



Busasamana, Rwanda

How One Reverend Living Out the Gospel Led to Safe Water for 403 Households

In 2024, Living Water International organized a sanitation and hygiene training in the Busasamana Wash Program Area, welcoming all surrounding residents to attend. It was there that Reverend Alexis of the Methodist Church in Rwanda became fully aware of how serious the water access, sanitation, and hygiene problems in his community were, and how the church could and should play a role in addressing these issues by engaging in integral mission. Integral mission is the concept that Christians should demonstrate the gospel by caring for people holistically—the mind, body, and soul.

Reverend Alexis recalled, “When I attended the Envisioning Workshop and WASH-Related training from Living Water, I became passionate about and committed to addressing the gaps in WASH services, especially safe water access and household latrines.”

In the period that followed, under Reverend Alexis’s leadership, the Methodist Church made a historic and meaningful decision; for the first time, access to safe water was included as a priority in their development plan.

This commitment made by congregants and church leaders soon translated into real, life-changing results. Through a piped-water extension, safe water reached 403 households across four surrounding villages. Community volunteers contributed their own labor during construction and caretakers chosen by the community maintain the water points.

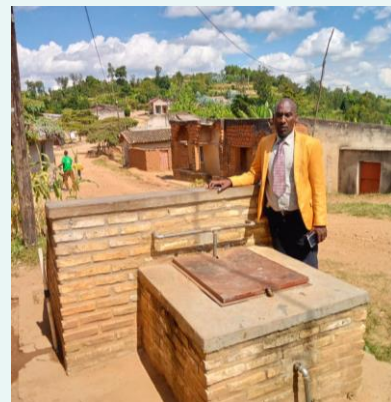
Now, families who once suffered frequent waterborne illnesses enjoy better health, children who spent hours fetching water spend that time at school, and elderly people living alone meet a basic need safely and with dignity.

Today, a sign at a local parish in Busasamana reads, “Hygiene is the source of life.” Backed by the rainwater tanks and handwashing points at the parish, those words are put into practice. In this way, the Methodist Church not only helps provide safe water, it also promotes sanitation and hygiene practices that keep the community healthy.

Reflecting on living out integral mission and the incredible results that have come from it, Reverend Alexis said, “I am grateful to Living Water for opening my eyes.”



This parish in Busasamana now has a rainwater collection tank with a filtration system, and sign about the importance of sanitation and hygiene practices.



Reverend Alexis stands at one of the piped water points that the church helped bring to the area.