



“For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.” – Colossians 1:19-20

Dear Church Leaders,

I’m pleased to share this year’s theme for Water Sunday – Make it Right. God’s redemptive work in this world centers on restoring all of creation back into right relationship with one’s self, with others, with creation and with God himself, which is made possible only through the transformational gospel of Jesus Christ. His work involves both proclaiming and demonstrating the love of God, the redemptive story of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit through every aspect of our being.

At Water Mission, as we support our international staff by working tirelessly to provide safe water and the Living Water message to communities worldwide, we must keep in mind these basic facts. Though water is the entry point, we cannot stop at improved health through safe water. We must share about Christ, the Living Water, in order to restore broken self-images and build dignity.

As your church considers joining us on Water Sunday, we are deeply grateful for your willingness to respond to Jesus’ command to love your neighbor as yourself. We all play a vital role in an effort that cannot succeed without all the parts working together. We pray that your church members’ eyes are opened and hearts transformed to the wonder of God as they realize how their actions, prayers and sacrifices can have a tangible impact on lives around the world.

Join Water Mission as we continue to follow God into communities that need safe water and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Together, we can restore hope, dignity, life and health. Together, we can make it right.

Blessings,

Kevin Herr
Church Partnerships Manager
Water Mission

“In our relationship journey with the church, our local partners, and the local community, we enter as guests, co-labor as partners, and continue as friends.” – ACCORD Principles of Excellent in Integral Mission, No. 6

What is Water Sunday?

Water Sunday is one Sunday that your church dedicates to talking about the global water crisis and taking a special offering to provide safe water to people around the world. Water Sunday is an inter-denominational event that can work for your church, no matter your specific style of worship. Whether you want to use the Water Sunday beverage fast as a Lenten program, would like to emphasize the Global Water Crisis for the whole month of March, or participate for just one day on April 24th; we have developed specialized resources that are totally done-for-you and completely free!

Why Water?

The global water crisis is a silent killer. Half of the world's hospital beds are full of people sick from water related illness. Diarrheal illness is the second leading cause of death worldwide. While you rarely hear about it on the news, the crisis is urgent causing the death of one child under the age of five every twenty-one seconds.

We can save lives by providing safe water to people in need. Then, by meeting the physical need for safe water, we provide a platform for local ministries to build relationships and share the Living Water Message of Jesus Christ.

What is Water Mission?

Water Mission is a nonprofit Christian engineering organization that designs, builds and implements safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) solutions for people in developing countries and disaster areas. Since 2001, Water Mission has used innovative technology and engineering expertise to provide access to safe water and the Living Water Message for more than 3 million people in 52 countries. Water Mission has over 200 staff members working around the world in permanent country programs located in Africa, Asia, North, South and Central America and the Caribbean.

Notably, Charity Navigator has awarded Water Mission their top rating nine years in a row, a distinction shared by only one percent of the charities rated by the organization. To learn more about Water Mission, visit watermission.org.

Contact Us

Would you like additional information or are you ready to register your event? Upon registration, we will send you your FREE 2015 Water Sunday Resources. Physical supplies will be mailed in early 2016.

Contact: Kevin Herr
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Opportunities to Take It to the Next Level: Creative Engagement Activities

Beverage Fast

To celebrate Water Sunday, participate in a beverage fast! Challenge your congregation to skip all beverages except for water for a designated amount of time. You can participate for a week, a full month, or even as a Lenten fast! Calculate what you would normally spend on drinks for that amount of time and donate it to provide safe water to people around the world.

To help you launch the beverage fast, we have created custom Water Sunday water bottle wrappers, which you can wrap around wide-mouth bottles and place on everyone's chair on Sunday morning. These bottles can then be used to store money they save. This is a great tool for families to use as well as a good reminder to pray for those who will receive safe water. We will send you as many water bottle wrappers as you need!

"Step into the Unknown" - Six Week Small Group Study

This transformational small group study will walk through three people from the bible, starting with Jesus calling Peter out onto the water, as they take steps of faith and will provide actionable steps that participants can take each week as they grow in their faith. Each session will include a powerful 4-5 minute video with testimonies from our Country Program Staff around the world, a focus on a specific passage of scripture, discussion questions, and real-world examples from individuals in the US and around the world who have stepped out in faith at Water Missions International.

Walk For Water

Every day millions of women and children in developing countries walk an average of four miles to retrieve water to meet their family's daily needs. You can engage your church and local community by doing a walk for water! Plan a mile and half walk from your church or a park to a nearby lake or river, fill up buckets with dirty water and make the return journey. This fun activity is a perfect event to top off your Water Sunday experience and truly experience what it's like for people around the world every day.

Donate Your Water Bill

The average family in the United States uses 300 gallons of water per day while the average family in Africa uses approximately five gallons per day. Instead of asking for a special offering, challenge your congregation to look at their water bill for the month and donate that same amount to help a family in need. Help families understand how a simple investment of one month's water bill will transform lives around the world as people access life-saving safe water for the first time in their lives!

Be A Water Sunday Hub Church!

We are recruiting 10 churches to be our Water Sunday Hub Churches. These churches will be the center of a movement in their area to take on the Global Water Crisis. Being a Water Sunday Hub Church means:

- **Recruit at least five churches** in your area to participate with you.
- Coach new churches that want to have a Water Sunday
- Share about Water Sunday at local network/denomination meetings

Water Sunday Resources

After you register your event, we will send you a FREE 2015 Water Sunday Resources. Physical supplies will be mailed in early 2015 – these include a Water Sunday T-Shirt, two 11" x 17" posters, and Water Sunday DVD. Depending on the size and scope of your event, you can pick and choose from the following resources to help you make the most of your Water Sunday event.

Videos

Water Sunday Promotional video – Use the Water Sunday Video to share the vision of Water Sunday - show it when casting vision to your leadership and core team, show during the Sunday morning worship service the week or two leading up to Water Sunday, and use it anytime you have a meeting with adults, youth, or children.

Water Missions General Video - This high impact video about Water Missions International is great for use during your Water Sunday service or when sharing with others about Water Missions International!

Print/Design Materials

11" x 17" full color posters - We will send you three full-color 11" x 17" Water Sunday Posters. You can download a PDF version of the poster as well. (Note – File is large; allow time for download.) Display posters in high traffic areas in your church as well as businesses in the community (bookstores, hair salons, grocery stores, etc.). Put some bulletin inserts with your church's information featured near the posters for people who would like to take information with them.

Bulletin Inserts – We will send you a digital PDF bulletin insert and you can print as many as you need! Add this to your Sunday morning bulletin, place it near posters, or distribute these to businesses and friends to promote the event.

Water Sunday Water Bottle Wrappers - To help you launch the beverage fast, we have created custom Water Sunday water bottle wrappers, which you can wrap around wide-mouth bottles and place on everyone's chair on Sunday morning. These bottles can then be used to store the money they save. This is great tool for families to use as well as a good reminder to pray for those who will receive safe water. We will send you as many water bottle wrappers as you need!

Water Sunday Art - We've created content - images, logos, and other graphics you can use to create your own marketing piece. Build a flyer, poster, e-mail, or other marketing piece all your own from these components of our materials.

T- Shirts – Everybody loves wearing event T-shirts and they're a great way to promote your event in advance! When you register your Water Sunday, we will send you one Water Sunday t-shirt. You can choose to receive the artwork and have additional t-shirts printed at your local printer. Outfit your volunteer team, or even have them available for sale for your entire congregation. We strongly suggest you have some key staff (even the pastor) wear these "hip" Water Sunday t-shirts.

Stunning photography in PowerPoint/Keynote (to run before and after service)

"Living Water" Worship Song - mp3, Guitar Charts and lyrics

Planning/Communication Tools

Social Media Kit - This is a kit that contains a sample email, Facebook post, tweet, Instagram, and blog for you to use to invite your friends to the event. You can share this with your church so that they can invite their family members and friends as well.

Press Release - Use this short article describing the event to send to the local newspaper to be included in their "Religion" or "Community" section. You can also use this for other newsletters such as your community newsletter or church newsletter.

Water Sunday Core Team - If you want to go all-out for Water Sunday, it's going to take team! This document contains some simple descriptions of roles/positions that will be helpful for planning and coordinating your event.

Promotional Schedule - We recognize there are many sizes, styles, and types of churches. Water Sunday is going to look slightly different at every church. This is a sample timeline for promoting and preparing for your Water Sunday event. Be sure you're not forgetting anything or leaving anything out! Here's a handy guide.

Ministry Tools

[Sermon Outline](#) - We've crafted a sample sermon that you can use for your message on Water Sunday. Feel free to use the whole outline, parts of it, or none at all.

[Small Group Curriculum](#)- Get your church pumped up for Water Sunday by using our six-week small group curriculum! This will contain all the content you need for a great small group that looks at the power of water throughout the Bible.

[Water Crisis Fact Sheet](#) - You're going to be blown away by the urgency and enormity of the crisis. Be creative! There are so many ways you can use these facts—the sermon, posters, bulletins and social media posts are just a few ideas.

[Children's Activities](#) - Developed by a team of former educators, these inspiring activities will engage your children's hearts and minds in the fight against the global water crisis.

[Testimonies and Photos from people who have been impacted by safe water.](#) - Nothing communicates better than a story. One story is more powerful than lists of statistics. These can be used during your message, in social media posts, in the Sunday's leading up to your event, anywhere you might regularly communicate!

[Ideas for creating a compelling visual environment](#) - Take Water Sunday to the next level by decorating your church and mixing up the normal environment!