This past March, a 5-year-old boy showed up at the apple drop being held in the parking lot of Asbury United Methodist Church in Madison, Alabama. He wore no mask, but was still recognizable as Logan Todd, the little superhero who appeared in SoSA publications back in 2013.

Two years ago, Logan's photo (the little superhero) caught our attention as he picked up his Society of St. Andrew collection box. The church had just held a very large Vacation Bible School, topped off with a 60,000 pound crop drop of squash and sweet potatoes. There were 900 children there that day, helping to bag up all that produce for area food pantries to distribute. Logan arrived to be part of the excitement, and he wanted to bring home a box to collect money to help SoSA feed hungry people.

That was two years ago. Since then, the family has been through some tough times of their own. Logan's mother, Faye Todd, was diagnosed with brain cancer. She is enduring some very difficult medical treatments, but the tumor is currently in a stable condition. Logan's grandparents, Ron and Kathy Burdett, have been very helpful in taking care of Logan in the times when that has been so crucial.

Throughout this time, Logan has been busy riding his bike and go-kart, and watching Nick Jr. and the Disney Channel. Along the way, he sometimes has some change...
There are so many inspirational stories dealing with SoSA. In the course of our 36 years, there have been numerous stories where SoSA’s ministry has inspired others, and where individual stories have inspired us. Young Logan offers a perfect example of mutual inspiration, and you can read about him elsewhere in this newsletter.

Each of these stories illustrates something special about this ministry that touches so many lives; not just the millions of people who are fed, but also the thousands who help make our successful programs work. That is one of the many things that motivate people from all walks of life to join in our efforts to prevent food waste and to feed the hungry in America.

As Logan has shown, everyone can play a part while having a real and tangible impact. People often like that SoSA is one of the rare programs where entire families and entire church families can participate together. It is not uncommon to have three generations of the same family volunteering with us at the same time. Volunteer groups typically range in age from 2 to 82. Each opportunity offers a unique, meaningful, and successful experience.

The end result is pretty special, both for those who are fed, and for those who make it all happen. As you can see from the year-to-date gleaning statistics, the impact is great: over 6 million pounds of fresh produce saved and distributed during the first few months of the year! This is a sizable increase over last year, and comes from what are typically our lowest gleaning months of the year.

All of that, plus the efforts of people like Logan, provide the perfect inspiration as we head into the busiest gleaning season of the year. 

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**January-March Statistics**

**Fresh food saved and donated to feed the hungry:**

- Gleaning Network Pounds ................... 4,026,735
- Potato & Produce Project Pounds.......2,000,000
- Events Held......................................................590
- Volunteers.....................................................4,292

**Total Pounds Distributed** 6,026,735
**Total Servings** 18,080,205

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**Executive Director’s Report**

By Steven M. Waldmann

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**Recent Donations**

**In Honor Of**
- Daniel Abbott
- H. Jean Bryan
- Dr. Birgit Ehlers-Renzi
- Mr. Thomas Flynn
- Leona D. Gardner
- Kelly Gemmill
- Mr. Conrad Grundlehner
- Mr. Henry Holswade
- Bruce Jackson
- David Lantz
- Dr. Andrew Lewis
- Dennis & Virginia Miller

**In Memory Of**
- Hugh F. Anderson
- Ming Chia Chen
- Richard Collins
- Bud Curtis
- Edwin H. Daniels, Sr.
- William Emerson
- Augustine “Gus” Fagan
- Rev. Carroll Freeman & Helen Freeman
- Elaine Gardner
- Maude Hurd
- Evine King
- Jean Makouyj
- Maud Mae Manley
- Harlin Matkins
- Mr. William Nash
- Johnny Osorio
- Cheryl Price
- Erma Tankersley
- Warren Tudor
- Ellen Vaughan
- Mrs. Joan Walther
- Albert Ziesmer
that he can put in either his own piggy bank or in the Society of St. Andrew collection box. He usually chose the collection box.

This year, the bank appeared full, and his mother counted the change. It had reached $100. When she told Logan, he said, “That would buy a lot of Pokemon cards!” His mother told him that would also provide enough servings of food to feed 5,000 people. Logan said he wanted to bring the box back to Mary Lynn Botts, the SoSA coordinator in Alabama, to feed the hungry people.

On March 7, Logan and his family arrived at the apple drop being held at the parking lot of Asbury United Methodist Church. He brought his collection box full of change to feed hungry people. And he picked up a new box. ✴

THANK YOU to the following FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS that donated $1,000 or more in the first quarter:

- The Duke Endowment . . . . . . . . Charlotte, N.C.
- Greater Lynchburg Community Trust . . . . Lynchburg, Va.
- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City . . . . . . . . . Kansas City, Kan.
- Retail Merchants Foundation, Inc. . . . . Lynchburg, Va.
- Service First Pharmacies . . . . . . . . Huntsville, Ala.
- Southeast Produce Council . . . . . . . . Ellijay, Ga.
- Stewardship Foundation . . . . . . . . Tacoma, Wash.

Plan for Advent with SoSA

Pre-order your Advent materials now, or any time at EndHunger.org/advent

Online, you can:
• Order Lenten Devotion Booklets
• Order Lenten Giving Coin Banks
• Download Graphics and a Devotions e-Book
• Sign up for Daily Devotion Emails

Materials ordered will begin shipping in late summer.

The Adventures of Logan continued from page 1

Share Your Best Fruit or Vegetable Recipe

What is your best recipe highlighting fruits or vegetables? Will you share it with us?

Society of St. Andrew is preparing a new cookbook that will invite people to enjoy the nutrition and delicious nature of the best our nation’s farms have to offer. We invite you to contribute to the effort by sending a favorite recipe to us for possible inclusion in the book.

Recipes must not be copied from other publications and should be something you and your family especially like. Please send the recipe and ingredient list to Recipes@EndHunger.org. Include your name, location, and a few sentences about why SoSA’s ministry is important to you. If you have a brief story about the recipe, we’re glad to receive that also for possible use.

Please submit by June 30. We anticipate making the book available in early 2016.

Including planned giving will mean more Americans will receive nutritious food for years to come.

Become a Legacy Partner

Contact Liz Sheahan at lsheahan@endhunger.org or 434-941-2322

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior
A Talent for Feeding the Hungry

Anyone can find some way to help SoSA feed the hungry. But very few can do so by playing The Complete Keyboard Partitas of Johann Sebastian Bach! This most-creative approach was taken on last November by long-time supporter, Dr. Craig Nies, when he presented two benefit concerts, performed by some of his students at Vanderbilt University’s Blair School of Music. Nies has personally contributed to SoSA for many years. He also likes to tell others about SoSA’s hunger ministry, and to send SoSA’s alternative Christmas cards to friends and know about efforts to feed the hungry.

Nies arranged a piano concert on November 7 at Steinway’s Alabama Piano Gallery in Birmingham, and another on November 15 at the Steinway Piano Gallery in Nashville. The audience, hungry for outstanding classical piano, also learned more about the Society of St. Andrew, and their concert donations supported SoSA’s Tennessee Regional Office.

“I wanted to help those in my own community and in Tennessee,” Nies said, “While there are many charities that provide food for the poor, I wanted one that is faith-based. SoSA is highly rated by Charity Navigator, one resource I have always used.”

Nies has been on the faculty of the Blair School since 1991, having previously taught at the Yale School of Music. While at Yale, he performed the complete solo works of Debussy, broadcast by National Public Radio. His performances have also been heard in Russia, England, and Germany.

Linda Tozer, SoSA’s Tennessee regional director said, “We were truly blessed and grateful to Dr. Nies and his students for presenting such wonderful programs that enriched our lives and assisted our efforts in telling the SoSA story.” Nies said, “Anything I can do to promote SoSA and help even in a small way is worthwhile.”

By searching for “Craig Nies” on YouTube, you can view many of his performances.

Students who played in the concerts pose with their teacher. (L-R) Kazuki Takizawa, Thomas Ridgway, June Kim, Craig Nies, William Woodard. Ridgway is a designated “Young Steinway Artist.” Not shown are Zachary Kleiman and David Rodgers.
Missing Art Shoemaker

We lost a tireless worker this year, a man with a great attitude and a big heart. His name was Art Shoemaker, and he died this year on Valentine’s Day after a brief battle with lung cancer.

Art is missed by the Society of St. Andrew, as well as by lots of friends and by a number of organizations that he supported with his own hard work. For SoSA, he was an HRA – a Hunger Relief Advocate. For many years, he coordinated gleaning in and around Albany, Georgia. He was retired from a manufacturing company in town, and never lost the energy to work hard day-after-day. In addition to feeding the hungry with SoSA, Art managed the “Love Thy Neighbor” food bank at his church, Avalon United Methodist. He also volunteered in other projects at his church, went on mission trips, and volunteered with The Salvation Army, Life Line Ministries, and the Exchange Club.

At his funeral, some of the comments about Art were “faithful to the end,” “nothing he wouldn’t do for you,” and “never gave up.” He did have his limits, though. SoSA Regional Director Barbara Sayles remembers the time Art received a donation to SoSA that turned out to be a truckload of men’s bikini underwear. Barbara had to call Art and get the details so she could determine how to distribute the unusual donation. She says Art was noticeably uncomfortable describing, in the necessary detail, the sizes and shapes and colors of the underwear.

But mostly, for SoSA, Art provided fresh produce, great relations with volunteers, and a wonderful “can do” approach to both gleaning and life. We miss Art and his hard work. We’ll work hard to keep the gleaning going around Albany, Georgia. And maybe we can all try to have an attitude and a heart more like his.

Mobilize Your Congregation During Hunger Action Month

September will be Hunger Action Month - a great time for your members help prevent hunger in the U.S. SoSA provides resources to help you raise the issue and to put your faith into action.

- **Watch for a mailing in May** containing the Hunger Action Month Calendar for Prayer and Action, along with suggestions for its use. Tell others about this critical issue, and find ways to help in your own community.

- **Go to EndHunger.org/ham** for resources. Download the calendar and other materials for you own use, and for your congregation.

Abundance Orchard

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Both programs are available for use this year. Each is a FREE complete hunger-action themed VBS, a 2-3 hour program for up to 5 days.

Each program includes:
- Storytelling
- Missions
- Arts & Crafts
- Music
- Recreation
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- Bible Study & Preparation Materials for Teachers
- VBS Planning Helps
- Backdrops
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Great for summer Sunday School, church camp, and all-church retreats, too!
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Order Materials —
for your congregation, group, or individual use. All materials are free and there is no obligation.

Donate now —
EndHunger.org/donate

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(Society of St. Andrew is a national 501(c)(3) tax exempt, nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.)

For information about SoSA programs call 800-333-4597 • sosainfo@EndHunger.org • EndHunger.org

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EndHunger.org/signup