

Synod of Living Waters Proposal Meeting

November 12, 2024

Attendees: Susan Bradish, Robyn Justus, Philip Lotspeich, Jerry Utt

Earlier in the 2024, a request was received from the Synod of Living Waters requesting that the presbytery participate in the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund. **(Appendix A)** The funds raised will ensure that clean water systems that are already installed will be able to be maintained and serviced in the future.

The request is to use a portion of funds that Presbytery may receive in the future when churches close and are sold.

Different scenarios were reviewed by the group and approved the following recommendation to the Coordinating Commission and Administration Commission:

Recommend that 5% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian Church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be sent to the Synod of Living Waters for the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund.

Recommend that 5% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian Church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be held in a Presbytery designated fund for presbytery sponsored and approved mission partnerships.

Recommend that the remaining 90% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be held in the Presbytery designated fund "Proceeds from Sale of Church Property" to be available to Presbytery's new worshipping communities and church transformation projects. Funds will be budgeted and approved by the Church Innovation and Transformation Commission and the Administration Commission.



A Mid-Council of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

## **Proposal: Transylvania Presbytery - Living Waters for the World Legacy Partnership**

### **Background:**

A life without clean drinking water is a severely diminished life, and not what God desires for God's children. 600 million people globally suffer with this reality, keeping children out of school and adults unable to stay healthy and work to make a better future. Living Waters for the World was officially recognized as a global ministry of Synod of Living Waters in 1993. Since then, hundreds of PCUSA water teams, most hailing from the 12 presbyteries comprising the Synod of Living Waters, have been trained to form partnerships with churches, schools, orphanages and clinics in international communities, and working together, install and operate water purification systems to benefit families without access to clean drinking water. The impact is incalculable, Over 1100 clean water systems have been installed by LWW trained teams, the vast majority of them are still in operation. Teams from Transylvania have installed 23 systems, 20 of those are still operating. In addition, Transylvania teams have worked on rehabs or remodels of older systems at 10 more locations. .

Sustainable, clean water provides instant change and, more importantly, generational change. Therefore, supporting the long-term success of our partners is essential. Living Waters for the World's 11 regional networks provide assistance to our trained water teams while in-country, and ongoing support for Operating Partners – where water systems are in service.

### **The Legacy Fund:**

The Synod of Living Waters has established a Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund for the purpose of sustaining our operating partners into the future. Funds raised will support Living Waters for the World international network operations, where direct support of communities takes place. A sufficient corpus raised will ensure that earnings from the fund can be drawn upon annually, thus ensuring generational support of Living Waters for the World communities.

### **The Transylvania Presbytery - Living Waters for the World Legacy Partnership**

Changing the trajectory of hope for the children and their families served by Living Waters for the World is a beautiful way for a church's mission to live on, even as their day to day operations cease. Needs at home are obviously important but it is also important to honor our global bonds established by our water teams – our global family of faith. Therefore, a portion of funds received by Transylvania Presbytery from the closing of churches and liquidation of assets will be designated for the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund at Synod of Living Waters.