



## Gift of Water, Gift of Life!

### Upcoming Trips

#### **Burkina Faso – May**

Bill & Nadege Armstrong (OR), Rusty Shuping (NC) and Pat Montgomery (OH)

This is a return trip focusing on hand pump repair and a continued relationship with the team in Burkina Faso.

#### **Kenya – June**

Cathy Fitzgerald (NV), Ron Petersen (NV), and Sarah Vlachos (OH)

Cathy, Ron and Sarah will be working in Kenya with three new Lifewater contacts. They will focus on drill training and geological surveys for the new project areas.

#### **Zambia – July**

Terry & Ginny Steinhoff (CO), and Doug Franks (PA)

This team will be doing advanced LS-100 drill training with a team that we have worked with for over 10 years with missionary Helmut Reutter.

#### **Benin – July**

Steve Silliman (IN) and University of Notre Dame students

Steve's ongoing work with a crew in Benin will introduce Lifewater's vision to a group of students from the University of Notre Dame.

### Newsworthy Tidbits

**Mark your calendars!** The Annual Lifewater Volunteers' Conference is scheduled for October 1-5. Attendees will receive training as well as hear great speakers, sign up for next year's project trips and much more. Registration packets will be mailed out in July to all current volunteers and anyone who has inquired about becoming a volunteer. If you would like to attend the conference, but are not yet a volunteer, please call the office in Morro Bay or email Fred Proby at [Fred@lifewater.org](mailto:Fred@lifewater.org).

**Wedding bells rang** for Lifewater staff member, Pat Hettinger on April 20th, as she said, "I do" to Kevin Klever. We are excited for them as they begin their new life together.

**Please pray** for our team that is scheduled to go to Brazil in June. The trip has been postponed for several months due to shipping and custom issues in Columbia. Pray that the equipment be released quickly, so that it can arrive at its destination: Leticia, Brazil.

**Lifewater Projects Report:** We don't have enough room in the Newsletter to give you an idea of all the projects that Lifewater is involved in. Our volunteers respond in amazing ways. If you would like to receive a report that provides the details about many of these projects, *please check the box on the response envelope*. This is an excellent way to see the big picture, pray for the projects and have an opportunity to financially participate in specific projects that touch your heart.

#### **Training Opportunities**

- Pump Repair Training will be held August 20 - 25 in Houston, TX. To register, contact Rita Hough at [rrough@living-water.org](mailto:rrough@living-water.org) or call her at 281-561-6664.
- Participatory Hygiene Education Training will be held July 17-21 in Houston, TX. For course information, contact [trudy@lifewater.org](mailto:trudy@lifewater.org); for registration information, contact [rrough@living-water.org](mailto:rrough@living-water.org) or call her at 281-561-6664.

# LIFEWATER

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

May/  
June 2002

One student demonstrates the tippy tap for the class.



Bitter, cold winds blow across these parched, barren plains. Water is scant and precious; most of it coming from melting snow and ice. In the very dry summer months, the only source of water comes from the government via sporadic truck shipments. It is hard to understand how the rural, nomadic people of this community eke out their existence in such a hostile environment. Despite their difficult environment however, God has hope and a future for these people.

Recently, Troy and Trudy Harper, Lifewater staff members, and David Tuohey-Mote, a registered health specialist of San Luis Obispo, CA, had the opportunity to visit this remote area of Asia. Friends, living in the area with a heart to serve the rural poor, invited the team to teach participatory hygiene training techniques and to plan future water development projects.

Working with a government water official, plans were made to repair an existing gravity flow water system and develop a second spring to provide drinking water for one community.

## *Encouragement through Water Development in Asia*

*"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11*

These systems will meet their water needs throughout the whole year. The local water representative promised to create the design, organize the community and provide the needed equipment. Well-drilling with locally purchased percussion drills is planned for several nearby communities in the coming year. While half the team assessed water needs, the other half visited several schools to train local teachers in simple hygiene training methods. The teachers then chose several lessons to present to their students the following day. Despite the frigid temperature in one unheated classroom, the hand-washing lesson was a big hit. Students clamored for a chance to wash their hands using the "tippy tap."

"Only a small amount of water is needed," a teacher said as one student, chosen because his hands were particularly dirty, demonstrated how to use the simple, hand-washing contraption. Seizing the moment, he continued to joyfully scrub his wind-burned face of dirt and soot to the delight of his fellow classmates. One by one, the children lined up to cleanse their hands of the smoke, dung and dirt that are common to their daily lives. They watched with amazement as the true color of their skin began to shine through. The hand-washing lesson was followed by a lesson drawing attention to the need to cleanse our sin-stained hearts. As the Lifewater team finished up their trip, they felt blessed to play a small role in God's plan to bring hope to these communities.



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## New Executive Director



Dan Stevens

Tim Cleath, Chairman of Lifewater's Board of Directors, is proud to announce that Reverend Dan Stevens has been selected as the new Executive Director of Lifewater International. For the past 26 years, Dan has been the Pastor of Eastminister Presbyterian Church in Ventura, CA. Dan and his wife, Jonelle, will join us full time in July. You can look forward to hearing from Dan in our July/August newsletter. Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare for this transition.

Hygiene students prepare to present a lesson.



## Passing the Baton in Southeast Asia

*"Now she too knew the joy of passing the baton and a wave of contentment flooded over her."*

Chengda reminisced back to the first day of hygiene class. She had awakened with great excitement and eager anticipation. Today, she was to

begin training students to receive the very training that she had only recently received. The students would travel many miles from the outlying provinces. Picturing the grateful faces of the many villagers that would eventually be impacted, a sense of quiet awe came over her. What a privilege to be God's instrument of hope. It was about more than just the information to prevent disease and the valuable teaching strategies she would place in their hands. She would also impart a means to change impoverished lives by meeting both their physical and spiritual needs.

The applause abruptly brought her back to the present. Each of the fifteen students in turn, was receiving a graduation "certificate" with great pride. Chengda shared in their sense of accomplishment. She knew they were ready and anxious to pass on their knowledge in their own villages. Just that morning they had practiced the process by presenting one of the lessons to their classmates. Glancing over at Rosemary Miller and Dolores Godwin, the second team of Lifewater volunteers, she smiled. One month earlier, Lifewater had sent Janet Proby and Hazel Scholfield to train 14 nationals including Chengda. This second Lifewater team came to assist her and three others who were selected as the trainers for the present class. Now she too knew the joy of passing the baton and a wave of contentment flooded over her.

In addition to the hygiene training, Lifewater simultaneously trained a well drilling crew from the same organization. On the first Lifewater trip with Fred Proby and Bill Scholfield, eight crew members eagerly learned the basic drilling techniques. Their training continued during the second Lifewater trip with Ray Miller and Bill Godwin, as the crew completed a well for a local village.

Community development is a priority of the Southeast Asian organization that invited Lifewater. They were excited to receive training in both water hygiene and well drilling techniques. The vision of the organization is to use the participatory hygiene principles first, helping villages identify their problem areas. Then well drilling, along with other hygiene lessons, will help implement the needed changes. With these tools they will be able to minister to the whole person as they care for the physical and spiritual needs of others.



Sharing what they have learned



Lifewater International is a registered non-profit organization in the State of California ("Lifewater, Inc."). Our Federal Tax Exempt ID Number is 95-3987142, recognized February 28, 1986. Lifewater International has been a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability since 1988. Following IRS recommendations, we advise potential donors that Lifewater International has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. We encourage our donors to be informed, so we invite you to review Lifewater's financial records at our website, [www.Lifewater.org](http://www.Lifewater.org).

## Lifewater Participatory Hygiene Training Camp

Becky Gordon (WA) and Jodie Mohny (MI) learn how to use water test kits.



Secluded in the beautiful mountains of Central California, 14 volunteers from around the world gathered for Lifewater's Participatory Hygiene Training. Trudy Harper and Janet Proby, Lifewater staff, facilitated the training at Camp Emmanuel, in Creston, CA. The training is based on Christian community development principles, a holistic approach to development. The class learned many training techniques designed to help the local community identify, take ownership and find solutions to hygiene and sanitation problems and realize Jesus' love for them along the way.

"You will leave here with many tools in your toolbox. The challenge is knowing when to use which tool with communities overseas," Trudy said as the first session of training began. Some of the tools that the group gathered were: storytelling, community voting techniques, interactive role-playing, and team problem solving. Using these tools and others, the class learned to address community hygiene and sanitation practices.

A familiar topic in many overseas communities is the problem of diarrhea. The tools can be used to help communities understand how they get diarrhea and other water related disease. Once the community identifies that it has a problem and wants to solve it, Lifewater can help with solutions that will help improve the situation. Some solutions to the problem of diarrhea are washing hands after going to the bathroom, covering food from flies, building latrines, proper nutrition and much more. For example, the group learned how to teach others to make a simple salt and sugar solution that can offset the effects of dehydration caused by diarrhea.

The training was a huge success as people's eyes were opened to its humble simplicity and effectiveness. Now these volunteers are ready to train others overseas in Participatory Hygiene Training techniques.

## Mr. Odo Siahaya Retires in May



Bev and Odo Siahaya

Chief Engineer, Odo Siahaya, will retire from Lifewater International's staff this May. After being "on loan" to Lifewater from another organization for 12 years, Odo and his wife Bev have taken up residence in Idaho to be near their two children, son-in-law, and granddaughter. One of Lifewater's most traveled team leaders, Odo has participated on projects in 14 different countries. Many of Lifewater's volunteers have benefited from his technical knowledge, teaching and training skills, and through his experiences and stories, which made us laugh and sometimes made us cry. We have been blessed by Odo's God-given gift of relating to ALL people, which has brought him friends from many nations. As for the future, Odo plans to devote his attention to his family and Bev, who recently received a stem cell transplant for treatment of leukemia. Odo will keep his email address, [odo@lifewater.org](mailto:odo@lifewater.org). Their address in Idaho is: 2701 E Red Cedar Ln, Apt 303; Boise, ID, 83716.

## Financial News

- **Overseas Guests:** An important part of our Volunteers' Conference in October is the presence of several of our key overseas partners. Their involvement requires a financial commitment from Lifewater months in advance. We estimate the cost for their participation will be \$15,000 as we look to provide the necessary travel, room and board costs to host them. *Would you consider a gift to make it possible for us to invite these wonderful guests this year?* They bring an important sense of appreciation and history on how Lifewater has changed lives in their countries. For many Lifewater volunteers it is their first time meeting a national and it enables them to understand how going on a project can make a difference. Your gift will allow us to extend these invitations. *Please see the envelope on how to designate a gift for this purpose.*

- **Giving to Date:** Lifewater's cash budget for the year 2002 is \$887,000. The income for the first quarter is \$210,307, almost 95% of the quarterly budget. Thank you for your generous support and giving. Our ability to respond to all the requests we receive is ultimately based upon the funds that are given, as well as the availability of volunteers. By partnering with us in these two main roles, you are helping to serve the poorest of the poor in Jesus' name. We thank God for blessing us with such faithful partners.

- **Annual Report 2001:** If you would like a copy of this report that captures the ministry of Lifewater for the year 2001, *please indicate on the reply envelope.*

- **Did You Know?** The United Nations estimates the costs of a village water project at more than \$50 per person. In 23 years of service, Lifewater's proven strategy costs less than \$5 per person for a well that can serve up to 500 people.