



THE UNION COUNTY Health Department recently held a food drive for St. Vincent DePaul. Although it is a small group, organizers say a great deal of food was collected for the agency. Pictured are some of those who participated in the event: Jenny Hagan, Sonja Dalrymple, Ellis Sibley, Linda Baker, Terra Beck and Laquinya Everhart.

A Dehydrated Fish

By Van Yandell

Matthew 4: 18-20
"And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him."

"He's like a fish out of water!" That's a saying we've heard describing a person that was out of place and at times, obviously so.

Fish need water but so do humans. The earth's surface is seventy-one percent covered with water. That water makes us the blue planet which is a color at times associated with life. We are told to drink certain amounts of water every day.

The National Academy of Science tells us to drink 3.7 liters of water per day for men; that's about one gallon. Women are advised to drink about 2.7 liters. Margie said I should drink eight glasses of water each day. I said "Fine, what's the smallest glass we have?"

A urologist once told me to drink water with lemon every day for kidney health. I took that advice and have had no kidney problems since.

I'm told kidney stone

pain is equivalent to child birth. If that were true, the world population

would probably be

much less than eight billion!

The plant life in the

oceans produces over

half of the earth's ox-

ygen. Some estimate

that number may be as high as eighty percent. Definitions and descriptions vary as to exactly what seaweed includes. Phytoplankton, kelp, and algal plankton are usually included and produce tremendous amounts of our oxygen.

Scuba-diving off the Florida Keys, I noticed the tremendous amount of plant life under the surface. Coral appears as a rock-like material but it is actually alive.

When shrimp on Mosquito Lagoon by the Kennedy Space Center, our underwater lights became constantly entangled with seaweed.

Plant life under the seas, considering the salinity of the water, is surprising but is there in abundance.

We know the earth's atmospheric movements circulate the

produced oxygen, making it possible for us to

breathe anywhere on the earth (Ecclesiastes 1: 6).

God had the essential components for the production of life at creation (Genesis 1: 1-3).

A combining of carbon-based matter (the earth), light and

water result in the production of chlorophyll from which a by-product is oxygen.

God not only is the

first and greatest recycler (Ecclesiastes 1: 7), He is also the Great Reciprocator. Humans and other animals breathe in oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide.

Plant life uses the carbon to produce more oxygen.

Any way we carve

this up, water is essen-

tial for life on earth. A "fish out of water" is a cliché referring to someone feeling awkward, uncomfortable or struggling. Eventually that fish will succumb to its lack of oxygen. Gills were not designed to function out of water.

Anyone that has ever wet a line (fished), has seen a fish out of water. They flop around, struggling to survive. Life becomes unbearable with their inability to breathe and swim. Eventually, death overcomes them.

A dehydrated fish and a spiritually dehydrated Christian are somewhat similar. Jesus gave us (by one source) over 1000 commandments. We are New Testament Christians yet we at times place more emphasis on the Old Testament Ten Commandments (Exodus 20).

Christians are promoting the reinstatement of the Ten Commandments in classrooms,

public buildings and in park areas. While this

is well and good, let's not forget about the

other mandates Jesus gave us.

Matthew 22: 36-38

"Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt

love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and

with all thy soul, and

with all thy mind. This

is the first and great commandment."

This is directly tied to the first Commandment in the Old Testament (Exodus 20: 3-5).

How many of us have

priorities in our lives

other than studying our Bibles or spending time with God in prayer and meditation?

Yes, we are those dehydrated fish! Is it time to re-evaluate our lives and more specifically, our priorities? The church is obviously failing to evangelize and the world is suffering because of that failure.

If the Apostle Paul were alive today, the American church would receive a letter! If John were writing Revelation chapters two and three today there would be eight churches of the Revelation rather than seven.

We are facing a situation in our world in which the negligence of the church has become apparent and shows on a monumental scale.

Without the teachings/

commandments of God in the Old and New Testaments, our world will

continue to degrade

into a state of danger, fear and chaos.

When the world does not understand and value the differences in right and wrong, humanity deteriorates into a state of inhumanity.

Mao Zedong said "A

guerrilla must move amongst the people as a fish swims in the sea."

A guerrilla is a fighter.

We cannot become sol-

diers for the cross by re-

maining in our comfort

zones with the attitude

"Let someone else tell

the world about Jesus."

The last words spo-

ken by Jesus before He

ascended were Acts 1:

8 "Ye shall receive pow-

er, after that the Holy

Ghost is come upon you:

and ye shall be witness-

es unto me both in Je-

rusalem, and in all Ju-

daea, and in Samaria,

and unto the uttermost

part of the earth."

We have no excuse!

The uttermost part is

no longer the other side of the world; it is here.

We have the financial resources, the tech- nology and the people.

This societal condition

has reached a state of

urgency. We are seeing

and reading in the news

every day of man's evil

tendencies. How long

can this last?

The Bible teaches

there is only one ete-

rial salvation. That is

by a faith based belief

(Ephesians 2: 8) that

Christ Jesus was cruci-

fied (Matthew 27: 35)

for the remission of sin

(Romans 4: 25), resur-

rected (Matthew 28: 6)

and ascended alive into

Heaven (Acts 1: 9).

Van Yandell is a re-

tired Industrial Arts

teacher, an ordained

gospel evangelist and

missionary, from Fre-

donia, Kentucky. His

email is vmy3451@

gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNION COUNTY, KENTUCKY
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Watershed Modeling and Planning

Date: January 27, 2026

To: Qualified Consulting Firms

Re: Request for qualifications to provide hydrologic/hydraulic modeling and flood mitigation plan-

ning services for Union County.

GENERAL SCOPE OF SERVICE

Union County Fiscal Court is requesting qualifications for Engineering Services for the above referenced project. Responses will be used to select and rank the highest qualified Consulting Firm submitting a qualifications package for this project. The project may be funded, in whole or in part, with Federal, State, and/or Local funds. Accordingly, the successful consultant will be required to comply with all applicable Federal and State rules and regulations, as well as those of the Union County Fiscal Court.

The project may require survey, riverine modeling, flood mitigation solution development, design, cost estimation, and FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis.

PROJECT LIMITS AND OVERVIEW

A watershed study will be conducted in the vicinity of Waverly Kentucky.

SUBMITTING PROCEDURES

If your firm is interested in submitting qualifications for this project, provide four (4) copies of the proposal in a sealed envelope as indicated below:

Submittal: By February 24, 2026 at 8:30 am c.s.t to

Union County Fiscal Court

PO Box 60

100 West Main Street, Morganfield, KY 42437 Attn:

"Watershed Modeling and Planning"

Submittals received after the 8:30 am deadline shall be considered non-responsive and will not be reviewed.

The submittal shall cover your firm's qualifications, key staff identified for the project and relevant experience, knowledge and familiarity of the project locality, experience of the team with similar projects, identification of any subconsultants, project schedule and current workload. The proposals shall be sealed in an envelope or box with your firm's name and "Watershed Modeling and Planning" clearly marked on the front.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The period of performance is August 26, 2026

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The team proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Relative Experience of the Key Personnel you will assign to this project with projects of similar scope and complexity for local government agencies. (20 points)

2. Past record of performance with the Union County Fiscal Court and other similar clients on projects similar in type. (20 points)

3. Project Experience – Provide a minimum of 5 projects that demonstrate experience in the past 5 years with FEMA/HMGP planning, watershed/riverine modeling, flood mitigation solution and/or BCA Analysis. (20 points)

4. Availability – Evaluation of the workload of the proposing team and the staffing to be provided to the proposed project; and location of the offices or facilities from which the services are to be provided to the County. (10 points)

5. Familiarity with the project requirements and locality, including proximity and accessibility of the firm to the project. (30 points)

The Union County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, or, where it may serve the best interest of the Union County Fiscal Court, to request additional information or clarification from proposers. The Union County Fiscal Court, in its sole discretion, also reserves the right to waive any informalities or technicalities relative to any and all submittals. At the Agency's discretion, presentations may be requested as part of the evaluation process. The Union County Fiscal Court reserves the right to retain all submittals, and to use any idea in any submittal regardless of whether the submittal is selected.

There is no expressed or implied obligation for the Union County Fiscal Court to reimburse any team for any expense incurred in preparing or presenting a response to this request for qualifications.

Any questions regarding the project should be submitted no later than 5 days prior to submittal date, to