



## CHURCHES CAN HELP BRIDGE THE HUNGER GAP

There are a number of ways churches can help feed the hungry through the Society of St. Andrew.

- Pray for our hunger-relief ministry.
- Learn what the Bible teaches us about reaching out to the hungry using the Society of St. Andrew's 12-week Hunger Bible Study program.
- Volunteer to glean with us to feed the hungry in your own community.
- Support the Society of St. Andrew with your treasure.
- ◆ Become a Society of St. Andrew "Partner Church," supporting this hunger-relief ministry at a level that fits your congregation;
- ◆ Participate in our annual devotional and fundraising programs:
  - Lenten Devotions and Good Friday Fast
  - Vacation Bible School Mission Project
  - Advent Devotions
  - Christmas Card Gift Donation program



**GET INVOLVED TODAY**

# Society of St. Andrew



**GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY**

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# A Common-Sense Solution to Hunger in America

## THE HUNGER GAP IN AMERICA

- Hunger in America is a reality — 37 million citizens don't get enough to eat.\*
- Over 25% of the crops grown in this country go to waste instead of going to market.\*\*
- All this wasted food, which is perfectly good and nutritious, could feed every hungry person in America — every day.

\* USDA Household Food Security in the U.S., 2004.  
 \*\* The Value of Food Loss in the American Household, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, 2004.



## THE CHURCH IS CALLED TO FEED THE HUNGRY

- Jesus commands us to feed the hungry. *Matt. 14:16*
- God provides the abundance to answer that call. *2 Cor. 9:6-15*
- Feeding the hungry is an opportunity for the church and individual Christians to put their faith into action. *James 2:14-17,26; 1 John 3:17-18*
- When we give generously to those in need, God will bless us. *Deut. 15:10*
- Jesus said that when we feed the hungry it is as if we are feeding Him. *Matt. 25:31-46*
- God has called His people, His Church, to be His hands and feet in a world in need. *Deut. 15:11*



# Society of St. Andrew

**GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~ FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY**

## THE COMMON-SENSE SOLUTION

- Every single year, some 50 million tons of fresh food rots in fields and landfills because it is not commercially marketable.
- The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) salvages excess crops in the fields and orchards of thousands of growers around the country.
- Tens of thousands of Society of St. Andrew volunteers put their faith into action by picking leftover crops, bagging them and delivering them to local agencies that feed the hungry.
- More than 5,000 agencies across the nation receive this food at no cost.
- Each year, the fresh produce gleaned by the Society of St. Andrew provides 60-120 million servings of nourishing food to hungry American families.

## WHAT SETS US APART

- The Society of St. Andrew is the nation's largest gleaner of fresh produce used to feed the hungry.
- We salvage produce at the farm and packing house levels that can't be sold due to market constraints.
- We supply fresh vegetables and fruits rather than high caloric "filler food," improving the health and well-being of our society's most vulnerable.
- We do not charge handling fees—the nutritious food we provide to agencies serving the poor is given at no cost, helping them stretch tight budgets.
- The environment benefits—the food we salvage by the tractor-trailer load does not end up in landfills but on the plates of the hungry.
- Our administrative and fundraising costs are just 7.45%—nearly 93¢ of every dollar donated is used to provide nutritious food at just pennies a serving!



## EXPANDING THE MINISTRY

- Hungry families are found in every community in the nation. Food goes to waste in every field and orchard. God has called us to do something about this inequity.
- The Society of St. Andrew has experienced significant growth during the last few years with new regional offices in Alabama, Mississippi, Kansas City, and a full-time gleaning operation in Georgia.
- We continually work hard to increase gleaning where we are currently located and to build capacity to expand into new areas.

## THE CHURCH CAN LEAD THE WAY TO END HUNGER

- So much more needs to be done. SoSA can do so much more in partnership with churches.
- The United Methodist Church can take the lead and make the difference in the fight against hunger.
- Together we can go wherever God leads us to feed his hungry children in every corner of the country.

## FACTS & FIGURES

- So far, nearly 600 million pounds of food saved by SoSA and used to feed the hungry.
- Over 405,000 caring people have gleaned with the Society of St. Andrew.
- Each year 20-30 million more pounds of food is saved by as many as 35,000 volunteers.
- Three major hunger-relief programs: *Gleaning Network*, *Potato & Produce Project*, *Harvest of Hope*.
- National headquarters in Virginia; regional offices in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Kansas City, and North Carolina; gleaning networks also in IN, MI, MO, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TX and WA.
- Nationwide nonprofit, 501(c)(3); independently audited.
- Advance Special of the United Methodist Church #801600; 2008 Resolution #4093 commending SoSA as an official partner with the UMC in alleviating hunger in the U.S.

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