



H₂O
water²thrive
PROGRESS REPORT
2008 - 2011



Vision

A world where we share generously to provide health, hope, and water to all.

Mission

Water to Thrive transforms lives in rural Africa by bringing the blessing of sustainable, clean water to communities in need by connecting them to social investors, congregations, schools and community groups with a heart to make a difference.

Values

Stewardship ♦ Transparency ♦ Impact ♦ Accountability ♦ Integrity ♦ Compassion

A word from W2T

In this first progress report for Water to Thrive, we hope to give you a glimpse of the phenomenal, blessed journey of the last three years – blessed by thousands of W2T supporters who have had the heart to make a difference, transforming the lives of thousands of rural Africans who struggle every day for a clean drink of water. It has been a privilege for Water to Thrive to participate with so many passionate and caring supporters, who never cease to amaze us with their creativity and their commitment to our mission of bringing the blessing of clean, sustainable water to those in need.

Our greatest joy comes from representing all of our supporters on trips to the field, visiting both communities in need of water as well as communities that are celebrating the blessing of clean water for the first time in their history. It is always a time of tremendous shared gratitude and thankfulness for God's gifts. On these visits, our days are filled with many unforgettable moments, but none more joyful than seeing six-year-old Alimetu (featured opposite) splashing clean water on her face for the first time in her life – the perfect moment to capture the spiritual and physical blessing of water!

We are grateful to be working with an equally committed group of implementing partners who carry out our work in the field. They allow us to focus our attention on lifting up the needs of the people we serve, while our implementing partners ensure project accountability, efficiency, and technical competence. We could never have come so far without these valued relationships, and they will continue to be incredibly important to us in the future.

Our journey is just beginning – the joy will come from discovering our path. We hope you will join us. Thank you for your support of Water to Thrive.

Dick Moeller
Founder, President



Dick and Becky help inaugurate a new well.

For those who have been a part of the journey with Water to Thrive, thank you! Whether you are part of our family through your financial contributions, your volunteered time, or in some other way, we are grateful. Together we continue to accomplish amazing things for the people we serve.

In addition to the support that has enabled us to bring water to those in need, for the people we serve, we have also witnessed the hand of God continuing to shape our mission and expand our reach. We have witnessed children collecting change and running lemonade stands. We have seen “clean water” given for Christmas and birthday gifts, or simply to honor loved ones. We have witnessed full water projects being donated as a memorial for a loved one, giving new life through the gift of clean water.

I am continually moved and deeply touched by the compassion I witness through the many ways our mission is supported. My prayer is that as we move forward, we have an even greater impact – with people continuing to stretch their creativity in the ways that they can support our mission. I want to witness God's amazing hand touching the hearts of many more. I hope to inspire more people to be part of the solution, and to see even more lives transformed.

Becky Turner
Program Director



The Need

The lack of clean sustainable water has a devastating impact on the health and economic progress of families and communities throughout rural Africa:

- Approximately two of every three persons in rural Africa have no sustainable access to clean water. In Ethiopia, more than 65 million people live in these circumstances.
- These conditions force millions of women and children to spend three to six hours every day walking and collecting and carrying filthy water for their families.
- A single jerry can, holding about five gallons of water, can weigh 40 to 60 pounds.
- Unsafe water transmits water-borne diseases in approximately 50 percent of the rural population.
- One Ethiopian child in six dies before the age of five. Fifty percent of those deaths are from dehydration and diarrhea.
- For children, especially girls, time spent gathering water reduces their chance for education, thus continuing the cycle of poverty.



The Response

At Water to Thrive, we are continually amazed by the caring and open hearts of those who are moved to help us transform lives with the blessing and gift of clean, sustainable water.

Hundreds of congregations, schools, community groups, families, and individual sponsors have all rallied their resources to serve the needs of over 100,000 people in rural Africa that have never had access to clean, sustainable water in their history.

We love the grassroots efforts of literally thousands of supporters and donors coming together to help transform lives and break the cycle of poverty. The creativity and ingenuity of our supporters continually surprise us. Among the many events put on to raise funds for Water to Thrive have been dinners, lemonade stands, simulated walks for water, bake sales, Ethiopian dinners, and children collecting change in water bottles.

Your support can come in whatever way you can imagine to lift up the need and to involve others. Join Water to Thrive in transforming lives!



The Solution

Water to Thrive, through our implementing partners (listed on page 12), provides clean sustainable water to communities primarily with three different types of projects:

- Hand-dug wells, for shallow aquifers
- Borehole wells, for deeper aquifers
- Spring protection systems, for natural springs that run 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

These projects are implemented at a cost of approximately \$10 per benefitting community member, and will last 20 to 25 years. The cost also includes water and sanitation training for all households in the community where the well is built.

Community involvement is a requirement of every project, with in-kind contributions of project labor as well as project governance for ongoing oversight and maintenance through a water council, comprised of at least three men and three women elected from the local community.



The Joy

There is no greater joyous moment in our work than when we share a community's celebration as it experiences the blessing of clean, safe, sustainable water for the first time in its history.

Imagine for a moment being greeted by hundreds of smiling joyous children, women and men, all singing and dancing to express their gratitude and joy for something as basic as water.

Just as our project sponsors come with a sharing heart, so do the benefiting communities. We are welcomed by the sharing of whatever is available. It might be something as simple as fresh corn from a village field, honey from nearby hives, baked ambasha bread from a local oven, all given openly and freely with true thankfulness to honor those who have made their lives healthier and safer.

These moments are forever with us, motivating us to become better advocates for the people who haven't yet experienced the sheer joy of drinking cool, clean, safe water.



Glory in Gadamba

In 2008, approximately 8,000 Christian Orthodox villagers (about 1,600 families) were living in the arid community of Gadamba, about 45 minutes southwest of Addis Ababa. These humble people lived in abject poverty, barely surviving with brown water from a huge pit. The nearest clean water was in Dalleti – a two- to four-hour round trip – and the water table in the area lay 700-800 feet below the surface.

Potential donors had passed the community over time and time again because of the complexity and cost of the 600-foot deep bore-hole well that was needed. After prayerful consideration, and the financial support coming to Water to Thrive from the Welland family and A Glimmer of Hope, the response was “If not us, then who?”

Shortly after, Water to Thrive began their support of the Gadamba water supply project. Completed in 2010, the project encompasses 11 water points, more than 5 miles of pipeline distribution, a generator, and a 100,000-liter reservoir that has the capacity to serve up to 15,000 people in the three surrounding communities.



At the celebration and dedication of the project, one of the village women brought a clay pot that had been her water vessel. Each day, she carried this vessel on her back, miles in one direction to the water source in Dalleti, miles home with the burden of water on her back.

As water began flowing through the new Gadamba taps, she raised her hands and voice in thanks and praise, and cast the old vessel to the ground.

This is the mission of Water to Thrive, to help break this burden through the blessing of clean water.

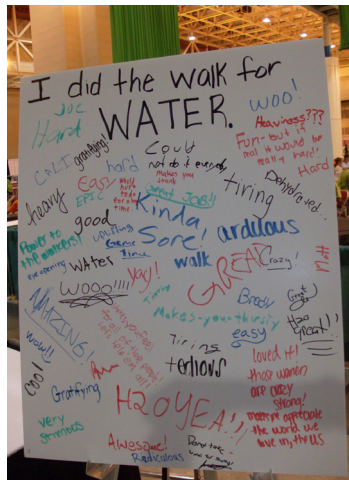
Reaching out to Robit, 2011-2012

Currently the primary source of water in Robit, an Ethiopian community of about 11,000 people, is a contaminated river. This river runs directly through the center of the village and is used for bathing, washing clothes, watering livestock, and for drinking water. The current water situation results in a large amount of suffering from water-borne diseases, which devastate the community.

Robit has been identified as one of the neediest communities in the key sectors of water, health, education and micro-finance. Our partner, A Glimmer of Hope, is implementing an integrated project in Robit that will include clean water wells, sanitation training, school buildings, health clinics, veterinary clinics and micro-finance programs. This will be the first time that the community will have access to such facilities.

Water to Thrive has committed to fund a deep bore-hole water well that will provide a sustainable, long-term source of clean water for the community. The project, which will cost an estimated \$100,000, will have a deep water pump, generator, reservoir, and at least eight water collection points, and distribution piping to serve villagers on both sides of the river as well as the proposed clinic and school.





Events

The mission of Water to Thrive is supported by congregations, groups, and individuals, literally thousands of people across the United States, who have raised money to bring clean water to rural Africa by hosting and participating in events from crawfish boils and lemonade stands to donor dinners and youth group gatherings, as well as W2T's own annual 5K race.

We could not deliver the blessing of clean water without such support. Let us help you help others. We are here to serve as a resource as you plan your own events or plan to join us in ours.



Water Angels

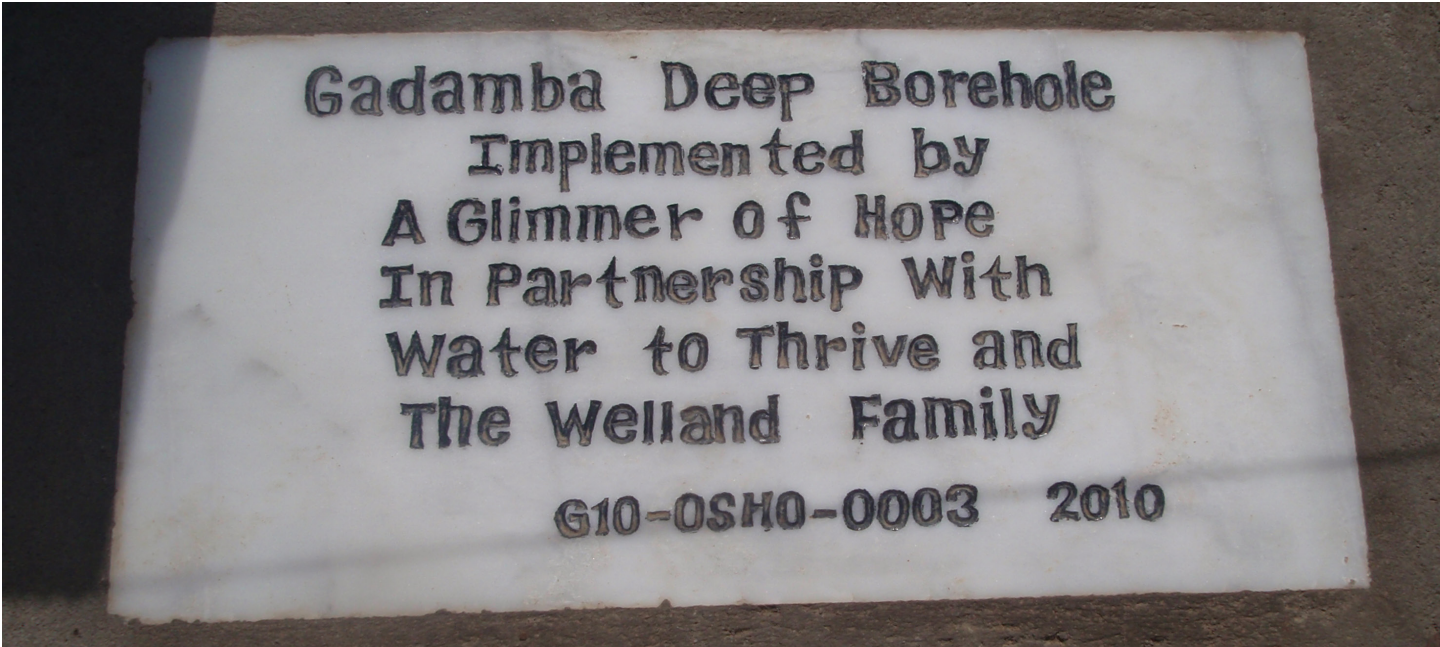


Water Angels are Water to Thrive supporters who give a gift of \$1,000 or more each year. Our goal is to gain the support of at least 100 Water Angels.

These unrestricted contributions ensure that we are able to continue our mission to lift up the mission of clean water for those who are living without their most basic need. Each Water Angels contribution ensures that we are able to continue our mission to lift up the mission of clean water for those that are currently living without their most basic need.

Water to Thrive would like to thank our first Water Angels for their invaluable support.

- Philip & Donna Berber, Austin, Texas
- John & Phyllis Biggar, Austin, Texas
- Rod & Cheryl Bond, Horseshoe Bay, Texas
- James & Janie Bowling, Austin, Texas
- George & Karen Casey, Austin, Texas
- Dorothy Chesley, Austin, Texas
- Wayne & Leslie Collins, The Woodlands, Texas
- David & Diane Crumrine, Sioux Center, Iowa
- Ralph & Ellie Erchinger, Austin, Texas
- AJ & MM Hausmann, Conroe, Texas
- Brad & Susan Hewitt, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Gregory & Deborah Hilton, Austin, Texas
- Bill & Carol Kaemmerer, Edina, Minnesota
- Lyle & Sharon Killey, Lakeway, Texas
- Anne Kuempel, Austin, Texas
- Earl & Anita Maxwell, Austin, Texas
- Dick & Joyce Moeller, Austin, Texas
- Morning Glory Partners, Ltd., Austin, Texas
- Mary Lou & Terry Newman, Austin, Texas
- Pete Perialas & Melissa Hamilton, Austin, Texas
- Bob & Sue Present, Austin, Texas
- Regents School Girls' Team, Austin, Texas
- Ed & Lorraine Scharlau, Austin, Texas
- Eric & Lucie Schmidhauser, Austin, Texas
- Kurt & Laurie Senske, Austin, Texas
- Jim & Carol Sorensen, San Antonio, Texas
- Tom Stacy, Austin, Texas
- Armin Steege & Cindy Hill, Austin, Texas
- Russell Swansen, Edina, Minnesota
- Mark & Steffen Wagner, Cordova, Tennessee
- Scott & Heather Thacker, Austin, Texas
- Anonymous Angel, Denver, Colorado



Partners

Our unique relationships with our partners and supporters mean we can promise donors that 100 percent of their dollars go directly to implementing well projects in Ethiopia. We could not execute our mission without these trusted partners, who implement our projects with quality and transparency, ensuring local support in the communities where the wells are dug and guaranteeing the blessing of water. Water to Thrive is blessed to have the following relationships and support.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent was essential to the growth of Water to Thrive, providing an initial start-up grant to help launch our water ministry. The Texas Regional Field Office and many Thrivent Chapters have sponsored water projects.

A Glimmer of Hope Foundation

A Glimmer of Hope Foundation acts as our primary implementation partner and project manager in Ethiopia. Glimmer’s work in Ethiopia was the catalyst in the founding of W2T, and working with them allows W2T to use more resources directly for the benefit of the communities in need.

Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, Development and Social Service Commission (DASSC)

Water to Thrive is working with the Development and Social Service Commission in the Central Gibe Synod of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone (ELCSL)

Water to Thrive is working with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone in the southeastern region of Sierra Leone.

Relief Society of Tigray (REST)

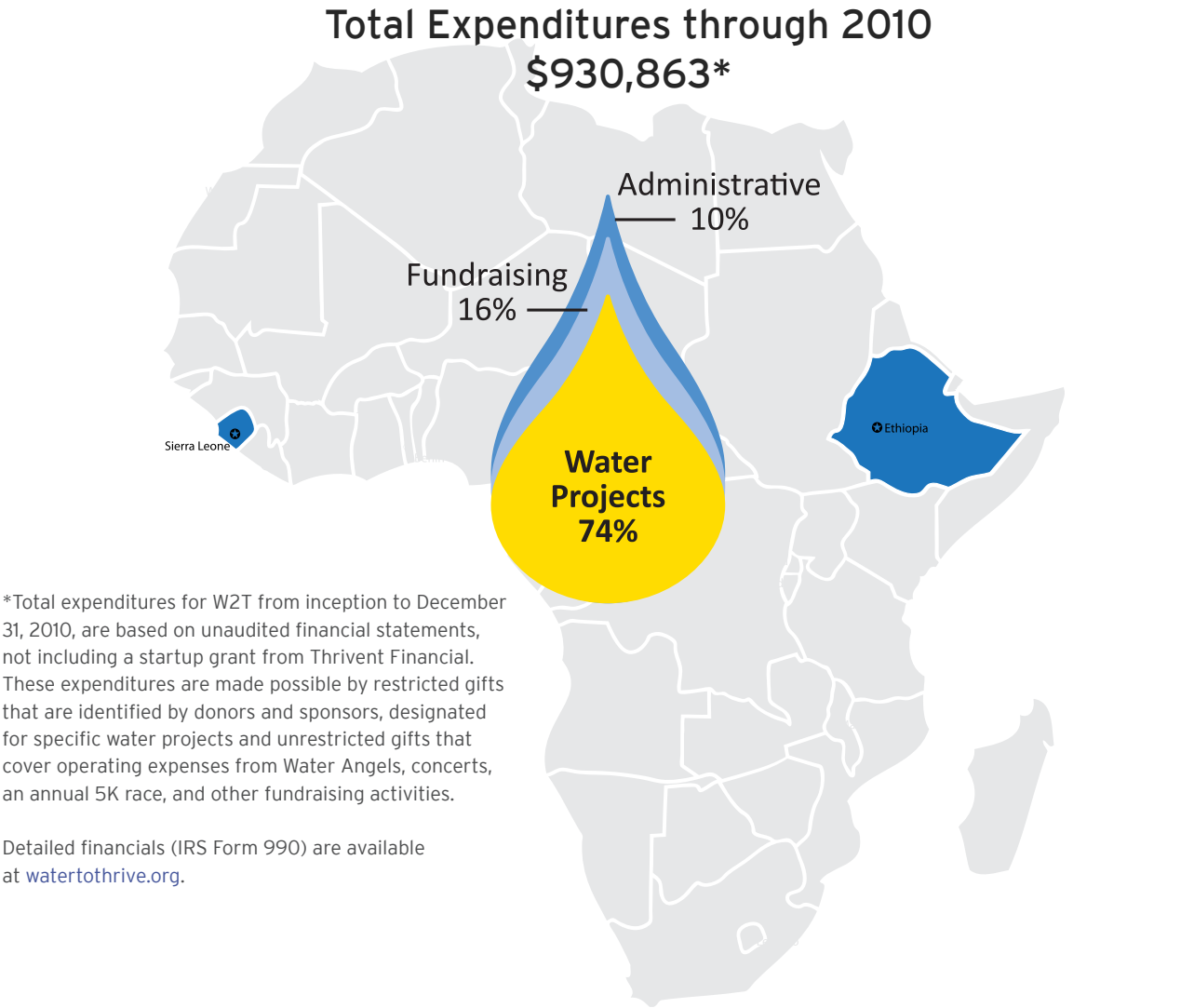
REST is an Ethiopian non-governmental indigenous non-profit organization that is our implementing partner for water projects in the northern region of Tigray, Ethiopia.

Oromo Self-Help Organization (OSHO)

OSHO is an Ethiopian non-governmental indigenous non-profit organization that is our implementing partner for water projects in the region of Oromia. OSHO works primarily in central Ethiopia.

Organization for the Re-Development of Amhara (ORDA)

ORDA is an Ethiopian non-governmental indigenous non-profit organization that is our implementing partner for water projects in the region of Amhara, Ethiopia. ORDA works primarily in northwestern Ethiopia.



Region/ Country	Project Area	Implementing Partner	Year	Community Beneficiaries	Water Points
Tigray, Ethiopia	Adwa	REST	2008	5,000	12
Kellum, Ethiopia	Aleku Degrome	AGOH	2008	2,200	10
Kafe, Ethiopia	Bonga Zuria	AGOH	2008/2009	4,000	5
Kellum, Ethiopia	Dale Sadi/Lalo Kile	AGOH	2008/2009	4,700	16
Oromia, Ethiopia	Gadamba	AGOH/OSHO	2009/2010	15,000	11
Kellum, Ethiopia	Meta Tabor	AGOH	2009	6,000	10
Kellum, Ethiopia	Sudi	AGOH	2009	1,200	1
Kellum, Ethiopia	Kellum	AGOH	2009/2011	3,700	8
Danno, Ethiopia	Central Gibe	MY-DASSC	2009/2010	16,575	10
Sierra Leone	Freetown/SL	ELC-SL	2010/2011	5,700	10
Amhara, Ethiopia	Gondar	AGOH/ORDA	2010	3,140	10
Tigray, Ethiopia	Axxum	AGOH/REST	2010	2,450	7
Oromia, Ethiopia	Sebata Hawas	AGOH/OSHO	2010	4,390	10
Tigray, Ethiopia	Senale	AGOH/REST	2010/2011	2,800	12
Tigray, Ethiopia	Gule	AGOH/REST	2010/2011	1,330	7
Amhara, Ethiopia	Degola Chincaya	AGOH/ORDA	2010/2011	3,300	13
Danno, Ethiopia	Central Gibe	MY-DASSC	2010/2011	12,700	10
Amhara, Ethiopia	Robit	AGOH/ORDA	2010/2012	7,000	9
				101,185	171



Full Project Sponsors

In Honor of Jean Davis, Lutheran Foundation SW
In loving memory of Bennie & Ella Baros
In loving memory of Tom Brier
In loving memory of Ann Marie Costello
In memory of Emil Fiegen
In memory of Eric Groethe, 1979-2002
In loving memory of Jane Moe
In memory of Viola & Frank Moeller, Waco, Texas
In loving memory of Rey Post
In memory of Willard & Edythe Rahn, Arp, Texas
In loving memory of Wilfred Sager

Abiding Love Lutheran, Austin, Texas
Abiding Presence Lutheran, San Antonio, Texas
Abiding Savior Lutheran, Corpus Christi, Texas
Abiding Savior Lutheran, Corpus Christi, Texas
The Barrick Family, Austin, Texas
Bay Shore Lutheran, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin
Bethany Lutheran, Overland Park, Kansas
Colleen and Bob Bitner, Georgetown, Texas
Blue Bell Creamery, Austin, Texas
Doug and Shirlynn Buck, Cameron, Texas
Christ Lutheran Foundation, Brenham, Texas
Christ Lutheran, Dallas, Texas
Christ Lutheran, Georgetown, Texas
Christ Memorial Lutheran School, Houston, Texas
Concordia University Texas, Austin, Texas
Covenant Lutheran, Houston, Texas
Crosstrails Ministry, Texas
The Dirks Family, San Antonio, Texas

Donors of Water to Thrive, Austin, Texas
The Drake Family, Houston, Texas
Faith Lutheran, McDade, Texas
Faith Lutheran, Plano, Texas
Fellowship Church Southwest, Buda, Texas
First English Lutheran, Victoria, Texas
First Evangelical Lutheran, Greensburg, Pennsylvania
First Lutheran, Floresville, Texas
The Jon Foster Family, Austin, Texas
Gethsemane Lutheran, Austin, Texas
The Karl Gronberg Family, Austin, Texas
Holy Comforter Lutheran, Kingwood, Texas
The Thomas Honigschmidt Family, Shiner, Texas
Hope Lutheran Sr. High, Summit, South Dakota
Immanuel Lutheran, La Vernia, Texas
Joy Lutheran, Richmond, Texas
The Bill Kaemmerer Family, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Kerri Kehl & Julia Lutz-Lawlor, Tucson & Forest Lake, Arizona
King of Glory Lutheran, Dallas, Texas
Kinsman Lutheran, Houston, Texas
A.G. (P.) and Gina Krause, Temple, Texas
The Ed Kruse Family, Brenham, Texas
Living Word Lutheran, Buda, Texas
Living Word Lutheran, Katy, Texas
Living Word Youth Group, Katy, Texas
Lord of Life Lutheran, The Woodlands, Texas
Love of Christ Lutheran, Weslaco, Texas
The Lundell Family, Scottsdale, Arizona
Lutheran Men in Mission, Temple, Texas
Martin Luther Lutheran, Giddings, Texas
The Menke Family, Bellville, Texas
Metro Rotary Club, Grand Prairie, Texas
Nokomis Heights Lutheran, Minneapolis, Minnesota

NTNL Synod of ELCA, Dallas, Texas
Helen Page, Houston, Texas
Dorothy and Frank Paul, Austin, Texas
The Phillip Pierce Family, Cypress, Texas
Prince of Peace Christian School, Carrollton, Texas
Salem Lutheran, Brenham, Texas
St. David's Foundation - Board and Staff, Austin, Texas
St. John Lutheran Youth, Boerne, Texas
St. John's Lutheran, San Antonio, Texas
St. Mark's Lutheran, Corpus Christi, Texas
St. Martin's Lutheran, Austin, Texas
St. Matthew Lutheran, Westfield, Texas
St. Paul Lutheran, Fort Worth, Texas
St. Paul Lutheran, Wharton, Texas
St. Paul's Lutheran, Brenham, Texas
St. Paul's Lutheran, Shelby, Texas
St. Philip's Lutheran, Stafford, Texas
The Kurt Senske Family, Austin, Texas
The Spies Family Foundation, Denver, Colorado
The Ben Swinford Family, Dallas, Texas
Texas Regional Field Office, Thrivent Thrivent Chapter - Bastrop Lee Counties, Texas
Thrivent Chapter - South Travis County, Texas
Thrivent Chapter - Colorado/Fayette, Texas
Thrivent Chapter - El Paso County, Texas
Thrivent Chapter - Southwest Houston, Texas
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas
The Zimmerman Family, Georgetown, Texas
Zion Lutheran Church & School, Walburg, Texas
Zion Lutheran, Castroville, Texas
Zion Lutheran, Mission Valley, Texas



“Adjusting to being in Ethiopia was swift and sudden. With a snap of my fingers things that seem important in my life became quite unimportant. What mattered was fresh water... And when I considered water and money, I know that if either is stagnant it is toxic and of no use – it must flow for good things to happen.”
– Ed Scharlau

Board

Dick Moeller, Chair & Founding Board Member
Dick resides in Austin, Texas. He was instrumental in the initial creation and funding of Water to Thrive in 2008. He is a technology and entrepreneurial executive with experience in business and non-profits.

Carol Kaemmerer, Board Member
Carol resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has been a catalyst for W2T, bringing the mission to her home congregation and in the Twin Cities area. As President of Kaemmerer Communication Group, LLC, Carol specializes in helping corporate clients tell their stories through targeted, meaningful communications.



Ed Scharlau, Treasurer & Founding Board Member
Ed resides in Austin, Texas. His adult study on world hunger and poverty at his home congregation of Triumphant Love Lutheran Church (TLLC) sparked the founding of Water to Thrive. Ed is a retired 3M executive and is very active in his church and community.

Eric Schmidhauser, Secretary & Founding Board Member
Eric resides in Austin, Texas. He made the water crises in Ethiopia a reality for the participants in the early adult bible class at TLLC, which moved the congregation to action. Eric serves as the Director of Social Investment for Glimmer of Hope, W2T's primary project implementing partner.

Jim Sorensen, Board Member
Jim resides in San Antonio, Texas. Jim and his family have had a long history serving the people of rural Ethiopia, where he and his wife served as medical missionaries 50 years ago. Now retired, Jim remains active in his community and church and spreads the mission of W2T.

**W2T Board members volunteer their time and receive no compensation nor re-imbursement of expenses.*

Contact Water to Thrive

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watertothrive.org  www.facebook.com/WaterToThrive  www.twitter.com/WaterToThrive

Water to Thrive would like to thank Austin photographer Skip Hobbie (www.skipswildlife.com) and other supporters who have travelled with us to Ethiopia and graciously allowed us to use their photography.



"The LORD says, I will make rivers flow on barren heights,
and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert
into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs."
Isaiah 41:18 (NIV 2010)