

Agua de Vida (Water of Life)

Newsletter of
Ed & Linda Baker



TRAIN + MOBILIZE + SERVE

Summer 2018

Columbia
Mexico
Germany



Using the gift of good, clean abundant water to share the gospel of Jesus Christ

In our last newsletter, we had shared with you about the need for a well at the Nicaraguan community of Las Peñitas. Through the generous donations of Steve & Sharon Harrison & First Presbyterian Church Hilton Head Island, this project has been completed!

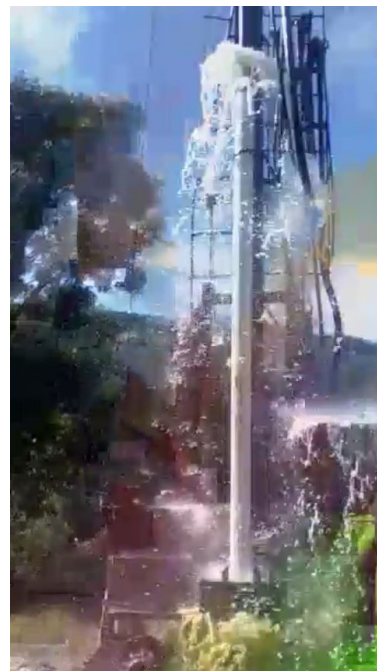
The community is mainly agricultural and the geology is hard rock, making it very difficult to dig wells by hand. Oscar, one of the community leaders, had literally chiseled a well to obtain a minimal amount of water for his family.

After visiting the community with our



missionary colleague, Angi Hopkins, we set out to drill a proper well for the community. Oscar and the other members of the community provided the assistance

needed to work with the local drillers and get the well installed. We decided to use the local style pump called a "bomba de mecate" or rope pump. It is hand powered (no electric service is available) and is readily repaired by local technicians. The driller also built a very nice concrete pad around the pump so that the water buckets don't sit in the mud while they are being filled.



This is the drill rig and crew cleaning out the mud from the drilled well and getting it ready to install the pump. It is always exciting to see the water gushing up from the well!

Needless to say, the members of the community are VERY GLAD to have dependable, abundant, clean water at their disposal. Many

thanks to our donors, to Angi and to God be the Glory!!



In January 2018, we had the opportunity to attend the TMS Global Regional Gathering. It was held outside of Bogota, Columbia, SA. This was our first trip to Columbia and we loved the country—as well as being with our Spanish speaking colleagues. There were 13 colleagues who are or have served in Paraguay. It was great seeing them and catching up on our Paraguayan friends. Here we all are with our President, Max Wilkins.



We had a special treat as our guest speaker was. Bruce Olson. Olson has served in Columbia since moving to the country in 1961—he is now 76 years young. His book *Bruchko* tells about his live with the Motilone Indians. He is a linguist, and now speaks over 15 languages. It was a

thrill to listen to his many tales. We also were able to visit the Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá. The salt mine is 200 metres underground. This angel is carved totally from salt.



June we were on the road again as we traveled to Kankab, Mexico. The photo of us on the front page is with Linda wearing a traditional



Mayan dress called an “ipil”. The local Mayan women wore these white dresses every day! We asked how they kept them clean, and that just didn’t seem to be a problem! Here are some of the ladies making homemade tortillas. The Mayan food is a little different than traditional Mexican food, but they still use tortillas! Notice the open fire to cook the tortillas. It was June, and this cooking hut was very hot!

This will be a different project as it will have to include a water treatment system. Kankab is located in the Mexican state of Yucatán, and



most of the ground water is contaminated. During this initial trip, we visited a driller, and a couple of treatment system providers. We will be working this project in conjunction with Roswell Presbyterian Church. Currently, we are waiting on additional information regarding pricing from the church’s pastor, Severo Ek. Here is Pastor Severo with some of the beautiful Mayan members of his church.



Kiel, Germany—that’s our next stop! Our colleagues, Yenish & Natalya need to be in the US for the month of September. We’re honored to be asked to “Shepard” their church during their leave. We’ll be heading to Germany the 29th of August, & will be there through October 9th. Our responsibilities will be for Ed to preach each Sunday; and Linda will lead their weekly Bible studies.

The International Church is English speaking PTL. As of January 2018, 31 countries have been represented. What do each of these persons have in common? Wanting to know more about Jesus & speaking English.

We’re looking forward to this opportunity God has give us to stretch our ministry beyond drilling water wells.



We were asked to be a part of the Smyrna First UMC’s annual Mission’s Conference. This was our 3rd visit, so now these good people are part of our family.

We also enjoy working with school systems with their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) program. Our niece, Beth Baker, is the STEM coordinator for the Pine Grove Middle School in Valdosta, GA. She invited us to come & share with every student that was in the 5th grade. We are always thankful seeing how the future of this world will be in good hands.



Praying together is a vital part of all ministries. Here are a few of our

prayer requests:

† Traveling safety as we head to Germany.

† For our family. Our 2 daughters, 2 sons-in-law, & 4 grandsons.

† Continued good health for us so we are able to help in God’s Mission.

† All those in the world who are living each day without good, abundant water that is close to their homes.

Please share with us how we can pray for you.

TMS Global continues to strive to make sure that donations to Missionaries' accounts are as secure as possible. To this end, TMS Global has changed their mailing address. Donations mailed to the below listed post office box are directly accessed by Wells Fargo bank. This further insures your donations are respectfully handled.

Donations to our Water Project or Support Account may be made as a regular pledge or one-time gift online at http://www.aguadevida.org/how_can_i_help.html or by mailing a check to:

TMS Global-P.O. Box 936559-Atlanta, GA 31193-6559

Please make checks payable to TMS Global Designate Water Well Account #743 or Baker Support Account #264

Our email: edlindabaker@yahoo.com

