



**Still stirring the waters:
Projects and initiatives a year after the
EWN's Summer School on Water**

The Water Gazette No. 3
(October 2009)



The Water Gazette regularly provides updates on the follow-up projects and the lives of the participants of the Summer School on Water which the Ecumenical Water Network organized in 2008 in Bossey, Switzerland.

All contributions are being written and edited by the participants themselves, supported by the EWN Secretariat at the World Council of Churches.

This special edition has been compiled on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Summer School.

Editors:

David Gale, Maike Gorsboth

October 2009

World Council of Churches
Secretariat of the Ecumenical Water Network

The Ecumenical Water Network is a network of churches and church-related organizations that promotes the preservation, responsible management and equitable distribution of water for all, based on the understanding that water is a gift of God and a fundamental human right. The Secretariat of the Ecumenical Water Network is located at the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

<http://water.oikoumene.org>



Foreword by Maike

In the summer of 2008 I was part of the lucky team organizing the first “Summer School on Water” on behalf of the Ecumenical Water Network. Between 27 July and 5 August 2008 I got to know and work with a group of twenty-two highly talented and motivated young people from all over the world.



It was an intense educational, inspirational, and motivational experience, as much for the participants as for us organizers and facilitators. Despite their many different cultural, geographical, and denominational backgrounds, the group was clearly linked by a common love and sense of responsibility for life and creation – and by the growing realization that it is being destroyed and threatened by the water crisis and related social, economic and ecological trends.

Holding in my hands this special edition of ‘The Water Gazette’ I feel amazement and gratitude at how, one year after coming together for those remarkable days, the participants continue to ‘make waves’.

On the following pages you will see many different ways the participants have been integrating the struggle for clean, accessible and affordable water into their lives, both as part of their community and volunteer commitments and their professional work.

I am sure that they will continue to be a source of inspiration for each other, and for others. I would like to thank all of them, as well as those who have been supporting the work of the Ecumenical Water Network and have made possible the Summer School on Water.

My particular thanks go to Dave who had originally proposed and volunteered to put together a regular update on the activities and lives of the Summer School participants – the ‘Water Gazette’ – and who has also collected and edited the contributions to this special anniversary edition.

I look forward to the future editions,

Maike Gorsboth

EWN Secretariat at the World Council of Churches

Walter in New York writes

On April 21st 2009, I presented my masters thesis to my colleagues at Columbia University in New York City, U.S.A. My thesis project was entitled: ***Going Beyond Hip-Hop: History, Politics and Spirituality***. My thesis focused on hip-hop culture and its influence on politics, church and society in the United States and the international community.

As part of my commitment to building water consciousness, I opened up my thesis by asking my audience, which consisted of about one hundred people, to read and sign **pre-written letters to our local state representatives** regarding water conservation, sanctification and equal distribution.

Fortunately, I received a respectable amount of feedback from people who read and signed those petitions. For more information regarding my hip-hop forum, please visit:

www.columbiaspectator.com/2009/04/22/uts-event-melds-hip-hop-religion.

Thank you. Peace and God Bless!

Walter Hidalgo, M.A.

rural farming village, and in both places not being able to drink the water that everyone else does. As the curious young engineer that I am I asked to see the town's water source.



A community in Manila living on a rubbish tip, where clean water is a luxury most cant afford. Shallow open trenches drain the basic toilets from each dwelling.

The village, a few years back, received funding for a water tank that would service the whole village (which meant people didn't need to walk more than 10 minutes to get their water). Unfortunately the design assumed a constant electricity source, but the generator has since broken down and people need to carry all their drinking water again. It just gave me another perspective into the complexity of securing safe, reliable drinking water for people. Really interesting place the Philippines, so many issues to tackle, so many more stories but one will do for now.

So at the moment I'm finishing my last 3 subjects of my **Civil and Environmental Engineering degree** and wondering where I'll be called to be at the end of October (when I graduate). What I feel I'm being drawn to is working as an engineer in **supply and development of water (and/or sanitation)** to **remote and vulnerable communities around South East Asia**. If

there are any opportunities you guys have seen or know that are coming up I'd be really interested in hearing about them. It's an exciting time for me, but also there is a lot of unknown. Hope everyone is well and look forward to hearing more about your journeys.

God bless,

Matt

Walter (3rd from the right) at the hip hop forum where he presented his thesis



News from Matt in Australia

Every now and then I have things that come up and remind me of the time we all spent together in Switzerland. I've recently returned from a **cultural exposure tour of the Philippines** and it has continued to drive my passion to work in water. But now the question is where and in what roles.

It was a really interesting experience staying in Manila for a week, and then heading to a

Sheryl in Canada reports

Sheryl had already previously reported about a number of activities, for example, **a retreat on embodied activism** in September 2008: “It was a fabulous ecumenical gathering where we moved around a lot, putting together street theatre, writing letters, using dance, and creatively engaging the public on a number of issues, although the one that seemed to emerge as a common topic on people’s minds was food security. Tied to that, of course, is water - both availability due to infrastructure as well as climactic conditions - as well as water used (and in many cases wasted) through secondary processing/transport.” Here her most recent update:

My activism and justice work this year, for the most part, was not directly related to water issues as other issues seemed to emerge from every angle. Some are definitely water related though, including work against the ongoing development of the **Tar Sands in Alberta** (an incredibly water-intensive process, in addition to causing huge ecological destruction) and the **conflict in Israel/Palestine** (which certainly has a water dynamic as well, with the Israeli state scooping more and more of the aquifers and water supplies through settlements and wall construction).

I was also involved with **campus public water initiatives** (which successfully banned the sale of bottled water on campus at the University of Toronto) and continued my involvement with **buried river educational work** which uses arts and public events to connect people to water (as many of the former rivers running in Toronto are buried underground in culverts) and also increase awareness about water drainage patterns.

Overall, it has been a good and busy year - and I am excited to be beginning a Master's of Divinity in Toronto in September!

Hope you are well!!

Sheryl

From Tewaney in Ethiopia

Part II: Having earlier reported about the Kedida Gamela Water project implemented by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC), Tewaney shares the following story he learned about as part of his work with the project:

“We will no more drink from pond where my sister had died”

A total of seven people lost their lives in two ponds dug by the community in the Kedida area because it was the only means to get water during dry season. Tseganesh Yohannis was one of the victims. Her sister Aberash Yonannis narrates the sad story.

“My late elder sister, Tseganesh was 11 years old and was a fourth grader. I and the other family members were not around home. She had to bring water, as there was none to cook the meal, so she went to the pond with a bucket.

People in the neighbourhood came to our home to tell the sad story that she had slipped into the pond and could not manage to come out.

Still we get water from pond where my sister had died. This is because we have no other choice. But in the near future, after the water scheme by Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission is finalized, we are looking forward to the prospect that all the problems connected with water would be solved and we will no more drink from the pond where my sister died.”



Aberash Yonannis



The pond Aberash's sister slipt into (dug by the community over 40 years ago)

Kim, who is in Florida, writes

Hello everyone! It's hard to believe it has been a year since we first came together and a busy year at that. I'm so impressed by what everyone is doing. Here are a few things that I have been working on:

Through my job, I have been involved in several wetland restoration projects that entail helping people to restore the natural hydrology of the land. This is in an area where the **watersheds have been severely altered** by intense agriculture and development, which has in turn affected the quality and quantity of groundwater in the region. The projects involve providing recommendations on how to restore the wetlands as well as sustainable agriculture techniques for future management. The land is put under **permanent conservation**, which- in this area where unnecessary development is rampant- is a very positive thing.

Outside of my professional life, I still see a huge need for some sort of water certification process and organization, but it is so overwhelming and slow. I have hope, but not much has changed in the last few months. Any words of wisdom or support you all have to offer would be much appreciated!

I've been developing a connection with a new organization called **Water Without Borders**, whose mission is to provide sustainable sources of safe water for people in hostile environments (<http://www.waterwithoutborders.net>).

They are new and small, but growing, and interested in getting others involved. This may be a good partner for the certification project; we aren't at that stage yet, but hopefully will be in the future.

I'm also working with the **Center for Spiritual Life** at Eckerd College on various projects (a conference for young adults, and hoping to get Kelly to come down and perform her dance, *Essentially One!*). One event I was involved in through the Center for Spiritual Life was a **roundtable discussion** on Ocean Acidification and the various perspectives different faiths have towards environmental issues surrounding water. We had members from Judaism,



Kim (in the middle) at the event on Ocean Acidification

Christianity, Hinduism, Bahá'í, and Islam, as well as members from the scientific field and the legal/political realm. Here is a small write-up and a radio story that was done on it: www.wmnf.org/news_stories/7202

I hope you all are well, healthy and happy. I miss you dearly! Kim

Oji in Nigeria sends his greetings

Dear Friends,

I am really excited writing you for the first time on developments since the time we were all together a little over a year ago in Geneva. I know it has been eventful for most of you as I have keenly followed up on your articles in our water gazette and on personal interaction with some of you.

As you all know I was privileged to return to Geneva shortly after the summer school alongside Rania and Angelious and two prominent leaders of my church and the Christian council in Nigeria, Rev Davies Faleye and Rev. Barr Wembley Uduma to be part of the EWN participants meeting. Immediately after we returned I commenced intensive lobby for the formation of an NGO on water, which I had conceived as the most effective tool for the ideas generated during our time together.

This was really difficult as my church (Presbyterian) government is democratic and takes decisions based on majority opinion, and water nor sanitation issues were anywhere in the Churches agenda amidst so much poverty, militancy and



Annual Synod Meeting 2009 of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria.

other prevalent issues. However having realized that the greater task is in sensitization and awareness I continued doggedly utilizing my positions as the youth president of both my Church and the Christian council, and also as an ordained Elder of The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria.

The big break came finally by June 2009 as my church prepared for our annual assembly, I asked and was granted permission to present a paper (which was incorporated into the programme booklet of our annual assembly, which I sent Maïke a copy of) titled “The World Water Crisis, the E.W.N and the role of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria”. To the glory of God it was a huge success and right after the presentation a resolution was passed by the Church to register an NGO called the **Presbyterian Water Foundation**.

Just last week the NGO was finally registered with the Nigerian corporate affairs commission and I have been offered the position of Chairman or Director with the permission to pick a team to work with. I have already discussed with Maïke some of our immediate plans now that I have the precise tool to work with, and that plan includes having some EWN members around to witness and maybe also present at the official inauguration / fundraising of the foundation, hopefully sometime in October.

We also have as part of our objectives

- (1) Mobilization of church and church leaders on water rights issues.
- (2) Creating a functional secretariat.
- (3) Identifying and networking with allies, friends and other water related NGO's.
- (4) Data collation and monitoring
- (5) Training workshops, education of Schools and civil society
- (6) Identify mission areas where water is an issue and ensuring that its provision by the Church, NGO and partners could serve as a catalyst for drawing souls into God's Kingdom.
- (7) Maintain very strong ties with the EWN.

There is so much to do and I can't wait to start, and of course I am willing to take suggestions from any of you and any assistance technically or otherwise, I know my work is made easier because you are all there for me. Maïke has been a source of encouragement and anytime I talk to her I always feel like there is so much more I can do.

I miss you all and please can we start planning a reunion, maybe in Nigeria.

All things are indeed possible.

Oji.

From Taneal in Zimbabwe

I am currently working with the **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** which is the NGO division of the United Methodist Church. I am on a contract but I am praying to be placed as a permanent employee. The organisation has been doing various projects through the church and now they want to operate as a separate entity for transparency and accountability purposes. UMCOR is not yet registered in Zimbabwe but it's in the process of doing its registrations and we hope for the best because it's taking time.

The organisation operates in five core areas which are Health, Water & Sanitation, Education, Food Aid and Agriculture.

I have been requested to oversee a **project on WASH at Nyadire mission hospital** which is a 2 hour drive from Harare, because of my background in water related issues which I have been involved in. The project is to draw water from the dam pipe it to houses for household consumption purposes. It's quite an experience and I ask that you just keep on praying for God's guidance because I know it is his will.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon, warmest regards,

Taneal

Taneal during the Summer School in Switzerland in 2008



Dave in Australia informs us that...

Since the last edition of the water gazette I've done a range of water oriented activities. I ran a one **day program for children** aged from 7 to 15 years of age on water issues in our world. The day went well and the children engaged in the activities which we had organised to illustrate some of the injustices which exist in our world in relation to water sharing.

I've also **presented to several groups** and I continue to bring water issues into **conversation** so that more people in my community are aware of what other people in our world live with day by day, based on the stories which were shared at the First EWN Summer School on Water last year.

Signing off from the land down under, Dave.

From Kelly in Massachusetts

Since having participated in the Summer School Kelly has been the driving force behind a very creative initiative raising awareness on water issues: "Essentially One", a modern dance with theatrical, spiritual, and ballet elements advocating for change in water use.

The dance has been performed several times at different occasions. One of them took place at the Helen Hills Hills Chapel at Smith College. That evening core dancers and community dancers performed to a gathering of about 100 people.

Kelly used the opportunity to also address the audience before and after the performance, engaging people in discussions about what they would do as individuals. Participants wrote their commitments and comments on slips of paper and offered them up to the front of the room before leaving.

"I hope audience members walk away with a sense of personal responsibility and passion for contributing to community-based development projects in places of scarcity and/or advocating for more sustainable water management in the United States."

Kelly begins seminary this fall at Yale Divinity School.

Received from Débora in Brazil

In this last year, we organized some activities in Brazil. Soon after the Summer School some young people met for **workshops on the issue of water**. On 17, 18 and October 19, 2008, the young people from the São Paulo Region met in a community to discuss and reflect on the water issues, in addition to working on the awareness of the problems that lack and misuse can cause in the very near future. Between, 5 to 7 Sept. 2009, youth of the southeast of Brazil were able to participate

Packia in Switzerland writes

In 2008 Packia had already reported about having spoken about water issues at a session attended by about 1,500 participants during his diocese's annual youth camp.

It's good to write about the impact of the summer school on water, especially after a year, as a token of remembrance and a matter of solidarity with all of my friends who are working in various levels in various parts of the world in water issues.

Last year during New Year we did a remarkable thing in our diocese. Every year on January first most of my church people come to church and pray for a promise verse and they collect this promise verse from the priest. So basically the diocese print selected biblical verses in a card and send it to the parishes. Each people collect a card from the presbyter during the New Year service. It's a routine practice and a highly influential part of New Year day service at the church.

So we decided to print climate change awareness slogans on the back of this biblical verse cards. We thought since it reaches many people and the back side is blank, we can utilize the space. The proposal was accepted by the Church and the communication department of our diocese took the initiative to organise this campaign. On one side they printed a bible

Débora (on the right) with Carlos Möller, President of CONIC (on the left) and Roberto Kirchheim, water advisor to CONIC (2nd from the left)



in a workshop on Water and Environment. In this same workshop, they were able to develop work for release explaining that water is precious and we must preserve it.

In addition, the National Council of Christian Churches in Brazil (CONIC) has chosen me as **one of the new advisors for CONIC's Water Project**, together with Roberto Kirchheim (a member of the EWN Steering Group, representing the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI).

The two of us are part of the **Water Commission**, which has the participation of the General Secretary of CONIC, Luiz Alberto Barbosa, P. Sinodal Carlos Möller (President of CONIC) and Padre Nelito Dornelas (CNBB). The CONIC Water Project is now in partnership with the Commission on Climate Change and Water of the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB). As a result we advisors participated in the first International Symposium on Climate Change and Social Justice of the CNBB, between, 08 to 10 June 2009, in Brasília.

Débora



Packia holding examples of promise verse cards produced by his church with climate change messages on the back

verse and on the back side a climate change awareness slogan and/or tips.

It reached more 50,000 people and created a significant impact throughout the diocese. This is one of the examples how we can integrate our spiritual exercise and eco-concerns in order to care for the creations and to help one another through faith based action.

As we continue our journey may God bless everyone and empower with His grace to live a life worthy of our commitment towards the larger humanity and wider creations.

Youssef from Cairo, Egypt

In earlier editions of the Water Gazette Youssef had already shared news about a programme he had put in place at his school, "Education for life. Education for change", a kind of non-formal education the main aim of which is to promote environmental preservation. Youssef also succeeded in being selected as a youth delegate to the World Water Forum 2009 in Istanbul, together with his friend Hany,

"Few will have the greatness to bend history itself. But each of us can work to change a small portion of events and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation!" - Martin Luther King.

The Modern Sciences and Arts University recently hosted the **Egypt Science Fair** and I participated, as a school teacher and science supervisor, with 3 projects which were all related to water :

- Car water engine
- Alarm for drains overflows
- Electro-water generator

Project
"Alarm for
drains
overflows"



The first project was about "A car moving by means of electricity, wind & water" and it aimed to decrease the effect of air pollution by using natural resources.

The second project was created to solve the problem of increases in water level of drains going unnoticed and causing damage to the furniture of houses or the increase of water in streets, which causes traffic problems.

The third project aimed to answer the question of "How can we utilize water in generating electric power?"

I also observed that there was more than one project about water from the other schools such as "save wasted water".

On the other side, our church recently organised a **children's carnival called "Hero Not Zero"** which was based the verse "let the weak say, I [am] strong" (John 3 : 10).

The carnival included 5 rooms, more than 50 volunteers and more than 180 children (between 4 – 12 years) participating over two days.



Emboo be
ma'oo -
'drink water'

I (as a team member) and a friend Hany (as a leader) worked together in a room called "Emboo be ma'oo" (poster above) which in Coptic language means 'drink water'. This room included **information about the water cycle and water preservation**. I also worked as a leader in another room called "Bos Gowak", which in Arabic language which means 'see yourself'. This room and aimed to show that we are all heroes in different fields and we must work all together as a team work to create the image of God. The carnival was amazing.

And now I continue to work in a program in my school called "Education for life... Education for change" for all my school

colleagues. I'm also working with Hany and another colleague in a team called "Nature replies... Man in Danger" and we will inform you about our activities in the upcoming issues of the Water Gazette.



Children's Carnival
"Hero Not Zero"

Lynda in Honduras thinks about

Electricity from water

After the Summer School on Water, I was granted with a scholarship for a German Development Organization to make Postgraduate Studies, the topic that I studied was Renewable Energies, and I studied the ways to produce clean energy using air, biomass, sun and water.

Power generation from a stream of water is a renewable energy source used around the world to generate electricity. Most energy is produced with large scale plants that use large dams and reservoirs which can store large amounts of water to regulate generation. These plants have the ability to generate significant amounts of electricity steadily during certain periods but also cause serious environmental and social impacts such as: obstruction of the flow of rivers, flooding of significant areas and the relocation of communities.

The small-scale systems, which can vary from a few watts to 5 megawatts, don't cause these problems and help to provide electricity service to non-electrified areas and to strengthen the interconnected system. These projects will temporarily divert a portion of a stream flow for hydropower production. From the environmental viewpoint, this kind of hydropower has the great advantage of being a clean and renewable resource. Their use doesn't produce emissions of

CO₂, and contributes to the reduction of global warming. Additionally, small-scale projects do not produce significant adverse impacts on the local environment when they are installed and operated properly.

The environmental impacts of the small-scale projects can be divided into two basic categories: physical and ecological effects. Some examples of environmental impacts are:

- Construction of the dams
- Reservoir, the dam needs to have a small reservoir to regulate the hours of generation.
- Conservation of the watershed
- Species migration
- Impact to the landscape
- Drinking water: since this is usually obtained from the same source of a project hydroelectric, consider the impact on the quality and quantity of water available for this purpose.
- Social impact

Advantages of small-scale hydropower include:

- Clean and renewable source of energy.
- Low operating costs
- Availability of energy
- Production uses

Disadvantages of small-scale hydropower:

- High initial cost
- Local availability
- Water Variability: water flows may vary considerably during the different seasons, which impact on power generation.

We must recognize that water use is important for clean energy production and contributes to environmental conservation. The solution for minimizing the environmental impact that may be caused by this kind of energy is to opt for small scale hydropower, which can be managed by the communities, respecting the access to water and producing benefits to contribute to the development of the communities.

News from Carolyn in Uganda

I have worked with the Anti-corruption Coalition Uganda in the fight against **corruption in the water and sanitation sector**. We moved around the country especially in the remote areas where the government has tried to construct water sources. To our surprise, funds were misused by the companies that were given the order to do the work, leaving the people to suffer without clean water.

The church of Uganda has also tried to support the fight against water pollution and scarcity of water by using its own funds to construct water sources, for example, at Bwera in Kasese district. The people are so grateful for the work that the church did to ensure that people can access safe water free of charge.

I have also engaged myself in the field of health by **visiting some hospitals in rural areas**. I found out that women are more responsible compared to men when it comes to the fight against diseases, when anyone falls sick it's the responsibility of women to take care and men just kept at home. According to my study, most of the diseases that are affecting the people in rural areas are due to lack of enough safe water for domestic use. Even when it is present, it is very far from the homesteads.

Disease such as cholera, malaria, dysentery have covered these areas, and last year I went to some parts of Bunyoro in the western part of Uganda and patients were complaining of absence of clean water and lack of drugs to treat their diseases.

After the trip, I presented a **brief report** on what I had found out to religious leaders of my village and church. Unfortunately, they could not do a lot since it's a long distance from where our village is and a lot of money will be needed.

I have used my profession as a **journalist to report to the public** whenever I went in the field, to at least let the national leaders hear what is happening to the people outside the city.

So far, that's the news I can provide you with but I will write more,

Carolyn

Shaun D. Cozett reflects on "Life a Year after the EWN Summer School"

I had a very reflective day on 27 July this year as I remembered my flight from Cape Town to Geneva, one year earlier. I remember having all four seats in that section to myself (perhaps the reason I remember the flight so well), so I could stretch out and just ponder where my life was going. I remember thinking that there are a few **things that I would like to change**, and that the week ahead would be a great opportunity to quietly reflect on them, and strategize the on way forward. Of course the next few days left very little time to reflect as I got to spend time with a group of interesting, committed, but above all inspirational young people. The time we spent together still lingers as a highlight in my life not only for the instruction we received and the interactions on them, but mainly for the time spent with my fellow students and sharing with them.

Well, I got home and realized that I actually had not spent much time thinking about those personal issues, and thinking on the flight home was pointless as I was completely tired from the night before. I had a few days' leave, but spent the time preparing for my sermons in the coming weeks, as we would be launching the **Season of Creation**, and I was invited to preach at different parishes over an eight week period.

The sermons themselves seemed to flow very easily, as I was asked to preach on water, and the Summer School was the perfect preparation for that. I spent the next eight weeks travelling across the city of Cape Town **preaching on water and calling the church to meet the thirsty at the well**, just like Jesus met the Samaritan women there. In each sermon God gave me a different meaning of what it meant to be thirsty, of what and where the well is, and who we are called to meet there. I also found the **theme of unity** coming through very strongly; the image of all the students from their different backgrounds meeting in Geneva with a common purpose stayed with me and became a central theme of the talks. By the beginning of November the



Shaun speaking at an event organized by EWN at the AACC Assembly - after having spent two days at the airport.

Season of Creation was finished, and so was my energy.

On the personal side, things were becoming more and more difficult and dealing with them was no longer optional, it was inevitable. Ironically, I got the time to think and strategize when the Ecumenical Water Network invited me to attend the **Assembly of the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)** in December 2008. I had an early morning flight, and in my tiredness took the wrong passport. When I got to Maputo the customs officials kept me at the airport for the better part of two days; and with nothing else to do I had to confront my thoughts and deal with reality.

It was a tough couple of days, but looking back, it was what I needed. The AACC Assembly was really good. It was hot and we worked hard (and still don't know where Maike get's all her energy from) but it was very fulfilling. I had the opportunity to speak about my experiences in Geneva and also thank one of the representatives of the EWN Steering Group on behalf of all of us for the special time together.

The next few months were spent slowly and painfully dealing **with all the unresolved issues**. It all came to a head in February when I was interviewed for the post I had acted in for almost two years for which I

wrote the job description, and was told that someone else would be getting the job. This was an absolute low point, but it was on my list so I had to deal with it. A friend and I decided that for our Lenten sacrifice we would fast and pray on Thursdays. I chose as my focus the book of Joel, and found a promise in Joel 2:25 that "I will restore unto you the years that the locusts have eaten."

Well, needless to say, we serve a **God of restoration** and all the areas I thought about on the flight to Geneva have either been restored, and are in the process of restoration. Amongst them, I have a new job where I feel valued and work in a team where I'm appreciated and supported, and my name has just been sent to the Bishop for discernment towards ordination. Not to mention friends who have supported me through those difficult times, to whom I am eternally grateful.

As I look back on that flight on 27 July 2008 and everything I was thinking of, I have to admit that if someone offered me what I have today, I would have taken it no questions asked. Getting to this point was difficult, but definitely worth it. I now know what it feels like to be met at the well, and to drink from the water of life.

Angelious writes from India

Angelious has continued his work on water and environmental issues as part of his work at the Youth Desk of his church, and has also been part of the discussions about the next Ecumenical Water School which is to take place in India. He participated also in the World Water Forum in Istanbul where he spoke at a side-event organized by the Ecumenical Water Network. He writes about his next plans:

There are two important things to share with you:

1. The Youth Desk of JELC is planning to hold the JELC Youth Assembly this year from 9th to 13th of December. About 500 delegates are expected to participate. Water issue will be a major concern in that assembly though we are yet to finalize dates and theme.
2. The Commission of Youth of the National Council of Churches in India will hold its National Ecumenical Youth Assembly during the second week of January 2010 in Kolkata. Nearly 700

youth from all over India representing different member churches of NCC India and also interfaith participants are expected to be attending the assembly. I am planning for at least two workshops on water during the assembly to be organized by JELC.



Angelious at the World Water Forum with Maike (EWN Secretariat) and Mari Williams (Tearfund)

Participants

EWN Summer School 2008:

Packiaraj Asirvatham, India
Lilit Babajanyan, Armenia
Shaun Cozett, South Africa
Kelly Forbush, USA
Anna Elisabet Frost, Sweden
David Gale, Australia
Lynda Melissa Garcia Recinos, Honduras
Norbert Habincuti, Rwanda
Walter Lizandro Hildago, USA
Sheryl Johnson, Canada
Taneal Kamuzungu, Malawi
Natalia Karpiuk, Poland
Teboho Lepheana, Lesotho
Débora Ludwig, Brazil
Angelious Michael, India
Kimberlee Mortimer, USA
Youssef Mourad Reyad Matta, Egypt
Carolyn Nantambi, Uganda
Chukwuemeka Oji, Nigeria
Matthew Oliver, Australia
Rania Flavie Touma, Syria
Tewaney Yohannes, Ethiopia



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