



# Society of St. Andrew

# REPORT

VOLUME 27

NUMBER 2

SPRING 2011

GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~ FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

## Hunger Ministry Weekend

Society of St. Andrew is helping The United Methodist Church to *Change the World*. This is the second year the

United Methodists have set aside a weekend as a time for local congregations to do something special in their communities that makes a real

**CHANGE**  
**THE WORLD**

difference in people's lives. Find the full SoSA program at [EndHunger.org/CTW](http://EndHunger.org/CTW).

The United Methodist Church is encouraging congregations to go to the [umcom.org](http://umcom.org) website to find ideas and resources for the weekend. One of the resources they find is the **Society of St. Andrew Hunger Ministry Weekend** program. This program was created specifically for the May 14-15 weekend event so local churches across the country can begin a relationship with SoSA, and can focus on feeding hungry people in their own communities.

May is not a prime gleaning time in most of the country, and many UM churches are not in one of our active gleaning states. The **Hunger Ministry Weekend** program is designed as a strictly local and time-specific event. Local church coordinators work with feeding agencies in their community to learn their needs and to set up delivery of the food. Families purchase fresh fruits and vegetables on Saturday. The food is delivered to church on Sunday for a dedication, and distribution is scheduled for Sunday afternoon or Monday.

The program includes materials for promotion, worship, Sunday School, and continuing study. It is our hope that churches in our gleaning areas will learn about hunger in their communities, and will want to retain a relationship with SoSA. Our regional offices can keep in touch with them and offer gleaning opportunities throughout the year. Churches in other areas are encouraged to continue their relationship with the local feeding agencies, supporting them with further gleaning, community gardens, or donations.

In addition, SoSA's Tennessee Gleaning Network is encouraging the development of local church Change the World gardens to be initiated on that weekend. Participating churches receive starter packages of seeds from the SoSA office in Nashville, along with information about local agencies in their area, and worship and educational materials. ♦

## From the Sheep Shed

By **KEN HORNE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS**

Once in a while, people afford you a glimpse of how good life could be. After the massive earthquake in Japan and the devastating tsunami that followed, the Japanese government struggled to cope with the disaster. One of its problems was a nationwide shortage of electricity. The prime minister went on national television to inform the people it would be necessary to impose rolling blackouts for about six hours a day until the country's damaged power stations and transmission lines could be repaired and life could return to normal.

The government never imposed the rolling blackout. It never became necessary because the Japanese people, (very nearly all of them) voluntarily turned off their electricity for the specified six hours a day. That was an astounding event, and an impressive demonstration of what can be accomplished when people are willing to put aside their personal preferences in response to a greater need. It demonstrated how an entire people can understand their moral duty toward one another, and act on it spontaneously. It was also, sadly, the sort of thing that is almost impossible to envision happening here.

We, as a people, are capable of massive personal generosity, and capable of making great individual sacrifices for a cause — but spontaneous action in response to a perceived duty to the group? That isn't likely to happen here. I know, I've spent an entire career trying to convince people that we have a God-given obligation to feed the hungry among us.

Some, like you, hear that call, understand the obligation, and help us feed the hungry. Most folks do not. That is the way it goes, I suppose. But this column is not written to complain about those who don't heed the call. It's to thank all of you who do. If everyone were like you, the hungry would be fed by their neighbors and we wouldn't need a Society of St. Andrew. But everyone is not like you, and our work is necessary. You make Society of St. Andrew possible. It has been a privilege and an honor to work with each of you over the years. I hope and pray for your continued health and faithfulness in service to the poor. ♦

## SoSA Statistics at a Glance January-April 2011

### Fresh food salvaged and donated to feed the hungry:

➤ Gleaned Produce	1,650,835 lbs ▼	31.7%
➤ Potato & Produce Project	1,821,584 lbs ▼	5.1%
➤ Events	435 ▲	8.2%
➤ Volunteers	3,532 ▼	46.2%
➤ <b>Total Pounds</b>	<b>3,472,419 ▼</b>	<b>19.9%</b>
➤ <b>Total Servings</b>	<b>10,417,257 ▼</b>	<b>19.9%</b>

## SoSA stories from around the states

### ALABAMA

- SoSA volunteers have been busy helping to prepare and plant a garden at East Lake United Methodist Church in Birmingham. This garden will provide peas, sweet potatoes, and cucumbers to several local agencies that serve the East Lake neighborhood.
- Conditions are right for an early fruit harvest. By the beginning of June blueberries should be ready for picking!
- Sign up now to glean over the summer months. In the Montgomery area, contact Teresa Jane Seevers at [gleanmontgomery@endhunger.org](mailto:gleanmontgomery@endhunger.org) and for other areas of the state, email [gleanAL@endhunger.org](mailto:gleanAL@endhunger.org) or call 205-838-1927 to sign up.



Preparing a community garden in AL

### FLORIDA

- Yew Chung International School in China traveled to the United States for an educational tour in Florida. A day of their trip was spent with Society of St. Andrew, gleaning grapefruit, feeding the homeless, and presenting traditional song and dance in the park to the homeless community – fully clad in native attire. After picking about 2,000 lbs of grapefruit for the hungry, the children presented the



Gleaning grapefruit in FL

Florida Gleaning Network with a gift of \$1,000 for hunger relief efforts in Florida.

- We would like to thank the Frank. E. Duckwall Foundation for pledging \$5,000 toward the Feinstein Challenge to be matched by the Feinstein Foundation.

### GEORGIA

- The Georgia Gleaning Network has distributed 24,900 lbs. of fresh green beans in Georgia so far this year. Literally within hours of local feeding agencies receiving the beans, they were steamed and on dinner tables in nearby South Georgia cities. As the beans were delivered to a soup kitchen in Waycross, Georgia, stories from locals filled the small dining room as they shared ways they would cook and serve those beans.



Green beans in GA

- In 2011, over 74,000 servings of fresh green beans have been distributed throughout all of Georgia. This, along with donations of 50,975 servings of green cabbage, is a step forward in the efforts to feed the hungry in a state that ranks 4th in the country for food insecurity.
- Food insecurity in Georgia is at an alarming rate of 15.6%. You can do your part in helping to fight hunger. As farmers begin to harvest the spring crops, consider volunteering with the Georgia Gleaning Network. Contact Janet Sack at [gleanGA@endhunger.org](mailto:gleanGA@endhunger.org) or call 229-386-5800 for more information about volunteer opportunities within Georgia.

### NORTH CAROLINA

- The Carolinas Gleaning Network had a great start to



the 2011 gleaning season! We gleaned 21,600 lbs. of collards and 25,400 lbs. of turnips.



Marilyn Marks

➤ We wish all the best to Marilyn Marks, our Western NC and SC Program Coordinator, who retired at the end of February.

➤ We also welcome Jen Garrison, our new Triad Gleaning Coordinator, and Rebecca Page, our new Triangle Gleaning Coordinator,

## TENNESSEE

➤ The Tennessee Gleaning Network expanded its reach in the first quarter of 2011, with a tractor-trailer load of mixed vegetables distributed in eight counties by our partner agency Second Harvest of Northeast Tennessee.

➤ We distributed a load of baked goods through partner agency Gallatin CARES in Sumner County, and a load of fresh Florida citrus in Coffee County, with the help of partner church, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran in Tullahoma, TN.

➤ While the ground in Tennessee remained frosty, program coordinator Linda Tozer moved at lightning speed, making connections with farmers and growers all across the state. She has spoken at growers' meetings in more than a dozen locales and taken our display on the road to the Tennessee Horticulture Expo, the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Workgroup Conference, and the FFA Convention. By meeting face to face with farmers, telling SoSA's story, and answering questions and exchanging ideas, we are establishing relationships that will quickly grow our gleaning network and allow hungry people to be fed.

➤ McKendree Village Retirement Community in Hermitage snipped thousands of red mesh netting bags for our gleaners to use as they work in fields this summer. It was a job the McKendree residents tackled with vigor—the 10,000 foot roll of netting was completely cut in just one week!

➤ The McKendree residents remind us that, while the needs around us are great, the gifts God has given us are many and varied and abundant—and all are important parts of the ministry to which we at the Society of St. Andrew have been called and through which, together, we continue to grow and expand this ministry of feeding God's hungry people.

## VIRGINIA

➤ The Virginia Gleaning Network welcomes a new coordinator in the Tidewater Area, the Rev. John Haynes, Jr. John works with University Chaplains Association at Old Dominion University as well as being the director of the Tidewater Wesley

Foundation. He will have help from his wife, Kathleen, who is the pastor of Heritage UMC in Virginia Beach. We welcome them as gleaning coordinators and also invite those in the Tidewater area to call and volunteer in the coming season. John can be reached at 757-620-1575 or through e-mail at [tidewatergleaning@gmail.com](mailto:tidewatergleaning@gmail.com).

➤ The Virginia Gleaning Network would also like to express a very huge "Thank you" to Joe Iman in Chesapeake for being our Tidewater Gleaning Coordinator for 14 seasons, 1997-2010. During this time as gleaning coordinator he worked with 10,913 volunteers to glean 2.9 million lbs. of produce. That is over 8.7 million servings of food for the hungry in the Tidewater area. Through the years Joe has also helped with many potato drops in the Tidewater area. We wish Joe the very best and thank him for all of the help and support he has given to SoSA!



Joe Iman

## WEST

➤ Shortages in the potato harvest across the country have cut deeply into produce donations for SoSA West but we have still moved 240,729 lbs. of fresh produce to feed people in need across western states.

➤ The SoSA West staff has spent the off-season months reaching out to new faith congregations, speaking to new civic organizations and planning for a busy gleaning season in 2011. We also look forward to partnering with American Century Investments and the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City in gleaning projects this year. We plan to expand our gleaning program in 2011, and ask that all readers interested in gleaning in states west of the Mississippi River please contact us at 816-921-0856, or volunteer on our website, [www.endhunger.org](http://www.endhunger.org).

➤ If you know of any farmers, growers, produce packers or any other type of produce handler who will work with us either to donate excess or graded-out produce, or allow us to glean their fields and orchards after the harvest, please call or email and give us their contact information. Our email address is [sosawest@endhunger.org](mailto:sosawest@endhunger.org) and we'd love to hear from you. ♦

# Harvest of Hope — Fighting hunger

By SCOTT BRIGGS, HARVEST OF HOPE DIRECTOR

*Harvest of Hope's* Alternative Spring Break event is over. Eighty-five college students willingly used their spring break to travel to Florida and help collect food to feed the hungry in Central Florida. They gleaned over 18,000 pounds of citrus fruit and cabbage which went to local feeding agencies. This group was affectionately nicknamed the "locusts" — once they entered a field they stripped it clean in record time. They were such hard workers. In fact the group spent half a day at Harvest Time International, a large



food bank in Sanford, FL, and in that small amount of time they sorted and organized more goods than the Harvest Time's staff could have accomplished in a week. These 85 college students formed a group who, with single minded focus, went about the business of feeding as many people as possible for the week. What a privilege it was to be part of such an enterprise.

Fighting the battle against hunger seems like such a giant undertaking. Forty million Americans are food insecure, that is a big number. But there is hope hunger can be eradicated. How? By groups of people willing to give up some of their free time, their extra resources, and most importantly their effort, to distribute food to those who need it. By groups like the Alternative Spring Break "locusts" — people willing to join together in an effort to feed others. In one week they provided 54,000 servings of fresh food; that kind of effort makes a huge difference in the struggle against hunger in America. How do we end hunger? Simple, we give it some effort! ♦

## Senior High Week-Long

Exmore, VA.....July 10-16  
 Ashland, VA.....July 10-16  
 Wilmington, NC.....July 17-23

## Junior High Weekends

Exmore, VA..... July 8-10  
 Shawsville, VA.....July 29-31

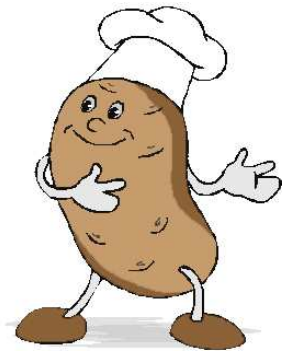
## Intergenerational Weekends

Wilmington, NC.....June 24-26  
 Chelsea, AL.....August 5-7  
 Fincastle, VA.....September 23-25  
 Gretna Glen, PA.....October 21-23  
 Shawsville, VA.....November 4-6

# Potato & Produce Project

By MARIAN KELLY, POTATO & PRODUCE PROJECT DIRECTOR

More than 1.5 million pounds of produce was salvaged and distributed during the first quarter of this year through the *Potato & Produce Project*. That is approximately 4.5 million servings of food appearing on the plates of our hungry brothers and sisters. White potatoes, butternut squash, bananas, watermelons, and tomatoes were delivered into 14 states. A small amount of packaged food was also donated and distributed.



From February through April, we delivered 13 tractor trailer loads of seed potatoes into Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Virginia. That is more than 520,000 pounds of seed potatoes to be planted in family gardens and community gardens. The harvested yield from those seed potatoes could be almost 4 million pounds. We wish good growing seasons for all who plant the seed we have distributed.

We are hoping for tractor trailer loads of summer vegetables to be donated to the *Potato & Produce Project* for distribution. In years past, we've had lots of squash, watermelons, cantaloupe, and other fresh produce donated. We are hopeful they will come our way again this year. Our receiving agencies get so excited when we offer them fresh, nutritious produce for their clients. And every day, something new appears in the news about the benefit of fresh vegetables to our bodies.

We send a special thank you to those who donate food, to the agencies that are willing to distribute the food, and to our financial donors for their help in making all of this happen. ♦

## Donations to SoSA in recent months:

**IN HONOR OF** - Jane Neale Bobbitt ... Nancy Brinner ... Yvonne & Henry Branch ... Robert & Therese Cox ... J.N. DeLoache SS Class ... Lilian Forbes ... Kelly Gatewood ... Richard & Bertha Gephart ... Tom Haines ... Glynis Hopkins ... Pat Inge ... Ann Wolfe Jackson ... Carolyn S. Lucy ... Marilyn Marks ... Ruth M. Melton ... William K. Monger ... Lisa Ousley ... Garland L. Page, Jr. ... Master Matthew V. Schunk ... McRoy & Jo Skipper ... Gene & Susan Trottoer ... Susan Vance ... John McWhorter

**IN MEMORY OF** - Bela Andrew Banyasz ... Joyce Cooper ... Bud Curtis ... Wanda Lou Ewald ... Frank Flight ... A.C. Hayes ... Floyd Hayes ... Clara Whitney Herndon ... A. Dillard Johnson, Jr. ... Verona Lipford ... Dorothy B. Loving ... Pat Lyons ... Frank Marsico ... Anne Avery Moyse ... Joseph O'Borski ... Dr. Milton B. Peeler ... Norbert Rucinski. Sr. ... Margaret Sayles ... Mary Simson ... John Sites ... Marston Speight ... Mr. W. Suggs ... Pastor Carol R. Thornton ... Peter Viemeister ... Ray Vollmer ♦



# Hunger Action Month

By Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore, Director, Church Relations

Plan now to observe National Hunger Action Month during the month of September. National Hunger Action Month reminds us to lift up our 40 million brothers and sisters who live on the brink of hunger every day in the United States. Here are some things you can do to observe the day:

- Fast and pray each Wednesday at lunchtime (or any day of your choosing) during the month of September to remember those who don't have enough to eat. The money you save can be donated to Society of St. Andrew so we can feed those who don't always eat lunch.
- Design a worship service focused on hunger and the Biblical imperatives to do something about it. Society of St. Andrew has resources you can download for free, [www.EndHunger.org/nham.htm](http://www.EndHunger.org/nham.htm)
- Volunteer with a hunger-relief agency. Society of St. Andrew coordinates gleaning events in locations across the U.S. Call our 800-333-4597 or check our website: [www.EndHunger.org](http://www.EndHunger.org) for gleaning offices near you.
- Give an offering for the Society of St. Andrew hunger-relief ministry, out of thankfulness for your blessings and concern for America's hungry.
- Educate your congregation about hunger. Society of St. Andrew offers a 12-week adult study entitled, *The Fast that I Choose*.

For more information or to order National Hunger Action Month resources, visit our website [www.EndHunger.org](http://www.EndHunger.org); call 800-333-4597; or email The Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore at [church@endhunger.org](mailto:church@endhunger.org). Jesus said, "You give them something to eat!" Matthew 14:16. Join Society of St. Andrew and let us follow these words of Jesus so no one goes to bed hungry ever again. ♦

## Matching Gifts

**With matching gifts you can double or even triple your gift!**

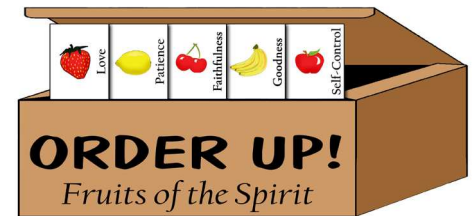
Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees. The impact of your gift may be doubled or possibly tripled! Some companies even match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses. Please check with your company to find out if your company has a matching gift policy. A matching gift is another way that you can help SoSA feed the hungry in America.

# ORDER UP! — VBS Program

By Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore, Director, Church Relations

It's time to "Order Up" some fun with SoSA's VBS Program!

"Order Up!" Society of St. Andrew's VBS Mission Program, is based on Galatians 5:22-23, 25. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." Each day a Bible character is introduced who exemplifies some "Fruit of the Spirit". Also, your students will



meet a "SoSA Superhero" who will encourage them to discover ways that they can use their hands to help the hungry. Activity sheets, for both younger and older youth, which contain scripture stories, hunger facts, fun games, ideas to "go green", and exciting potato trivia, are included for each day. New this year, we have included song suggestions, craft ideas, and healthy snack choices.

The Society of St. Andrew salvages potatoes and other fruits and vegetables that are perfectly good and nutritious, but can't be sold because of market factors. Instead of letting them go to waste, SoSA volunteers glean these vegetables. This food is picked, packaged, and shipped throughout the nation at a cost of just a little over 5¢ a pound! All of the vegetables we save are given free of charge to feeding agencies. It's a simple and effective way to obey Jesus' command to feed the hungry, while also being good stewards of our nation's abundance and good caretakers of God's creation.

By simply raising \$50, your students will be responsible for sending 1,000 pounds of salvaged vegetables to the dinner plates of hungry people right here in the United States. Each VBS (church) that raises \$50 or more will receive a color certificate of appreciation. Last year over 350 churches used SoSA's VBS program; these kids enthusiastically answered Jesus' call to feed the hungry by donating over \$27,000 – enough to provide more than 1 million servings of food to hungry men, women, and children!

Please consider helping feed those in hunger by choosing the Society of St. Andrew's VBS mission program. Our complete VBS program, "Order Up", can be used as a mission program or as a stand alone program, it is free of charge, and there's no obligation. You can order by emailing Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore at [church@endhunger.org](mailto:church@endhunger.org) or call (800-333-4597) or go to <http://www.endhunger.org/vbs.htm>. ♦

Society of St. Andrew  
 3383 Sweet Hollow Road  
 Big Island, Virginia 24526  
 800-333-4597

www.EndHunger.org



NON-PROFIT  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 BEDFORD, VA  
 PERMIT NO. 3

# Society of St. Andrew REPORT

What's inside?	
Change the World	1
From the Sheep Shed	1
News across the Nation	2-3
Harvest of Hope	4
Potato & Prodcue Project	4
Vacation Bible School	5
Hunger Action Month	5
Matching Gifts	5

## Order Up! - Fruits of the Spirit VBS Mission Project



Order Up! is designed to supplement your VBS program. It can be easily adapted to any VBS theme. To obtain a VBS kit, email church@endhunger.org; go online to <http://www.EndHunger.org/vbs.htm>; or call our office at 800-333-4597.

### Please send my FREE VBS kit today!

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mail to: **SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW**  
**3383 SWEET HOLLOW RD, BIG ISLAND, VA 24526**

(NL 05/11)

## Donate now — [www.endhunger.org/donate.htm](http://www.endhunger.org/donate.htm)

Ask your employer to  
 match your donation!

\$500  \$365  \$250  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make check payable to Society of St. Andrew)

This is my pledge for payment later in 2011.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my:  VISA   MasterCard   AmEx 

Acct.# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW**  
**3383 SWEET HOLLOW RD, BIG ISLAND, VA 24526**

(NL 05/11)