

## First Quarter of 2024 Executive Director Message

March 28, 2024

## Hello Vera Aqua Vera Vita Family!

As I write and record this it is the beginning of the three Holiest Days of the year, starting with today, Holy Thursday, leading into tomorrow Good Friday and the next day leading into Easter. This time of the year always leads me to reflect on two primary things: 1.) How well do I understand the depth of unconditional love that Jesus has for me? and 2.) How well am I responding in truly living a life that conforms to God's will and honors the gift of love that he has given?

As such, if I am being honest, I feel woefully inadequate in my understanding and my response to the gift of Christ's love. While, yes, at the same time I do recognize the many blessings and good things that the Lord is working in my life. However, I cannot help but feel and know that there is much more fulfillment of the Lord's will that needs to occur in my life. These sentiments ring especially true with the work we are doing at Vera Aqua Vera Vita. Of course, there are many blessings we are experiencing from continued and sustained growth in funding as an organization, as we are now less than \$15,000 away from realizing a \$72,000 YOY increase in committed, annual recurring funding. Additionally, we continue to advance as an organization through a new website, increased reach and engagement through media, deepening partnerships with parishes in the Diocese of Dallas through Non-Parish Based Organization affiliation status, and an ever-increasing number of registered participants for our Annual Mission Trip to Peru, to name a few. Yet, despite these many blessings, I cannot help but feel a massive pit in my stomach because of the fact, that even with our best efforts to bring clean water to communities in need in Peru, we are falling woefully short of meeting the abundant need of so many of our most less fortunate brothers and sisters.

We need to do more, and we cannot wait or be complacent with the calling the Lord has placed upon us as an organization! Thus, let us unite all our efforts to Christ as we substantially increase in unified service and prayer for our less fortunate brothers and sisters in need of clean water. I hope and pray that you have a Spiritually rich next few days, and an abundantly joyful Easter! In the spirit of this season, I invite you to consider how the Lord might be calling you to give generously of the generous gifts he has give you in His death and resurrection! Alleluia Christ is Risen!

Gratefully in Christ,

Jacob Niemeier

Jacob Niemeier | Founder & Executive Director