

Summer 2016

Bruce & Cherith Rydbeck

RYDBECK RIPPLES

Sharing the living water.



Enabling Communities to model spiritual and physical health through **Life-Giving Water**

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.

Robert Robinson

Sanancahuan Begins Building Their Water System

"We haul water everyday up the mountainside, so we desperately need accessible clean water. We hope to complete the system this year!" exclaimed Alberto, a community leader.

In July, Sanancahuan, a rural Andean Kichwa community of 120 families enthusiastically began building their water system. Sixty children happily participated in the afternoon Vacation Bible school which *Kawsaypak Yaku* and *Life Giving Water International* staff offered during the first week. The adults, exhausted from excavating the spring in a deep ravine, wanted to be included as well. Cherith presented messages, using stories which enabled mutual interaction. "When can we have these programs again?" the people requested.

Kawsaypak Yaku completed the design report earlier this year. *Life Giving Water International* gives technical support, and donations from many of you provide pumping equipment and other key components to complete the water system. The municipality of Guamote will provide pipe and other building materials, while the community of Sanancahuan provides the manual labor and hospitality for staff during community stays. We rejoice in the opportunity to give testimony of Jesus' concern for thirsty people.



(above) People hauled tons of cement, sand, and stone on their backs over the mountains to protect the main spring in this deep ravine.



Almost 100 people gather in Sanancahuan with shovels and tools to begin their first work day with prayer.

(below) Pastor Baltazar translates into Kichwa for the elderly. Cherith prepared to speak to the women, however, the men insisted on joining us. Nearly 100 adults participated each day.





(top) David learns Ecuadorian spring protection techniques “hands-on” working with Efrain.

(left) A human chain “bucket brigade” forms the conveyor for sending concrete into the ravine to complete the spring protection.

A Transformed Mindset

By David Poltorak, a Cal Poly engineering graduate & summer intern

My mindset of engineering missions has been transformed. Before coming to Ecuador, I had an underlying idea that I was the hero to save people with my brilliant engineering solutions. Of course, it didn't take long to figure out that God is the hero and in reality the community provides the solution. Communities, like Miraflores Cochapamba, showed me how essential the people are to the solution. During the survey of the Miraflores Cochapamba existing water lines, the community members were running up and down the mountainside and we just took data with the survey instrument. Similarly in Sancahuan, community members dug trenches, cleaned the spring, carried stone, and poured concrete. As for me, I was tired after digging one hole.

So what is my part in engineering missions? My role is to enable communities through technical assistance, to encourage unity, to promote enthusiasm, and to direct communities to honor God throughout their project. I am reminded that engineering missions is about pointing people towards God, not constructing my beautiful project. To be honest, it is a relief that God is the hero, because He, not I, can do all things.

Reflections on LGWI Summer Internship

By Peter Wagenmaker, a Calvin College engineering student & summer intern

I've not much time left before I leave. The largely unmapped nature of the time here has been a good reminder that 'the going itself is the path' (C.S. Lewis). I say unmapped not because there never was a plan but for the fluidity of the plan and flexibility of those who walk it.

There was a system cost-estimate to finish, a community to survey, a spring to protect, and follow-up hydraulic calculations to complete. While accomplishing these tasks, we've been invited (not interrupted) by various communities to join them in their journeys to potable water, to purchase a new printer and plotter in Ambato (a nearby city), to share birthday and other meals, attend youth groups, and much more!

David and I, after a couple days of learning which ropes to hold and a little of how to tug them, practiced with the survey equipment outside the office then ran off to Miraflores Cochapamba (the community from which most of the office workers hail) with Bruce and Efrain to map out its pipelines, roads, and houses. A report to discover the source of some water system issues is in the writing, amidst a restful trip to the coast, financial meetings, goodbye parties, and fútbol matches.

My time here has been large with rich experience and heavy learning. I know I will continue my reflections on the things I've seen and done here to harvest further lessons on our Creator's beauty and faithfulness. While I dearly hope to return, I take some comfort for the road in that our Sovereign Farmer puts me in the fields He wants me to tend, then helps with and delights in the work He gives me.



(above) Peter and David, summer interns during June & July, implement a topographic survey for the Miraflores Cochabamba water system.

(below) They enjoyed crossing the Pastaza River on a rudimentary cable car and hiking into the river gorge.



What else is *Life Giving Water International—Kawsaypak Yaku* doing?

Water System Follow-up Program – The follow-up program being implemented in twenty communities allows us to better design and build reliable water systems and enables us to help communities solve difficult maintenance issues.

Water Disinfection Pilot Program – Six community water systems, including more than 1000 homes, currently disinfect their water using chlorination equipment which we installed. We provide follow-up and monitoring to help these communities be successful.

Santiago de Quito – We are completing a design report for government approval of this community water system to serve 400 homes.

Miraflores Cochapamba – A study is underway for this community water system built 17 years ago, serving 115 families to make improvements and correct some issues.

Capulis Pungo – Design was done to improve protection of one of the four spring water sources for this community water system serving 160 families. Construction is planned for this fall.

For His Children – a home for orphaned and special needs children. We provided technical support to build a grey water leach field for the orphanage facility in Latacunga, Ecuador.

Internship Program – Our vision is to prepare young engineers in community development to design/build sustainable rural water systems. Six interns will contribute valuable skills in the clean water ministry during 2016. The participants include two German students, three US civil engineers, and one civil engineering student. As well, several Kichwa students participate during their university vacations. We look forward to receiving more volunteers and interns. Write us for information.



(above) The community of Lupaxi Chico began disinfection of their water in May.

(Below) Efrain, one of our Kichwa Kawsaypak Yaku colleagues, shares the wealth of 16 years experience in rural water as he visits communities for follow-up.



(left) A Kichwa woman demonstrates the traditional method of spinning wool while also carrying water on the steep mountain-sides.

(below) A Kichwa baby enjoys playing in his economical portable crib.



(above) Children in Sanancahuan receive help from Simona and Juliana, our Kawsaypak Yaku colleagues, to make their handcraft during the afternoon VBS (Bible) class.



Life Giving Water International hosted a team of two Calvin College professors and eight students in Ecuador for two weeks at the end of May, to initiate a rural water system disinfection study by Calvin's Clean Water Institute. Chlorine dosing pumps were installed in two communities.

Happenings

- We love to hear from you! **Please use the address below for personal mail.** As you may notice, newsletters are mailed from the USA rather than Ecuador to save postage. If you prefer to receive Rydbeck Ripples by email, please send us your email address. Please note: Rydbeck Ripples comes via Mail Chimp through mail@lifegivingwaterinternal.org.
- Life Giving Water International Board welcomes three baby boys, born to board members. Tannia Lascano & John Mark Bowers are the proud parents of Elias; Dallas joined Dave & Erin Ripper's home; and Ethan made Aubrey a big sister in Sarah & Wade Daugherty's family.
- In March we enjoyed a visit from our son Joel's family. So fun to have grandchildren, Zoey and Soren, playing in our house and yard!
- In June we celebrated 43 years of marriage and 36 years of ministering together overseas.



*Participants from Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela celebrate completion of three months preparation in **Corrientes** to serve as global volunteers in challenging places. Cherith serves as a spiritual mentor and leads an inner healing seminar. A couple of volunteers are now in their new host countries for language study.*



Bruce & Cherith enjoyed some wonderful grand-parenting time with Soren & Zoey during their visit with us in Ecuador.

We are grateful for each of you who partner with us in providing Life Giving Water.

Bruce & Cherith

Note! Our Personal contact information is:

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This ministry is supported through generous individuals and churches.

Contributions can be made to Rydbeck Ministry Account #295

World Outreach Ministries • PO Box B • Marietta, GA 30061

Checks can be made out to: **World Outreach Ministries**

Phone: 1-800-832-9673

On-line: www.worldoutreach.org

Send Project Donations to:

Life Giving Water International • 154 Temple Road, Waltham MA, 02452-7809

Current project needs:

Volunteers and interns to help implement projects and social media communications

\$10,000 additional funding needed for the Sanancahuan project • \$500 Chlorine test kits

Donations are tax deductible.