

# Water of Life

NEWSLETTER OF  
**Living Waters For The World**

318 Seaboard Lane, Suite 205  
Franklin, Tennessee 37067-8289  
phone 615/261-4008  
www.livingwatersfortheworld.org

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## Water processing takes some new looks in 2005

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Water treatment has a new look — several new looks, in fact — at Living Waters for the World.

A “watershed year” is the appropriate metaphor used by LWW’s technical guru, Remi van Compernelle, to describe 2004.

With the year’s record number of installations came the discovery of a previously unknown bundle of problems. The solutions being found to those problems have virtually revolutionized the mission’s designs:

- The “standard” board has been changed to allow repeated ozone treatment, an alternative to chlorine.

- A reverse osmosis/softening

### *Emergency units being designed*

The tsunami disaster in Indonesia moved LWW’s design team to begin development of an emergency system.

This system, in early stages of development, will be a self-contained, skid-mounted unit that can be transported to a disaster area to make clean drinking water.

Together with the units, LWW hopes to have specially trained volunteers able to put the system to work quickly, conceivably within hours of arrival.

A generous contribution is supporting this work.

(ROS) board has been designed as an alternative for areas with high hardness and salinity.

- In the early stages of design is a preassembled, skid-mounted emergency unit that could be shipped into disaster areas and

be producing clean water within hours of arrival (*see box above*).

“Some of our partners find themselves with a raw water supply that is not only biologically contaminated, but also contains high levels of hardness, salt and/or heavy metals,” van Compernelle said.

“Hard waters cause early plugging of the filters and formation of sediment in the final drinking water supply. The presence of salt makes the water unpalatable. Heavy metals can cause health problems if consumed over an extended period of time”

In addition, a survey in the Yucatan in late 2004 found that many installations weren’t adding the prescribed chlorine doses to processed water because of the resulting taste.

A design team at work since November selected a water softener as the means to reduce hardness and reverse osmosis to reduce salinity. An added benefit of the RO system is that it also removes metals such as mercury and lead.

A solution to the chlorine taste problem has been to modify the piping to allow the use of ozone as a substitute



### **First international CWU students**

The Rev. Miguel Sansores (left) and the Rev. Adiel Espinosa, here assisting at evening devotional, in March became the first students from another country to attend Clean Water U. (*Story on next page.*)

**Continued on back page**



Graduates and instructors of the March CWU session — minus three who had to leave early.

# Clean Water U begins second year

On a cold, rainy night in March, Clean Water U launched its second year of operation with a class of 31 students from five states. Enrollment totals 40 for the year's second session, April 13-17, and so far 16 have enrolled for the third and final session of the year, planned September 21-25.

In the first year, 2004, two sessions were held. Three are planned this year, and four in 2006.

CWU, on the Hopewell Camp and Conference Center grounds of St. Andrew Presbytery near Oxford, Miss., is the permanent training facility of Living Waters for the World. Over a five-day period, it conducts three concurrent classes: CWU 101 in field survey and partnership development, CWU 102 in health and spiritual training of water system users, and CWU 103 in the installation and maintenance of LWW's water purification system.

Looking to the future, the March session was the first to have apprentice instructors working side by side with the primary instructors: Bill Williams worked with Wil Howie in CWU 101, Susan Jordan assisted Joanie Lukins in CWU 102, and George Hoge taught with A.M. (Bubba) Martin in CWU 103. Those three were scheduled to assist again at the April session.

The March CWU session also was the first with international students. The Rev. Miguel Sansores and the Rev. Adiel Espinosa of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico (*photo on Page 1*) completed the 101 course. The April session has three students from Guatemala and one from Brazil enrolled.

The April session also will have a first: CWU 103 will offer simultaneous training in two different processes. In one side of

the Water Training Building at Hopewell, students will assemble a "standard" board that purifies with filtration and ozone, while on the other side students will learn for the first time how to build and maintain a board that adds reverse osmosis and water softening to the process (see item on Page 1).

Anyone, regardless of church affiliation or place of residence, may enroll in CWU. The LWW web site has details.

## Calendar

March 30 . . . . .	MIFD Task Force, Franklin
March 31 . . . . .	Health Task Force, Franklin
April 1 . . . . .	Technical Task Force, Franklin
April 13-17 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell
May 2 . . . . .	LWW Committee, Franklin
August 17 . . . . .	MIFD Task Force, Franklin
August 18 . . . . .	Health Task Force, Franklin
August 19 . . . . .	Technical Task Force, Franklin
August 29 . . . . .	LWW Committee, Franklin
September 21-25 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell
November 16 . . . . .	MIFD Task Force, Franklin
November 17 . . . . .	Health Task Force, Franklin
November 18 . . . . .	Technical Task Force, Franklin
December 5 . . . . .	LWW Committee, Franklin
March 8-12, 2006 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell
April 19-23, 2006 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell
September 6-10, 2006 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell
October 18-22, 2006 . . . . .	Clean Water U, Camp Hopewell





**Presbyterians in Carillo Puerto react to the news that Living Waters for the World will install a water purification system in their community.**

## Five years ahead: LWW seeks vision for future

What do you envision the future being for Living Waters for the World?

How many systems will be installed, partnerships will have been developed, regional networks established and gallons of clean water flowing five years from now?

More importantly, what steps must we take now to ensure we have the organizational, financial and technical infrastructure in place to enable us to fulfill what God is calling us toward over the next five years?

These are some of the questions that are being examined, deliberated and ultimately answered as part of Living Waters for the World's 5-year Visioning Plan.

A visioning task force met earlier in the year to kick off this process, and their output will be presented and discussed at each of the organization's April task force meetings, and then at its full committee meeting on May 2.

We will report back with the latest in our next issue

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### *Know someone who needs this?*

This *Water of Life* newsletter is sent free of charge to anyone who sees delivery of pure water as a mission that helps people in need and glorifies God.

Please forward this issue to your friends. They can get on our E-mail list — or on a mailing list to receive a printed version — simply by contacting us.

All we need is an E-mail message—[info@livingwatersfortheworld.org](mailto:info@livingwatersfortheworld.org) — and we'll take it from there.

And thanks!

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## Transylvania team goes for three!

The Transylvania Presbyterian mission team is making an impact on the water situation in Mexico:

- In 2003, it was the preparatory school in Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico;
- In 2004, it was the Presbyterian church in Lerma, Mexico;
- In 2005, they plan to install a record three systems in Presbyterian churches in the

Yucatan peninsula.

In early July, the team of 20, representing five different congregations, will form three sub-teams, each with several installers and educators, and bring Living Waters for the World to the small communities of Villa Madero, Carillo Puerto, and Pich.

This is an ambitious undertaking, but the team feels very confident.

"Eight of our twenty team members have been through Clean Water U, and twelve have been part of a Living Waters trip in the past, so we have plenty of knowledge and experience," says team leader Karl Benson.

The covenant partnership between Synod of Living Waters and the Synod of the (Yucatan) Peninsula is an indispensable part of this plan.

Pastor Amos Cahuich, vice president of the Synod of the Peninsula, acts as the communications liaison between the Transylvania team and the three Mexican churches, and treasurer Agur Mendicuti manages the transfer of funds needed for pre-installation construction and equipment purchase.

"The hardest part," claims team member Joanie Lukins, "is deciding which of the team members will go where — we'd all like to work in all three of these communities!"

These three systems will be the 11th, 12th, and 13th to be installed in the Yucatan Peninsula — that means that several hundred children and adults will now be able to have clean water for drinking and cooking.

Maybe next year the Transylvania team will go for four!

## New VBS curriculum to be tested this summer

Living Waters for the World has been clear about the need to educate those who will use our systems in the appropriate uses of limited clean water, and the importance of personal hygiene, especially handwashing, in improving health.

Now, we are moving into another area of education — our own children! Living Waters teams often wish that they had a way to inform their own congregations about the goals and methods of Living Waters for the World in an interesting and informative way.

So a Vacation Bible School curriculum was born. Designed as a 5-day (3 hours/

day) experience for children aged 4-11, "Clean Water for All God's Children" features Bible stories about water, crafts and activities built around the theme of water, discussions about water conservation, and recreation and music with a water theme, all with an emphasis on mission.

The curriculum is low cost, teacher friendly, and respectful of children's ability to absorb and reflect upon Biblical themes.

This summer, three Presbyterian congregations will "test drive" our new VBS curriculum. If all goes well, it will be available through our fulfillment center by early 2006. Stay tuned!

## Periodicals describe LWW mission

# PW gives national coverage

*Horizons* magazine, the national magazine for Presbyterian Women, features the work of Living Waters for the World and Clean Water U in its March/April 2005 issue.

Coverage, which spans six pages, includes an in-depth article on the organization, an overview of the world water crisis, and profiles from both sides of the clean water equation, highlighting a church mission team providing clean water, as well as telling the story from the perspective of the partner church receiving this precious gift.

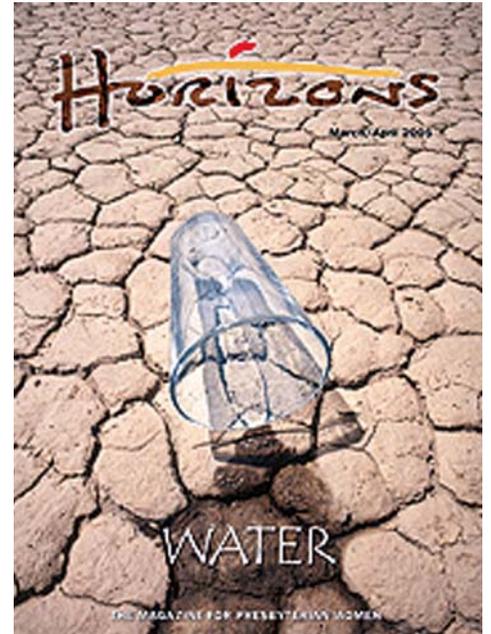
The article invites Presbyterian women to serve as clean water ambassadors at their respective churches, greatly expanding awareness and the opportunity for service.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Living Waters have long been a key part of the growth and success of Living Wa-

ters for the World, providing both financial support and promoting awareness at the presbytery and church levels. Through their efforts, the national office of PW became aware of LWW, leading to this tremendous opportunity.

Living Waters for the World has also recently received national coverage in *Presbyterian Outlook*, an independent weekly publication, as well as being listed as a "Rick's Pick" – organizations and causes highlighted by Rick Ufford-Chase, PC(USA) moderator, on his web site within pcusa.org.

**Water was the theme of the March-April issue of *Horizons*, the national magazine of Presbyterian Women. It included a six-page spread on Living Waters for the World and its relation to the world water crisis.** →



# A bang starts the year 2005

## By WIL HOWIE Missionary-in-Residence

The year 2005 has started off with a bang! As of March 21 this year there have already been six successful installations, bringing the total numbers of units up to 32!

- Unit No. 27 was installed by First Presbyterian of Natchez, Miss., at El Divino Salvador Presbyterian Church in China, in the Yucatan of Mexico.

- Unit No. 28 was installed by South Alabama Presbytery at Peniel PC in Merida, Mexico.

- Unit No. 29 was installed by the Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Huntsville, Ala., at the St. Charles Clinic outside of Leogane, Haiti

- Units No. 30 and 31 were installed by Children of the World (affiliated with the United Methodist church), Fairhope, Ala., at Christ Faith Orphanage and at Christ Faith Church in and outside of Chennai, India — an area directly affected by the Asian tsunami.

- Unit No. 32 was installed by Sec-



Wil Howie

ond Presbyterian, Kansas City, Kan., at Monte de Olivios PC in Almolongo, Guatemala.

Our two networks formed last year to coordinate our work in the Presbyterian Churches in the Yucatan and in Guatemala continue to bear much good fruit.

In January our Synod of Living Waters and the Synod of the Peninsula of the Yucatan became brothers and sisters in Christ in a special way as we formalized a covenant of partnership.

In Guatemala we participated in the PC(USA)'s Guatemala Network Gathering in at Monte Sion conference center outside of Guatemala City, where there was tremendous interest in developing

partnerships. In both networks, there have been several recent trips as our partnerships grow and deepen. At this time there are twelve active projects in the Yucatan and three in Guatemala, though that will soon change as a large number of health education and installation trips are being

planned by churches, presbyteries and other organizations.

And that's not all. A rapidly expanding number of new churches and organizations are contacting us, and not just from the deep South.

Already there is a strong United Methodist connection being established, some Rotary clubs are getting involved as well as increasing numbers from other denominations.

It is amazing to see how God's Spirit is moving in such surprising ways "more than we can ask or imagine."

The bottom line? 2005 promises to be another record breaking year!

In 2003 we had the best year ever with 4 units installed. In 2004 as Clean Water U and our Fulfillment Center came on line, 11 units began producing clean water. In looking at 2005, with the six units already operating, with three Clean Water U sessions and the many active projects in the works, the potential for more than doubling last year's figures is excellent.

Nor is that all. Many other great plans and projects (see elsewhere in this newsletter) are in process and more. To God the glory! Let clean water flow!



## Two synods join hands

**A new sister-synod relationship will, among other things, help foster water purification projects in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. Signing a covenant at the annual meeting of the Synod of Living Waters in January were the Rev. Edwin Tun Canto (left), president of the Synod of the Peninsula of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, and the Rev. Terry Newland, executive of the Synod of Living Waters.**

## Want to help?

Here's how you can give a thirsty world the gift of clean water

You can change lives across the world by giving of your time and talent to support the mission of Living Waters for the World. Here are some ways you can help:

- **Build a Clean Water Mission Team** — We train and equip mission teams to bring the gift of clean water to communities in need. No prior experience is necessary, just a desire to serve!

Training is provided at our Clean Water U in north Mississippi. You can find details by checking our web page, [www.livingwatersfortheworld.org](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org).

- **Become a Clean Water Ambassador** — Provide information on the world's water crisis and spread the good news about Living Waters for the World to your church or organization.

Just fill out the form on our web page (see above), and we'll send you your very own LWW T-shirt, plus a package of promotional materials, including brochures, newsletters, special offering information, Clean Water U applications, video CD-ROMs and a VHS cassette.

This information provides a thorough overview of Living Waters for the World and its training program, Clean Water U.

In addition, you'll get periodic updates throughout the year for you to share with church members and other mission-minded individuals in your community.

- **Pray.** You can provide prayer support for this mission. Please pray especially for the children and elderly whose lives depend on being rescued from the dangers of germ-infested water that runs through the neighborhoods where they live.

- **Give.** The mission costs money. Your financial help is vital. Our web page gives details. Thank you.

# System redesign continues

## Continued from front page

for chlorine in the final holding tank.

The team gathered at Camp Hopewell in February to decide the final design, with an accompanying manual, and then build a prototype at the Clean Water U water building.

A work day is scheduled at Camp Hopewell May 6-9 to make improvements on the new unit and put finishing touches on the installation and operations manual.

The design, the equipment and the manual were ready for a group from

Children of the World to install two of the ROS units in India in early March.

Another group plans to return to the Yucatan to retrofit two conventional units that had problems with plugging and with taste.

The April Clean Water U will include a class on installing the new unit.

In another application, the reverse osmosis system will also be installed on a hospital boat operated by the Presbyterian Church of Manaus, Brazil. This will allow use of Rio Negro water for food preparation, hygiene and drinking by mission teams serving villages along

this branch of the Amazon River.

LWW thanks these dedicated members of the ROS design team, whose work is continuing:

Bob Friley  
 Bubba Martin  
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 George Hoge  
 Jason Beck  
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 John Gramling  
 Ralph Young  
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