

Epiphany Greetings!

It's been two years since we've been able to return to Los Chiles. Shortly after we left in 2019, the pandemic spread across the globe while we anxiously waited for vaccines and borders to open again. Once the US Dept of State down-graded their 'do not travel' advisory, the UM VIM insurance was available for volunteers, so we leaped at the opportunity to return to work with Agua Viva Serves ...with more than a wee bit of anxiety/careful planning with the rise in COVID-19 cases.

That hesitancy all melted away with the ease of Costa Rica's health pass for tourists, seeing their COVID protocols in action, and welcoming of friends from Bijagua. They decided to escorted us to Los Chiles on Monday...and enjoyed a bit of 'Chilean tourism': an early morning boat tour on Rio Frío starting at the community park.



After an updating with Agua Viva Serves (AVS) Director of Operations on Tuesday, George jumped into the truck with the AVS team to add a few new water meters to La Guaria's system...they did a bit of digging to get connected to the distribution pipes.



Nancy's focus for this MV trip does not involve getting sweaty or dirty, just helping develop the plan for getting water for a remote hilly community of 85 homes. When we left in December 2019, The Rotary Foundation Global Grant application for San Isidro de Pocosol's community water system



was still in process. We finished it virtually in June 2020. Approval came swiftly and the project started in March 2021 after the Christmas/New Year holidays and rain delays. Drilling through hard rock and equipment breakage made for slow going and drilling stopped in May at 58 meters without success.

Plan B has been under discussion but yet to be firmed up, so timing is good to be on-site and help get details worked out for this system. **We are on a journey for *revelation or insight* (an epiphany)!**

Epiphany is a wonderful celebration for those who are committing themselves more deeply to the process of spiritual transformation, for it contains themes of journeying from the known to the unknown with only a mysterious light to guide us.

Ruth Haley Barton, <https://transformingcenter.org/2017/01/epiphany-2016-celebration-journey/>



A good journey begins with knowing where you are and being willing to go somewhere else. Richard Rohr
https://issuu.com/ksprinkle/docs/epiphany_by_richard_rohr



We wish you courage for your journeys this year! n & G