



Water Facts

**"Walk to Water"
Fundraiser & Potluck Supper
Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Wednesday, August 11
6:00—8:00 pm**

From Lutheran World Relief (LWR.org):

Did You Know?

- 1.2 billion people lack access to clean and affordable water.
 - 2.6 billion people lack proper sanitation services.
- 5 million people, mostly children, die each year from water-borne diseases. Water affects every aspect of life. Without clean, reliable sources of water, farmers can't grow crops to sell and feed their families. Women and children must often travel several miles each day to collect water, taking precious time from work and school. And dirty drinking water is a constant threat to people coping with disaster. With your help, LWR can continue to make sure families have the life-sustaining water they need now and well into the future.
- Here's what your gifts can do:
- \$35 can provide an **emergency water filter** in a disaster.
 - \$150 can provide a convenient **gravity-fed water filter**.
 - \$500 can provide a sustainable **community water system**.
 - \$2500 can provide an irrigation system to **water a community's fields**.

From TheWaterProject.org:

- \$10 - One Person's Clean Water
- \$50 - Give a Family Clean Water
- \$250 - Water for a Classroom
- \$1,000 - Purchase a Well Pump
- \$5,000 - Funds a Well for a Village

From ELCA World Hunger Facebook page:

More than one in six people around the world lack access to safe drinking water. In the US, many of us are fortunate to have it only a faucet away. This week, let's all bundle our impact and focus on our awesome gift of clean, local water sources. Join us in committing to drinking only tap water for the rest of the week. No bottles off the grocery store shelf, just grab your own refillable water bottle!

Some facts about freshwater:

1. How the world uses freshwater:
 - about 70 percent for irrigation
 - about 22 percent for industry
 - about 8 percent for domestic use
2. The average distance walked by women in Africa in search of water is 3.7 miles per day
3. The daily drinking water requirement per person is 2-4 litres, but it takes 2,000 to 5,000 litres of water to produce one person's daily food.



4. Freshwater lakes and rivers contain an estimated 105,000 km³ or around 0.3 percent of the world's freshwater.
5. The total usable freshwater supply for ecosystems and humans is about 200,000 km³ of water - less than 1 percent of all freshwater resources.

#1,3,4 & 5 can be found at <http://www.unwater.org/statistics.html>

#2 can be found at www.fao.org and is highlighted in our [Hunger Playbook](#)

From Drop in the Bucket.org –

More than half of Africa's people lack access to safe drinking water (UN)

Of all the renewable water available in Africa each year, only 4% is used -- because most Africans lack the wells, canals, pumps, reservoirs and other irrigation systems. (Africare)

In developing countries, one person uses an average of 2.6 gallons (10 litres) of water per day. In the United States, one person uses an average of 75-80 gallons in the same time period (www.epa.gov)

Each flush of the toilet uses the same amount of water that one person in the Third World uses all day for washing, cleaning, cooking and drinking. (www.whrnet.org).

In the past ten years, diarrhea has killed more children worldwide than all the people lost to armed conflict since World War II. (Water Aid)

Twelve million people die each year from lack of safe drinking water, including more than 3 million who die from waterborne diseases. (WHO)

Over 80% of the disease in developing countries is related to poor drinking water and sanitation. (WHO)

1.5 billion people in the world are suffering from parasite infections, which can cause malnutrition, anemia and delayed growth, due to the presence of solid human waste in the environment. Many of these infections could be controlled with improved hygiene, clean water and sanitation.

(www.whrnet.org)

The average distance a woman in Africa and Asia walks to collect water is 6 km (3.75 miles)

(www.whrnet.org)

The weight of water that women in Asia and Africa carry on their heads is equivalent to the maximum baggage weight allowed by airlines 20 kg, or 44lbs (www.whrnet.org)

Women are the primary caretakers for those who fall ill from water-related diseases, reducing their time available for education and productive economic efforts. (www.unfpa.org)

One-third of women in Egypt walk more than an hour a day for water; in other parts of Africa, the task can consume as much as eight hours. (www.unfpa.org)

Medical research has documented cases of permanent damage to women's health as a result of carrying water, such as chronic fatigue, spinal and pelvic deformities, and effects on reproductive health including spontaneous abortion. (www.unhabitat.org)

In some parts of Africa, women expend as much as 85% of their daily energy intake on getting water, increasing incidences of anemia and other health problems. (www.unhabitat.org)

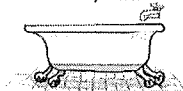
Half of the world's hospital beds, at any point, are occupied by people suffering from water-related diseases.

Floods and droughts affect 1 in 3 people worldwide.

If all the world's water fit into a one gallon bucket, all of the water available to us all to drink would be the equivalent of only one tablespoon.

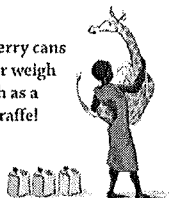
Every day 10,000 children under the age of 5 die from water-related illnesses.

A bathtub holds 151 L of water. Someone in a slum may only get 30 L for all their daily needs.



More people in the world have cell phones than access to a toilet.

Three jerry cans of water weigh as much as a baby giraffe!



From Water.org:

In just one day, more than 200 million hours of women's time is consumed for the most basic of human needs — collecting water for domestic use. This lost productivity is greater than the combined number of hours worked in a week by employees at Wal*Mart, United Parcel Service, McDonald's, IBM, Target, and Kroger, according to Gary White, co-founder of Water.org