

Greetings on this MLKjr weekend!

An individual has not started living until they can rise above the narrow confines of their individualistic concerns to the broader concern of all humanity

Martin Luther King, Jr.

As we reflect on these words of the Rev Dr King Jr, we acknowledge the privilege we take for granted and how it exudes from our cells and clouds our senses. Can we honestly assess our own thoughts, words and deeds as with the Rotary 4-Way Test:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

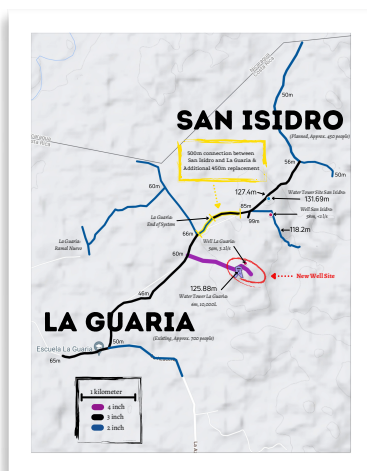
Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial for all concerned?

???

This week has been sprinkled with **hearing others' concerns, hopes, challenges, dilemmas. Lifting them up** to the Light and Love for divine intervention. A bit of **reflecting with others** and **digging around for info.** Then **seeing how our/others' perceptions shift.** And finding ways of **moving our feet out of the red clay of unknowing, adelante!**

The Rotary Foundation Global Grant goal of potable water for the remote San Isidro de Pocosal community needs "Plan B" because the well-drilling last year was not successful. Weighing the options, AVS recommends an extension from a nearby community's water system *assuming* the well produces enough to supply La Guaria needs and San Isidro's, but a new well might be needed for community growth. The distance between the end of La Guaria's system is just .5 km from the first house in San Isidro, but elevations to gravity-feed the dispersed houses might need a pumping station/tank/tower.



What do we need to know to have a feasible design? What agreements are needed between the two communities for a combined system that they would govern together? What additional resources are needed?

This week we had conversations with professionals for:

- a quote to do a **study of the well** to verify quantity, recharge rate and condition of the well
- a proposal to **model the system** once all the data points are firm, e.g., from the well study.
- **advice for training** from the National University of Costa Rica (UNA) team who have extensive experience working closely with local communities with private water systems resulting in this excellent *Guía de Mediación...*



And most importantly, we asked the communities for time next week to have conversations and hear their thoughts and questions.

Whew!!! While there are many unknowns, we are untangling the mass of threads to see how we can weave a tapestry together!

On a more tangible, short-term, immediate impact project, George reports in photos and numbers:

week #2

1 new well

5 days in Los Corrales de El Amparo

10 families

52 meters deep and drilling

Agua Viva Serves' Well #91

See George's FB page¹ for the videos...



Top to bottom: drill rig ready to travel from the bodega at the church; a few members of the 10-family cluster to benefit with clean water; prepping the 'mud pits' for the water from drilling (the video shows this)



Blessings for all the ways you show up for all of humanity and creation!

As we say at St Paul's UMC: *All means All.*

PS: Did we tell you about the special sighting we had in the Tapir Valley Nature Preserve while in Bijagua??? Ah, keep waiting for another update!

¹ if you find George Gull, the bird, search "George E Gull" whose profile is with a camera ;)