



# Living Waters International, Inc.

- Aid for African Catholic Missions -

P.O. Box 614 • Antigo, WI 54409

Phone: 715.627.4782 • Toll Free: 866.220.8981

Web: [www.livingwatersinternational.org](http://www.livingwatersinternational.org) • email: [livingh2o@livingwatersinternational.org](mailto:livingh2o@livingwatersinternational.org)

Spring Newsletter

May 2016

*Living Waters' mission is the support of Roman Catholic missionary and international development projects in East Africa.*

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*Living Waters International is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year as a not-for-profit, 501 (c) (3) charitable corporation. In this article, Father Mathew Thazhathukunnell, Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, recalls his congregation's relationship with LWI and some examples of service made possible with the support of our benefactors.*

## Living Waters International: God's Gift for the MSFS Missions in Africa



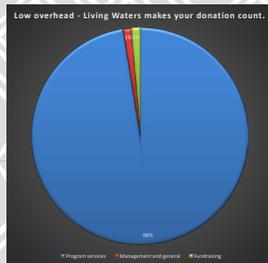
**Father Mathew Thazhathukunnell**

"I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will declare all your wondrous deeds" (Ps. 9.1). It is with deep sentiments of gratitude to God and our benefactors in the USA that we remember the collaboration of Living Waters International and the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (MSFS) for the past two decades. God's ways are unknown to us. When we allow ourselves to be guided by His plan in our lives, wonderful things takes place. The history of LWI is a history of God's love for humanity in Africa.

It all began in 1993 when Father George Parampukattil, MSFS was making Mission Appeals in Wisconsin and met Mary and Stephen Zimmerman at St. Wenceslaus Parish in Neva. Father George gave their contact information to his blood brother, Father Jose Parampukattil, also MSFS, who was then working in Tanzania. Father Jose invited Mary and Stephen to Tanzania to advise the MSFS in development of 500 acres of newly acquired land near Mbutu in the Tabora Archdiocese. These novice missionaries made two trips to Tanzania in 1994 with high hopes of developing the Mbutu Farm agriculturally. At the close of December 1994, before boarding their return flight to Wisconsin, they met with Father Augustine Mangatt, the Regional Superior of the MSFS in East Africa, and detailed discussion ensued as to the future of the MSFS in Africa and the farm in particular. Paramount from this discussion was Father Mangatt's request to Mary and Stephen if they would consider starting a NGO (non-governmental organization) for the procurement of funds for the fledgling MSFS mission in Tanzania.

Upon returning to Wisconsin, the Zimmermans conferred with friends Karen and Brian Prunty, who shared their enthusiasm for support of the missions.

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Work then began on exploring the possibilities of starting a NGO. After much prayer, paperwork and deliberation, a little over one year later, in February 1996, Living Waters International was founded to assist in developing the Catholic missions in Africa.

Since its foundation, LWI it has provided support to the MSFS missions in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, Chad, Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa. LWI has also extended its services to various other religious congregations and dioceses in Africa as well as in India.

We are grateful to LWI for supporting our missionary endeavours in East Africa by soliciting funds for the missions, by creating mission awareness in the U.S., by acting as the fiscal agent for our projects, by creating the Seminarians' Purse for the formation of our seminarians, by establishing the Student Sponsorship Program through which a number of poor children have received their primary and secondary school education, and by providing food relief to feed the poor children in our missions throughout East Africa.

The MSFS in East Africa thank God for the blessings that we have received through LWI. We gratefully remember the Executive Team of LWI and all the benefactors who support our missions in Africa in various ways. May God bless them and their families abundantly. And may God continue to bless LWI to serve the poor and needy in Africa and to bring the *Good News* to His people in Africa.

## Appeal for Shipping Costs of Books to SFS Junior Seminary in Tanzania

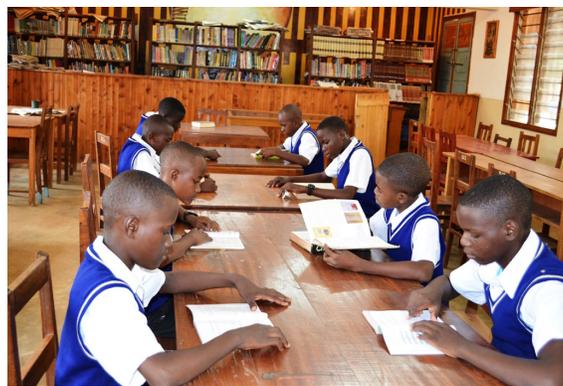
By Father Sheejan Kallarakkal, Rector  
SFS Junior Seminary

*St. Francis de Sales (SFS) Junior Seminary* in Kihonda, Morogoro, Tanzania is a secondary school cum Catholic Junior Seminary where young men pursue their secondary school education while receiving seminary formation. In academic year 2016, enrollment at the school is 284.

Established in 1993, the first class of students graduated from the SFS Junior Seminary in 1997. Over the past two decades, more than one thousand young men have received a quality secondary school education, life skills' formation and spiritual guidance from the school. Many of these graduates are now employed with accredited professional companies both in Tanzania and internationally. Others serve as Catholic priests in the congregation of the *Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales*, in other religious congregations and in Catholic dioceses in Tanzania.

A current need of the *SFS Seminary* is more books for the school's library. Given the changes in world history, politics and science and resultant changes in the school's curriculum over the past 20 plus years, many of the books still currently in use at the school have become outdated in their content. An upgrade to the school's library of books will guarantee the continued provision of quality secondary school education at the seminary.

*Books for Africa*, an NGO from the United States of America has agreed to donate a forty-foot container with approximately 22,000 secondary school books. The value of these books by conserva-



*Young seminarians hungry to read, learn and explore the world in ways that only books make possible.*

tive IRS estimate is \$264,000! The only cost to the school is shipping. Although a large part of shipping costs have been garnered, about \$4,500 remains to be raised. It is for these remaining shipping costs that the *Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales* are requesting our kind support.

Visit us at our website at [www.livingwatersinternational.org](http://www.livingwatersinternational.org)!



# SPOTLIGHT

by Eileen Hartl, LWI Board Member

Today we are shining the light on two seminarians in need of sponsorship.

Our two seminarians, Mutume Ventino and Patrick Musyimi, are both from the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (MSFS) order and both attend Jordan University College in Morogoro, Tanzania. Mutume is in his first year of theology and Patrick is in his second year.



Mutume wants to be a priest in order to serve God and his people. Mutume shares, "I prefer to be a priest in the religious life so that I may reach the poor and marginalized, without neglecting those people who are in need and suffering the most. This way of life will enable me to deepen my spiritual life and I can help the people in their spiritual life and sacramental life." More importantly, Mutume wishes to serve his country as a priest and promote more vocations to the priestly life by showing himself as an example to others, especially the young ones. He would like to serve his family as a priest by bringing its members more closely to God.

When asked what his benefactor should pray for, he replied, "I would ask them to pray for me fervently so that I may fulfil my priestly duties and in return I promise them my prayers to the Almighty."



Patrick would like to be a Catholic priest to serve God and his people and to live a consecrated life. "I prefer to be a priest in the religious life that I may form a strong sense of community among believers, particularly for the poor. In the person of Jesus Christ, I will show others the path of life through the sacraments of initiation, healing and vocations." His greatest desire is to be a priest that will evangelize and teach Christian values and the sacramental life. "I also hope to serve my family as a priest by praying for them and encouraging them to live the Christian faith."

Patrick's request of his benefactor would be for them to pray for him to be a good priest, and then, "I promise them my prayers always."

\*Expenses incurred by the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales for the formation of a seminarian are typically \$3,000 annually. The Seminarians' Purse is an initiative to support future priests of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales in the Province of East Africa. The MSFS began their apostolate in East Africa in 1988. Forty-nine MSFS priests currently serve in parish missions in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique. These missionaries are involved in religious formation, formal education, vocational training and social services, including caring for street children, empowering women and providing medical services.

Sponsoring a seminarian not only benefits the individual, but also the community. If you would like to sponsor one of these seminarians, you can contact us at [livingh2o@livingwatersinternational.org](mailto:livingh2o@livingwatersinternational.org) or toll free at (866) 220-8981. No contribution to a seminarian's support is too small. Please help us to share in the evangelization of the peoples of East Africa.



## Summer Fund-raisers -2016-

### **Brat Fry**

*Sponsored by: Wrightstown Area Friends of Living Waters*

**Where:** Dick's Family Foods

400 High Street Wrightstown, WI

**When:** Saturday May 21, 10:00-6:00

### **Brat Fry at Butch's Super Valu**

*Sponsored by: Living Waters International (Workers needed for two hour shifts - Call 715 623-5082)*

**Where:** 115 South Superior St., Antigo, WI

**When:** Friday June 15, 10:00-2:00

### **Music in the Park, Pie and Ice Cream Social**

*Sponsored by: Living Waters International (Pie donations & workers needed - Call 715 623-5082)*

**Where:** Antigo City Park, 200 Aurora St Antigo, WI

**When:** Monday June 13, 6:30-8:30

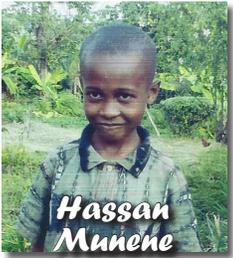
# Students In Need



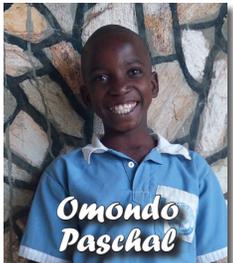
**Name:** Daniel John  
**Gender:** Male  
**Birthday:** November 10, 2004  
**Country:** Tanzania  
**Favorite Pastimes:** Drawing & Painting  
**Favorite Subjects:** Math & English  
**Special Need:** Daniel's father left the family and his mother's monthly income is about \$15 which is only enough income to feed the family. Daniel has a great desire to study.



**Name:** Vivian Yohana Jonathon  
**Gender:** Female  
**Birthday:** November 16, 2005  
**Country:** Tanzania  
**Favorite Pastimes:** Singing & Dancing  
**Favorite Subjects:** English & Science  
**Special Need:** Vivian's mother became pregnant at a very young age and the father abandoned her. Her monthly income is only \$10/month.



**Name:** Hassan Munene  
**Gender:** Male  
**Birthday:** August 16, 2005  
**Country:** Kenya  
**Favorite Pastimes:** Playing with friends  
**Favorite Subjects:** Science  
**Special Need:** Hassan's mother is an alcoholic and his father is not in the picture. His living conditions are very poor and he often comes to the convent for food and companionship.



**Name:** Omondo Paschal  
**Gender:** Male  
**Birthday:** May 17, 2007  
**Country:** Uganda  
**Favorite Pastimes:** Singing & Playing  
**Favorite Subjects:** Social Studies  
**Special Need:** Omondo's father is not present. He and his siblings live with his mother and her parents and they cannot afford to pay his school tuition and fees.

To learn more about these children and other children waiting to be sponsored, visit our website at: [www.livingwatersinternational.org](http://www.livingwatersinternational.org)



## Student Sponsorship

**\$25 a month provides help for:**

- Tuition
- Books
- School Supplies
- School Uniforms
- Shelter
- Food
- Health Care

**Payments can be made:**

- Monthly..... \$25
- Quarterly ..... \$75
- Semi-annually\$150
- Annually .....\$300

100% of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to your child's sponsorship.



## Project List

- ✓ Love
- ✓ In
- ✓ Small
- ✓ Things

Project LIST looks at the little ways and the small things that can make a BIG difference in the life of a child in East Africa. In the battle against poverty, one of *Living Waters International's* goals is to help turn every contribution into big benefits. No contribution is too small!

Your support of Project LIST can supplement the donations we receive through student sponsorships. Students sometimes lose their sponsorship or fees increase when they move on to secondary schools. Project LIST can ensure continued assistance in these cases.