



In this edition ...

Hello [Organization Name] [or 'Friend' if no Org name]!

Water. You and I take it for granted. We can get it from the tap, the hose, from bottles in the fridge, and purchase it at every convenience store. We shower, make coffee, wash dishes and do laundry with ease. But for hundreds of thousands of children in developing countries, water is a luxury.

In Ethiopia, 69% of citizens lack clean water. In Zambia, two out of five citizens do not have a clean water supply. Poor sanitation and unsafe or lack of water creates a cascade of related health problems, such as diarrhea and other illnesses that can impact the future of children especially.

But World Vision wants to change that scenario, and our approach works! In Ethiopia, more than three million people already have access to clean water because of World Vision's WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) program. In Zambia, 1.5 million children and their family members now have clean water.

When you invest with World Vision, you help construct water systems for entire communities and equip citizens to maintain them. Sanitation and hygiene education go hand in hand to ensure lasting health changes for children and their families. Families learn to build and maintain latrines. Communities also learn how to conserve water to keep them safe into the future.

In this edition, we want you to be inspired by how communities can be changed with clean water. Interested in activating your church towards solving the world's water problem? Let's [connect](#)!

In this Issue:

- Read how water has changed Jolie's life and community in Maluku in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Consider adding a 'Global 6K for Water' walk/run to your church family's calendar
- Read about the first CHOSEN events in Alberta ever!
- Learn about a FREE Legacy Estate Planning Seminar on Mar. 27th that could assist you and your church members with financial matters

"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." Mark 9:41



Access to Water is Writing a New Story for Jolie's Community

Jolie Kabu is a 46-year-old widowed mother of six from Maluku in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Her children range in age from 28 to 12 years old. The death of her husband and subsequent abandonment by her husband's family set Jolie on a journey of becoming a small business owner.

"I was faced with financial difficulties in meeting my children's basic needs," she explains. Jolie sells a staple, starchy and popular food product called chikwange, which she makes from cassava. Jolie's business is heavily dependent on water. "To improve the profitability of my business, I'll need a lot of water all the time to increase chikwange production and generate more profits, which will enable me to meet the various needs of my family and, more specifically, my children," she explains.

Before the water, sanitation and hygiene (call 'WASH' by World Vision) project came to her community, Jolie hired a motorcycle cab to take her about 15 kilometres, carrying 10 water cans that each held 25 litres. She also paid for the water she drew and then paid again for the transport home. The personal water needs of Jolie and her family required another trek, this time to a spring two kilometres away, carrying a 25-litre container up a hill, "comparable to the road to Golgotha," says Jolie. "There are snakes along the way, and sometimes I got sick from carrying so much water."

"When World Vision built cisterns to collect and store water in the community throughout the rainy season, I didn't have to travel long distances to fetch water," explains Jolie. "I was able to save time and maximize the production of my chikwange. In the past, many international organizations tried to provide us with water, but unfortunately, it didn't work. But with World Vision, we see a great achievement that gives us hope that the whole community will have drinking water. When I see the water tanks, the water kiosks built, the solar panels installed and the pipes installed by World Vision in our village, I have hope that we will have water in abundance and permanently, and the story of the lives of all the members of the community will be written differently."

It's more than access to water that is different for Jolie. "The sanitized village approach with World Vision has changed me a lot, because I've learned to have a clean toilet, to clean up my environment, to have a garbage pit in my plot and to wash my hands before eating, after going to the toilet and before cooking." These practices protect not only my children but also other members of the community," she says.

The changes go even deeper: "What has changed in me is a kind of awakening of consciousness, a feeling of hope and curiosity about how inheritance works. My dream is to see all my children go to university, to be responsible people who are also able to bring about change in the lives of others. I would also like the children of Menkao, who aspire to a better life, to be able to enjoy it. May love reign throughout our community."

Build Community with a Global 6K for Water Event

A Global 6K for Water, which supports water projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo, is the kind of event that your church can run with no costs. It builds camaraderie between members and relationships with the community. You can run it on any day you choose and participants can run, walk or roll the 6 kilometers. Why 6 kilometers? Because it is representative of the distance that women & girls walk daily to obtain water; water that is often dirty and unsafe.

And this year, we have **NEW** resources for you to be able to plan, fundraise and easily run your event. Registration for participants is **FREE**, but a donation of just \$50 can help one person have access to clean water!

[LEARN MORE](#)



JOIN US!



Join us Online for Beyond the Basics in Estate Planning

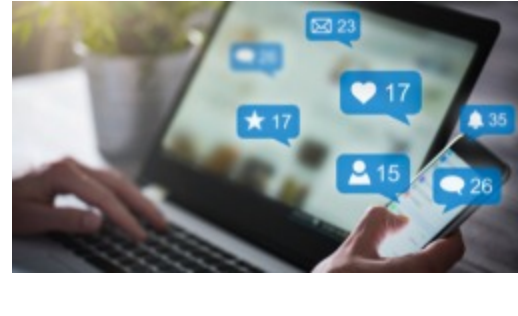
Wednesday, March 27 @ 6:30 PM EST

We are excited to invite you to our free upcoming webinar with financial planners, Lorne and Mary Lynn, from Advisors with Purpose, as they guide you through crucial topics, including:

- **Estate Planning Essentials** - selecting the right executor, appointing a Power of Attorney, and transferring family cottages or properties.
- **Financial Planning** - RRSP strategies and assets distribution for children.
- **Family Dynamics and Future Security** - choosing guardians for children and solutions for diverse family structures.

This webinar is about empowering you to make informed decisions about your legacy. Don't miss out on this opportunity. Register today! Secure your legacy now - your loved ones will thank you for it.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



We are Social!

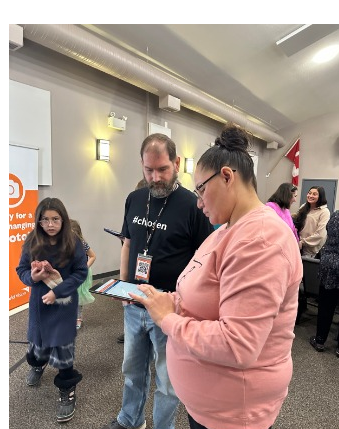
Did you know that World Vision Churches is on every major social media platform and that we are sharing engaging content and events, like conferences, you might be interested in?

And, we just recently introduced a **NEW LinkedIn page**, so if you are more of a LinkedIn user than a Facebook user, we would love to see you over there. Plus, your regional Church Advisor is on LinkedIn too!

Here are links to our socials and we'd love to have you follow us as we strive to support you in your ministry:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)

The first CHOSEN events ever in Alberta!



February was an exciting month for us! Two churches in Cold Lake, Alberta hosted CHOSEN events ... our first CHOSEN events in the province of Alberta ever!

We want to thank the Grand Centre Alliance Church and the Harbour Light Alliance Church families for the 46 new child sponsorships and for empowering children to choose in Mathare Valley, Kenya! This life-changing gift helps address the root causes of children's poverty, empowering children, their families, and their communities to claim lives filled with possibilities.

If you would like to learn more about this transformational experience for your congregation, please [contact](#) your regional Church Advisor.

[REQUEST INFO ON CHOSEN](#)

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Mar 27 Financial Planning Seminar



PRAY WITH US

From Chris Schroeder, National Manager of Church Engagement:

We are so pleased to announce that we have finished the job of getting clean water to Rwanda, reaching a million people!

For those of you who have run Global 6K for Water events for the Democratic Republic of Congo, thank you! But, the need is still great. Over 1,000 children under 5 lose their lives daily to water-related diseases. Women and girls suffer, burdened by the daily need to fetch water.

Please pray that funds would be generously donated to help us address the need for clean water everywhere we work.

We want to pray for you! Please [TEXT](#) or [EMAIL US](#) your personal prayer requests and the Church Team will pray specifically for you.



Many blessings, Chris Schroeder
Your World Vision Church Advisor

If you have any questions or would like to connect with me directly, please [email](#) or book a virtual coffee on my [calendar](#).

