly this was because the water quality was very good and partly because of the symbolism."

Only God knows what the future holds for Living Waters for the World. Today, we give thanks and celebrate.



Rosalia Quinones, Katy BeDunnah, Eupi Quinones

## Translators recognized for excellence, dedication

Many of LWW's core documents must be translated into Spanish, a task that is entrusted to experts.

Rosalia Quinones and her husband, Eupi, own and operate Caribbean Translating Service. They work together to translate manuals and other documents for students at Clean Water U and for Operating Partners in the installation and health and hygiene training phases of clean water projects.

In appreciation for their excellent translation work, the Living Waters for the World Committee unanimously voted to present these partners with a letter of thanks and a certificate of appreciation for their enthusiastic and timely support of the Living Waters for the World mission project.

"Ever since Katy BeDunnah introduced us, Caribbean Translating Service has always gone beyond the nor-

mal boundaries of business to in fact, become partners with us in the provision of the highest quality translation services that we could imagine," LWW Director Wil Howie wrote to the Quinones..

"In your quick and very timely production of everything you have received, we are convinced your work is also a labor of love on behalf of those who are thirsty, those whom in the name of Jesus Christ, we are seeking to serve.

"Thank you so very much for your inspired and committed work. You continue to be a blessing to Living Waters for the World and those whom we serve."

The Quinones responded, "It means a lot to us, knowing that we are in a small way contributing to the wonderful work you and all the people at Living Waters do to provide clean water to those in need. We hope to continue our partnership for many years to come."



Students manned an LWW display on Louisville Seminary grounds in September, then staged an "H2Omecoming" party in October to raise funds for LWW.

## **Clean Water U class No. 17: September 10-14, 2008**



Students: 47. Faith traditions: 5. Coming from: 11 states, 3 foreign countries. Variety in September!

## **And class No. 18: October 1-5, 2008**



The fifth and last class of 2008 numbered 43 graduates coming from nine states and two foreign countries.

# Lukins is church council's 'Peacemaker'

By JANET TUCK

Joanie Lukins, moderator of the Living Waters for the World Committee and coordinator of LWW's work in the Yucatan of Mexico, has won the 2008 Anti-racism and Peacemaker award from the Kentucky Council of Churches.

It must have been an easy choice. "We were inundated with nominations for Joanie Lukins for this award," the council's program director, the Rev. Christopher Benham Skidmore, said.

In addition to the synod's clean water program, Lukins, an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Danville, Ky., has been involved with the United Way and the Learning Disabilities Society of Danville. She has also been instrumental in building a missional relationship between her congregation and Presbyterians in the Yucatan Peninsula.

It was that relationship between her church and Mexico that led Lukins to LWW. At the 2001 General Assembly she picked up all kinds of information in the exhibit hall, including a brochure for LWW.

"Of all the stuff I collected in that hall, this one little brochure wouldn't go away," she recalls.

The following year Wil Howie, LWW founder and director, joined Lukins along with a mission team from Danville to install a clean water system at the Escuela Biblica Josue in Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico.

While there a pastor named Carlos Arias MacGregor came to see the water system. The Danville team knew MacGregor because they had supported him financially while he was a seminarian at San Pablo Presbyterian Seminary in Merida.

In 2004 the Danville team again worked with LWW to install a system at MacGregor's church in Lerma. Soon afterward, LWW established its network of water systems in the Yucatan, with Lukins as the volunteer coordinator in partnership with coordinators from each of the 11 presbyteries there. The goal is to have systems in each presbytery.

On the day that Lukins received the KCC award, a team from the Chapel Hill and



**Joanie Lukins (left) receives the Kentucky Council of Churches' Anti-racism and Peacemaker Award from KCC Executive Director Nancy Jo Kemper.**

First Presbyterian Church in Troy, Ky., in her home presbytery, Transylvania, were installing yet another system in the Yucatan.

Lukins is thrilled at the growth of the LWW network in the Yucatan. She has also been instrumental in developing educational components

for LWW and in helping to establish the Clean Water U training facility.

"Clean water is good news to people who don't have it," says Lukins. She reminds teams traveling to installation sites that it isn't only about the good they hope to do there.

"I say to them: 'Look into the eyes of every person you meet and look there for the image of Christ.' Lo and behold they find it. They look into the eyes and realize that the body of Christ is everywhere!"

Lukins told the luncheon crowd that this is why she does what she does. And she reminded them that she does not work alone, she works with friends and colleagues.

"It is a great honor to be called a peacemaker," Lukins said. "Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers.' I thank you so very much."

*The Rev. Janet Tuck is editor of Presbyterian Voice, the newspaper of the Synod of Living Waters.*

## Bowman wins volunteer award

A Louisville, Ky., foundation has recognized Bill Bowman, coordinator of the Appalachian Network of Living Waters for the World, as one of

this year's outstanding volunteers.

He was one of 12 honorees at the 31st annual Bell Awards presentation.



**Bill Bowman (center) likes the hands-on aspect of volunteering. "You're able to pick up some skills that you didn't have before," he said.**

The Spirit of Louisville Foundation cited his work not only with LWW in Appalachia but also with Habitat for Humanity and Project Warm, which helps low-income and disabled residents prepare their homes for winter.

Bowman, 61, retired from a desk job and looked for something that included a little more physical activity.

He has been working since 2005 with Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church on LWW's work in Appalachia and was instrumental in installation of home systems in the Buffalo Creek community of East Tennessee.

# LWW helps form water mission network

## Become more involved in issues about water, churches urged

By Pat Cole

Communications Associate, Presbyterian World Mission

Jesus' imperative to give drink to the thirsty is largely neglected by churches today, according to the head of two organizations dedicated to clean water access in the developing world.

"Water will be one of the three most important issues in the 21st century, along with food and energy," David Douglas told about 40 participants in a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mission Consultation on Water Nov. 13-15 in Sacramento, Calif. [Among them was the Rev. Wil Howie, director of Living Waters for the World.]

Douglas founded Waterlines [www.waterlines.org], a group involved in clean water projects in 12 countries, and Water Advocates [www.wateradvocates.org], an organization that seeks more government and private funding for access to clean water and basic sanitation.

At the end of the consultation the group decided to form a water mission network [www.pcusa.org/worldwide/get-involved/networks.htm]. It is the PC(USA)'s 34th mission network.

Participants at the meeting included representatives from congregations, middle governing bodies, country mission networks and Presbyterian groups focused on water projects as well as General Assembly Council staff and international mission personnel.

Several factors hinder church involvement in international wa-

ter issues, Douglas said.

First, he said most churches are not aware that 1.1 billion people lack clean drinking water and another 2.6 billion do not have adequate sanitation. Though water-related diseases claim between 2 million and 5 million lives each year, Douglas noted that the issue has received scant media attention.

Churches are also concerned with other pressing issues such as homelessness, AIDS and hunger. However, he asked, "If we want to address hunger, can you do this without addressing water?" Douglas said other factors contributing to inaction by churches are a focus on domestic water issues and a preoccupation with the debate on the ethics of private ownership of water.

Acknowledging that the complexity of the problem often stymies church involvement, Douglas offered some suggestions for action at the congregational level:

-Participate in water projects in a region of the world where the congregation has an interest and an existing mission relationship.

-Address clean water and sanitation issues from the pulpit.

"This is the last taboo subject," he said. "You hear ministers preach on AIDS, but not diarrhea (one of the most prevalent water-related diseases)."



I want to support Living Waters for the World.

Believing that all of God's children need clean water, here's my gift or pledge to help in the work.

My name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount  enclosed or  pledged \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Pledge to be paid by date: \_\_\_\_\_)

Given  in memory of or  in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement to: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Living Waters for the World, 318 Seaboard Lane, Suite 205, Franklin TN 37067  
or send by E-mail to: [infolww@livingwatersfortheworld.org](mailto:infolww@livingwatersfortheworld.org)  
For more information: [www.livingwatersfortheworld.org](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org) or phone 615-261-4008



# LWW doubles up to recognize service of long-time volunteer John Gramling

A single, simple ceremony simply won't suffice when you want to recognize the "grand old man" of Living Waters for the World.

So LWW did it twice in honor of the retirement of John Gramling of Scottsville, Ky.

The synod mission group's Technology Team feted him with gag gifts and a cake at its August meeting, and then the full LWW Committee had its own cake ceremony when it met later in the month.

The octogenarian Gramling was one of the first members of the fledgling water mission, participating in its first installation ever, in 1996 in the Mexican border town of Reynosa.

In the early years, before the current Fulfillment Center was activated as the shipping point for materials and supplies, a barn at Gramling's Flying Frog Farm held many of the pipe fittings, filters and pumps for those first experimental water treatment systems.

Across the years he has participated in many installations, notably equipping a hospital boat on an Amazon River

tributary in Brazil with the equipment to turn dark brown river water into sanitary, potable water.

Many LWW participants and supporters will remember Gramling's appearance on the organization's second video, where he described himself as a "Spirit-operated person" and said many of the mission program's advances

at critical times could not be credited to pure chance.

For such a person, the Tech Team's gifts of an Indian headdress and a chammois cloth might seem odd choices, but insiders caught on right away.

In the early days, fellow volunteers nicknamed Gramling "Chief Dark Cloud" for his stubborn pragmatism when others seemed too optimistic. As for the chammois, Gramling frequently joked that he always carried one on a mission trip to wipe his fingerprints off the equipment to avoid prosecution if the system failed.

Not one but two cakes were provided



John Gramling

by Pierce Buford at the Tech Team celebration, and the team serenaded him as a "Jolly Good Fellow."

At the LWW Committee meeting, Gramling was accompanied by his wife Vera, a traditional provider of baked goodies for team and committee meetings. Guests present for the occasion

included some friends from Western Kentucky Presbytery and long-time volunteers Bob and Estelle Armistead of Decatur, Ga. There was another cake, and several of those present gave testimonials.

The committee gave Gramling a plaque with a color scene from the video, showing him leaning over a pew in the Camp Hopewell chapel, on the campus of Clean Water U. The plaque referred to his "Spirit-operated" phrase and expressed gratitude for his ministry in "promoting the vision of clean water for all of God's children."

## Thanks to these Third Quarter donors

Living Waters for the World depends entirely on contributions for financial support. Our deep appreciation goes to the following who have given in the third quarter of 2008.

Churches and organizations are listed on the next page. Those which have given through their presbyteries or synods are not identified. Payments for equipment are not included.

### Individuals

Robert E. Adamski  
Guthrie T. Abbott  
Bob and Estelle Armistead  
Charles F. and LoAnn L. Bassett  
Katy BeDunnah  
Diane Blankenhorn  
Bill and Linda Bowman  
Pierce Buford  
Colette Cardwell  
Martha J. Carmichael  
Becki Carroll  
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David H. and Lois J. Thomas  
Wilbur Todd  
Remi Van Compernelle  
Marilyn J. Williams  
W. Bryant Williams  
Linda H. and James P. Worden

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### Honor a loved one with a memorial

When you are wondering how to honor someone, think about giving an honorarium to Living Waters for the World. This gift is a gift that keeps on giving by helping LWW provide clean water to those in need around the world.

LWW will send your honoree a card stating that you have given a gift in their honor. This is great for birthdays, holidays, special occasions, or any time you want to say thank you to someone special.

You can use the form on the last page of this newsletter to make your gift.

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# For helping bring gift of water, we thank these, our contributors

## A THIRD QUARTER DONOR LIST

Individual donors are listed on the previous page

### Churches and Organizations

Central Florida Presbytery, Orlando FL  
Presbytery of East Tennessee, Knoxville TN  
Holston Presbytery Kingsport TN  
Presbytery of Lake Erie, Erie PA  
Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky, Louisville KY  
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Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Franklin TN Presbytery of Mississippi, Hattiesburg MS  
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PW Conference, Jackson MS  
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Christ Presbyterian Church, Daphne AL  
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Clifton Presbyterian Church, Maxwelton WV  
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Crescent Springs Pres. Church, Crescent Springs KY  
Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Dallas TX  
Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Bedford TX  
Enville United Methodist Church, Henderson TN  
Erwin Presbyterian Church, Erwin TN  
First Baptist Church, Oxford MS  
First Presbyterian Church, Anniston AL  
First Presbyterian Church, Ashland KY  
First Presbyterian Church, Chanute KS  
First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood MS  
First Presbyterian Church, Jackson TN  
First Presbyterian Church, Lexington KY  
First Presbyterian Church, Moncks Corner SC  
First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge TN  
First Presbyterian Church, Oxford MS  
First Presbyterian Church, Paris TN  
First Presbyterian Church, Perrysburg OH  
First Presbyterian Church, Richmond KY  
First Presbyterian Church, Sweetwater TX  
First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa OK  
First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo MS  
First Presbyterian Church, Waverly NY  
First Presbyterian Church, Westfield WI  
First Pres. Church of Oceanside, Oceanside CA  
First United Methodist Church, Smithville TX  
First United Presbyterian Church, Bellefontaine OH  
Ft. King Presbyterian Church, Ocala FL  
Garwood Presbyterian Church, Garwood NJ  
Grace Covenant Pres. Ch. of Princess Anne, Virginia Beach VA  
Grace Presbyterian Church, Temple TX  
Graham Presbyterian Church, Graham NC  
Greenview United Church, Greenview IL  
Highland Presbyterian Church, Louisville KY  
Hope Presbyterian Church, Huntsville AL  
Hunter Presbyterian Church, Lexington KY  
Idlewild Presbyterian Church, Memphis TN  
Iroquois Presbyterian Church, Louisville KY  
Kanapaha Presbyterian Church, Gainesville FL  
Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe PA  
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Woodland United Methodist Church, Pike Road AL

# How a small church did a big fund raiser

Members of First Presbyterian Church, Elizabethtown, Ky., a PC(USA) congregation of 250, working in partnership with Elizabethtown Rotary Club and other area clubs, set out to raise funds for the congregation's next clean water installations in Guatemala.

They planned a Saturday evening dinner with authentic Guatemalan cuisine, along with a concert by "Antsy McClain and His Trailerpark Troubadours."

Did it succeed? Did it ever!

Together the dinner and concert raised over \$15,000, according to project organizer Bob Swope. Citing the help of the area Rotary Clubs and contributions from other major sponsors, Swope announced, "We are close to reaching our goal to fully fund our next project."

It didn't happen by accident. Swope recruited several area businesses to contribute in-kind donations like printing services, material for the table decorations, and concert support services.

Meanwhile, teams of church members prepared the menu, worked in the



Part of the dinner crowd of 400 lines up for Guatemalan cuisine.

kitchen, decorated and bussed tables, sold tickets, made presentations to area civic clubs, created print materials, and performed many other tasks.

"Our small congregation could never fund mission projects like this from our operating budget," said FPC Pastor Skip

Dunford, who underscored the importance of working in partnership with others in the community.

"Especially noteworthy was the contribution of many volunteer hours by food service workers from the local school district," he added.

Living Waters for the World videos were shown during the meal and in the hallways during the concert break, and printed materials from LWW were incorporated into table decorations.

Another LWW video opened the concert, after which Dunford thanked the large crowd "for joining us as mission partners to bring clean water to God's children in Guatemala."

Songwriter and performer Antsy McClain was the major attraction of the evening. Along with his band, he entertained with humorous but poignant insights into his years growing up in a mobile home community, "Pineview Heights", as a crowd of around 400 sang, clapped, and cheered throughout the night.

Project organizer Swope, a self-professing "Flamingo Head," as McClain's fans are known, placed the successful bid for a "home concert" that McClain offered on his website as part of an annual online auction to benefit his own charitable work.

Swope then offered the concert as a public fund raiser for the clean water project, dubbed locally, "Living Waters for Guatemala." McClain eagerly agreed to the arrangement, and graciously contributed the proceeds from the evening's sales of CD's and other "Flamingo Head" merchandise to the project.

## Lots of cooperation, and a little help

So you think your church is too small to take on in a Living Waters for the World mission project? Think again!

You might take a cue from three small churches in northern Mississippi, who banded together to do a project and, with help from friends in a larger church, wound up raising enough to install three systems!

The Panola Presbyterian Partnership is made up of three churches in Panola County: Independence, Blackjack and Batesville. They launched an effort to undertake a water mission in Nicaragua.

Members of the nearby First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, Miss., heard of their efforts and donated one set of hardware for a Standard water treatment board, plus \$5,000 in financial backing for the mission trip that is scheduled in January.

The Panola Partnership churches succeeded in raising the remainder of funds necessary for the trip. The group will install two Standard systems and one portable unit to be used in the frequent hurricanes of Nicaragua's eastern Mosquito Coast.



Gathering to load hardware for Panola Presbyterian Partnership's mission trip to Nicaragua were (from left) Kendall Cox, Castlen King, Doug Sullivan-Gonzalez, Brad Ragon, John Turner and Pat Lane.