



Life
Giving
Water
International

Enabling communities
to improve spiritual and
physical health through
Life-Giving Water

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

"If you are thirsty, come to me and drink! ... and you will have life-giving water flowing from deep inside you."

Jesus—Gospel of John 7:37-38 (CEV)



PISABO AZAMA CELEBRATES

The four communities of **Pisabo Azama** celebrated their accomplishment and gave praise to the Lord for the completion of a water system that provides clean spring water to each of the 300 homes. The communities worked arduously, digging trenches to install 20 kilometers of pipe and build four new reservoirs. **Life Giving Water International** donors provided the pipe and most of the materials. Our team joined them for the joyous celebration.

To the astonishment of doubters in **Azama**, spring water now flows by gravity through four kilometers of difficult, hilly terrain to the top reservoir. A precise topographic study, accurate calculations and design, and careful attention to detail during construction by the **LGWI** team made this project successful.

Our team also provides training workshops to help the community successfully manage and maintain the water system. Numerous health and hygiene lessons with devotionals and Bible seminars provide an important spiritual component. We pray that, in addition to clean water, God's Spirit floods the community with His Presence so that the people experience the life-giving water of faith in Jesus Christ.



*Chris Visscher opens the spigot for the dedication.
Braulio Morocho and Chris designed the water system.*



*Members of the four communities, **LGWI**, and **CODEINSE** gathered at the highest reservoir which holds 7500 gallons of water.*



(far left) For their support of the project, Bruce & Cherith, Simona & Efrain, received gifts of traditional clothing worn by Quichua people in the Otavalo area.

*(left) The **CODEINSE** field staff—Wilson, Fredy, and Jose (not pictured)—were key in the success of the project.*

VISITING MINISTRY TEAMS

Ministry teams participate in the manual work of building a water system for a few days and help with Bible classes and activities for children. Their stay in the community affirms the community's hard work and financial sacrifice to build the water system, while also enabling the visiting team to better understand community development as an important expression of Christian faith and the gospel message.

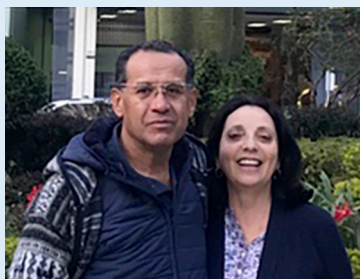
In the first three months of 2023, **LGWI** received teams from churches in Michigan and Ohio. In addition to protecting springs, digging trenches, and installing pipe in the community of **Pull San Jose**, they also provided activities and Bible lessons for more than 60 children!

Alliance Academy high school students came from Quito to work with the community of **San Martin Bajo**. They helped dig a trench from the pump house to an existing reservoir and provided games and Bible lessons for children.



*(Above) A team of 23 from Michigan worked alongside the people of **Pull San Jose** who protected their springs.*

Cesar & Nancy Cortez



Since 1994, LGWI team members, Cesar & Nancy Cortez, serve in Ecuador, often in remote and difficult locations. Cesar holds an Ecuadorian civil engineering degree and a U.S. seminary degree. In addition to water ministry, Cesar teaches Bible workshops to train rural pastors and prepare lay church leaders. Nancy hosts visiting teams, counsels women at **Salva una Vida**, and trains Sunday school leaders. Together they respond to the needs of elderly people in their neighborhood. They grew up in Ecuador but their son and married daughter live in the United States. Cesar & Nancy expect a second grandchild this summer.

ONGOING PROJECTS AND MINISTRY

- The 205 families in the community of **Pull San Jose** continue working diligently to complete the construction of 24 kilometers of pipe and 11 reservoirs for their new water system by the middle of May.
- **Fundación Ingenieros en Acción (FIEA)**, an Ecuadorian NGO in Quito that does development work, recently appointed Chris Visscher as a board member. Bruce Rydbeck has served on the **FIEA** board since its inception.
- **LGWI** and **CODEINSE** staff are assisting **FIEA** with the construction of two tanks in the community of **Maca Grande** in Cotopaxi province. The distribution system for **Maca Grande** has been designed by the **New Jersey Institute of Technology** chapter of **Engineers Without Borders**, whose faculty advisor is Dr. William Pennock, a former intern.
- Work in the community of **Guayllabamba** is scheduled to start in late May/early June.
- **LGWI** receives three engineering students from Cedarville University — Danny Chen, Kennedy Southland, and Andrew Walsh — as student interns this summer. Please pray for these students as they raise funds for their work in Ecuador and wrap up spring semester studies.
- **LGWI** will receive additional teams from churches in Alaska, Illinois, and Massachusetts in the coming months.
- Professors and students from **Calvin University** and **Hope College** come in June for research projects to help the **LGWI** ministry.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

- **Engineer volunteers** needed to design community water systems and manage projects.
- **Communications Director** needed for written and visual media communications.

For further information: www.lgwi.org or write to mail@lifegivingwaterinternational.org

- \$300 needed per home for the **Guayllabamba** community water system to serve about 250 families.

Send Donations to:

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

Online Donations:

<https://www.lifegivingwaterinternational.org/donate.html>
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