



Agua de Vida (Water of Life)

Newsletter of
Ed & Linda Baker



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

Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Liberia

We first told you about our project in Liberia, West Africa in our Newsletter of April, 2014. This past February, we were able to spend nearly 2 weeks in Liberia. It was a blessing to finally make the dream come true of helping our friend Masa Gueh at the Trinity Children's Home near Monrovia, Liberia.

The trip was very difficult in many ways. The COUNTRY does not have electricity or running water. The civil wars which have plagued Liberia for many years finally ended in 2005 with the election of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

However after 2 civil wars which began in 1989, the ensuing 25 years left the country lacking in infrastructure and many "modern" conveniences.

There were electric poles, but the wires to connect the electricity were sold to buy bullets, and the power plant had been shut down years earlier.

However, we did find pockets of entrepreneurs who had generators and sold electricity. Our accommodations had electricity at night (sometimes), and we generally had running cold water.

Despite the hardships of life, the children at the Children's Center were wonderful! We brought a trunk of clothing

to give them and they all stood, orderly in line to receive their small gifts.

Our trip had 2 purposes, 1-to find a driller to help drill the Center a good, deep well; and 2 -to attend the school's official opening.



They planned for over 100 people to attend the school opening, and were serving food to everyone. But, how to you prepare food for 100 people with no electricity or running water? With joy, laughter, and lots of back

breaking hard work! Take a look.



Reason 2 for our visit was to connect with Living Water International and arrange for this Christian organization to drill a deep well for the Center. We were pleased to find that the Liberian office for LWI was just down the road from the Center! We were able to meet the Liberian Director, and discuss our hopes and dreams. As of this writing, the well has not been drilled, but we are hopeful the Center will have water soon since their current shallow wells have gone dry. From left to right in the photo are Ed; Masa's Granddaughter who lives at the Center; Masa Gueh; Austin Nyaplue, Liberian Director for LWI; and Linda.



The stories we could tell could fill a book. Food-different; children-polite, energetic, loving; colors-vibrant; music-exciting! We also got to be on a live radio broadcast advertising about the opening of the Center. That was a fun experience for all 3 of us. Here is Masa & Linda all hooked up and ready to talk. We visited downtown Monrovia 2 times. An interesting big city—lots of noise due to all the generators running. We met Dr. Albert Coleman who is with the United Methodist University, located in Monrovia. He once hailed from Smyrna, GA, but is now living in his home country.



We also had the opportunity to visit with colleagues Joey, Kerry, & Miriam Davidson. They are also with The Mission Society and after several team trips to Liberia, they now call Liberia their home. They have a home like all the others—only generator power, and no running water. Staying with them reminded us of our days living in a tent in Paraguay. Bucket showers, and how many dishes can you wash with as small amount of water as possible. Their home is only about a 1 hour drive from the Children's Center.



*Here we are on the left, and as you can see, we are in native Liberian clothing. We look hot because we were HOT!
Joey, Miriam, Kerry, Linda, Ed*

These are a few photos from the Children's Center. Getting water, cooking food—an endless chore.



Ed was down the river again in January, 2016

Ed was back on the Rio Bocay in Nicaragua with Ronnie Hopkins. He and his wife Angi have been serving there for 10 years and they have a fantastic ministry working with communities along the River. Many of these villages get very little help from the government and very few mission groups can reach them.

This trip served two purposes. First, we reviewed the completed work at El Torno, the spring box project started last year. We then did a whirlwind assessment of 3 additional spring box projects for communities on the river. We did A LOT of walking but we saw some

beautiful scenery, met some wonderful people, and laid the groundwork for some good projects for next year. An added bonus was Ed's first chance to try IGUANA SOUP—YUM!



Learning to use a GPS



Ed at the El Torno Water Tank



Costa Rica was also on our agenda this year. One of the many reasons we enjoy being with The Mission Society is that they encourage us to growth and to strengthen our faith. To this end, we spent 2 weeks taking a course in Discipleship, followed by a general meeting with all our colleagues in the North American Region. These general meetings are filled with training, Bible study, fellowship, laughs, tears, and encouragement from all those attending.

Donations to our Water Well or Support Account may be made as a regular pledge or one-time gift online at www.themissionsociety.org/waterwellproject/ or by mailing a check to:

The Mission Society-P.O. Box 922637-Norcross, GA 30010-2637

Please make check payable to The Mission Society
Designate Water Well Account #743 or Baker Support Account #264

Our email: edlindabaker@yahoo.com

