



Lifewater

INTERNATIONAL

September / October 2003



Revelations in Zambia

By Elizabeth Limpic

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, . . ."

Ephesians 3:20

You would think that as a staff member of Lifewater International, I would have a vivid, accurate understanding of how clean water and the gospel work together to transform whole communities. However, even working for Lifewater every day in no way prepared me to see villages changed as we trained church leaders in water development and hygiene and sanitation in Zambia.

Our team of 18 people from Mercy Church in San Luis Obispo, CA, traveled to Zambia at the end of July. We had been preparing for six months, receiving training from Lifewater in hand pump repair and hygiene and sanitation. Our church was invited to speak at a few Vineyard Pastors Conferences in Zambia, but we didn't want to go and only speak about God's love. We also felt a desperate need to demonstrate God's love by equipping the church leaders with practical ways to serve the poor around their communities. Lifewater's training in water development gave our church a greater vision of what God could do through us on this trip. Although we had the vision for water and the gospel instilled in us by Lifewater, it was only while we were training teams in Ndola, the Copper Belt of Northern Zambia, that our group fully realized how the two go hand in hand.

For four days our team divided up into three groups. One group trained in pump repair, one trained thirty women from the community in hygiene and sanitation, and one went with the pump repair team to reach out to the hundreds of kids that gathered each day around the pump site. Each day as the pump crew (a group of seven men from churches in the compound) gathered to train, the community would pour forth to watch the events. As crowds gathered and the word spread about once again having access to clean water, people began to ask all kinds of questions. "Why did they come all this way to train our people to do this work?" some would say. Their questions were answered as pastors from the community explained the power of God's love for them. The Zambian church was being empowered to demonstrate God's love in word and deed through providing clean water for the community!

The hygiene and sanitation class was another way we equipped the church to fight the cycle of disease and death and spread the gospel at the same time. Thirty women attended the training, representing twelve different local churches and two civic groups. It was a powerful time as the women discovered how to keep their families healthy and teach others about disease transmission, the importance of hand washing, water purification, keeping animals caged, how to fight dehydration from dysentery and much more. On the last day of class, the women divided up into five groups and went out into the market to practice teaching what they had learned. A few of the hygiene lessons incorporated spiritual components that allowed the women to share the gospel with the crowd.

Women who had hardly said one word during the whole class were using hygiene stories to share the love of Jesus with the large crowd that had gathered! It was a remarkable experience to watch these women become empowered and discover the gifts God has given them.

By training the local Zambian church to serve their thirsty, dying communities through water development, people in the whole area everywhere experienced God's love in a very personal way.

Mercy Church, in conjunction with Lifewater, has committed to equipping and training the local church in Zambia for the next five years.

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Revelations in Zambia

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This Christmas . . .

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From The Desk of Dan Stevens, Executive Director

Fall has a way of ushering in new things: trees take on new colors, the air feels cool and crisp, and schoolchildren open their textbooks for another year of learning. With this new season, I am reminded of how essential growth and learning are to all of us. In fact, I am continually learning more about how clean, safe water changes lives. Most recently, I learned about the **link between safe water and AIDS**.

Through Lifewater's visit with the Senate delegation in Mozambique, I have learned several ways safe water helps prevent and treat AIDS. For a man afflicted with AIDS, taking his daily medications with safe water helps prevent illnesses that would otherwise claim his life. For a woman caring for a loved one with AIDS, safe, accessible water means being able to wash her hands before preparing food. For a mother with AIDS, mixing baby formula with **safe water may mean the difference between life and death for her child**.

Water is so simple, and yet so strategic. Along with me, I hope you have learned more about its awesome, foundational power in our lives. When you match your water bill each month, you are truly giving the gift of life — enabling children and families to flourish by preventing disease, healing wounds, and nourishing the seeds of the gospel.

In His Name,



Dan Stevens,
Executive Director



Lifewater Staff in front of the new office in San Luis Obispo, CA



Lifewater International has a New Home . . .

After two years of waiting and looking, God has provided a new office for Lifewater! We are excited to finally have enough space for our whole office staff. It has been quite a process of praying and learning to trust God. We have moved into San Luis Obispo, the hub of the county. Here, we hope to establish more strategic relationships with area churches, local businesses and local government officials. Please pray that we would have an impact on this community and help encourage the local church in their mission outreaches overseas. Many churches on the Central Coast supporting us monthly, have already helped make this move a reality.

Creative Fundraising: Chemistry that is making a WORLD of Difference

Recently, an Honors Chemistry Class from the University of Montana decided to make their time learning about matter, really matter. Dr. Garon C. Smith, Professor of Chemistry, decided to tie his chemistry lessons to social issues. "This is a direction encouraged by a course development grant from an AAC&U/NSF program called SENCER. I wanted the students to take on class activities that would benefit both a local program and an international program. At the global level, I suggested four areas that the students might want to consider – safe water, world hunger, habitat conservation, and education of women," explains Dr. Smith.

The class was inspired by his challenge and decided to address all four areas. They began researching organizations that would best benefit from the funds. The students focusing on safe water spoke with Geography faculty member Dr. Sarah Halvorson, who recommended Lifewater as a good organization in which to invest.

The class set up the fundraiser on campus outside the dining hall and union. They decided to ask people to contribute a dime, an amount small enough so that no one could refuse. All the dimes added up quickly totaling over \$800 dollars over a three-day period. They divided the funds among the four organizations they had chosen to support. Lifewater is truly impressed by the impact this Honors Chemistry class is having on the world water problem.

If you would like to share a creative fundraising idea that has been successful, please contact our office; we love to try new things to raise awareness about the need for clean water around the world!

Our New Contact Info:

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. . . and a New Staff Member!!

For the past five years, the staff at Lifewater Headquarters has been steadily growing as the requests for clean water around the world increase and we see more U.S. volunteers willing to serve. Thankfully, we have been able to hire qualified people who feel called to this ministry to fill these needs, as our organization continues to grow. Our newest staff member and our new Office Administrator, is Cheryl Hertan. Cheryl has an MBA and has worked with non-profits locally. She has a passion to serve God's Kingdom overseas. "I'm so blessed to be able to use my administrative skills to further the great work God is doing through Lifewater International," Cheryl explains.



"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."

Building on the Foundation of Clean Water in Northern Africa

Many times we just have to trust that our calling is making a difference in the world.

Sometimes, however, you and I get a rare glimpse of the huge impact our life is having on others. The letter that we received from our partners in Northern Africa is a "rare glimpse" of all that can be accomplished once people have access to clean water and the gospel. It is a moment to be cherished and shared with those who contribute to Lifewater and its work. It is also a time to be reminded of the foundational, life-giving effects of clean water and the gospel in communities around the world.



"Can there really be changes in this place?"

"Of course there are changes; of course there are transformations because He arrived long before us. What we see is what He had prepared beforehand (Eph. 2:8-10).

It is important to emphasize that only a few years ago some of us didn't know how we fit in the country. Today, authorities and people from other communities in the country request that we go bless them. They have said, "These people not only say they are going to do something, but they do it, and they even enjoy being among us to give us hope."

Your support has allowed our workers to fit naturally in this country, and it also helps to show a gospel that transforms, gives hope, love, and new life.

We can see the way life has gotten better in a rural area in Northern Africa by means of: running water, latrines in schools and homes, health education, increased value of secondary education by the teaching of Spanish, as well as social work among the handicapped. Some of these projects like teaching Spanish or building athletic courses are not projects directly supported by your ministry, but were it not for your support in the other areas, we wouldn't be able to accomplish these.

One of the women, the wife of a leader of the community benefited by running water, said in all her wisdom, *"I have never see water come to my house through a pipe. Water either falls from the sky or comes by way of my mule. We are in very high ground so I don't know if this is going to work. I am surprised to see how these foreigners come every week to work, encourage our people, teach the children, and help us with the latrines. They really come to take us out of the daily monotony. Even if the water doesn't reach my house, this is all worthwhile because they have helped us to work together, and I told them so when I saw them working under the sun. Today I see that changes can take place in our community, you can see that, as a miracle, water reached my house. Praised by God and may He bless you for now because we will have more time in our homes to make carpets."*

Forty-five families and their cattle benefited from this project. As you can see, many are blessed through these projects and doors are opened for us to testify."

U.S. Senators visit Mozambique Project

By Patricia Klever

The people of Mozambique are suffering and dying from HIV/AIDS. Like many countries in Africa and around the world, the disease is attacking families, communities and thus, impacting nations. In August, five U.S. Senators, led by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) toured southern Africa to learn more about HIV/AIDS issues. The Senators were interested in seeing a clean water project and understanding more about why clean, safe water is so essential in the fight against AIDS. Representing the Millennium Water Alliance of which Lifewater is a founding member, Lifewater and its partner in Mozambique, the United Methodist Church (Living Water Society), were invited to participate.

The Senate entourage first took the time to attend a Sunday morning worship service at the United Methodist Church on the outskirts of Maputo. Singing joyful, African choruses warmed the visitors hearts, and people's love for God was evident through their worship. The delegation continued on to the clean water site, and while standing around the handpump, Patricia Klever (Lifewater Staff) and Kanan Patel-Coleman (Lifewater Board of Directors) delivered brief statements to the Senators and their wives, Congressional aides, and other distinguished guests. They focused their message on the importance of clean water for all human life - especially for people whose immune systems are compromised by HIV/AIDS. Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH) said later in a speech to the Senate, "The reality is that we cannot effectively treat and fight AIDS without clean water supplies."

Sen. Bill Frist said to expect some activity in Congress toward increased funding for water development projects. Upon their return to the states, the Senators are meeting with the Millennium Water Alliance on language for clean drinking water wells. Such appropriations would further fund water development work in Africa in conjunction with AIDS relief.



The delegation from left to right: Sen. John Warner (R-VA), James Humbane (United Methodist Church, Mozambique), Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Bishop Joao Machado (United Methodist Church, Mozambique), Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH), Sen. Mike Ensi (R-WY), Dr. Kanan Patel-Coleman (Lifewater Board Member), Sen. Bill Frist (R-TN), Patricia Klever (Lifewater Staff)

Lifewater Volunteers get Plugged In!!

Volunteers from across the country will gather together again at the US Center for World Mission September 11-15th for the Annual Lifewater Volunteer's Conference. This the best place for volunteers to get plugged into teams going overseas on project trips in 2004. We're also hosting international guests from Haiti, Romania, Kenya, and missionaries engaged in water development ministries. Fellowship, training, planning, and praying make this a very special event each year. Jesus said, "If anyone is thirsty, let them come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within them."



“Gift of Water, Gift of Life”



This Christmas Give the Gift That Will Not Be Forgotten
Honor someone special with the life-giving gift of water!

This Christmas you can give the foundational gift of clean water by donating to Lifewater in honor of your friends and family. Donate \$25 to support hygiene and sanitation or \$50 towards providing safe drinking water and receive a gift card to send to your loved ones this Christmas. Why not honor several people on your list with this lasting gift?

On the enclosed envelope, check the “gift” box and indicate the number of gift cards you wish to receive. Please indicate the total amount enclosed. When we receive your donation, we will send your Lifewater Christmas cards to your address so that you can personalize them and send them out to your friends and family. It is a great gift idea for those hard-to-buy-for people on your list! Why not honor several people on your list with this lasting gift.



“Clean Hands, Clean Heart”

Inside Message

A \$25 gift has been given in honor of you this Christmas to Lifewater International! This gift will help train families how to prevent disease through hygiene and sanitation training.

“Abundant Life”

Inside Message

A \$50 gift has been given in honor of you this Christmas to Lifewater International! This gift will help provide clean water for the thirsty through indigenous well drilling programs around the world.

