



Society of St. Andrew

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

Quarterly Report





January-June Statistics

Fresh food saved and donated to feed the hungry:

Gleaned Produce.....	8,007,787 lbs
Potato & Produce Project.....	4,869,158 lbs
Events	1,837
Volunteers.....	13,071

Total Historical Pounds	785 Million
Total Historical Servings	2.4 Billion

Recent Donations

In Memory Of

Jane Benning
Iris Bristow
Bud Curtis
Therese Damon
Nicholas Dillon
Virginia Ezell
Clarence and Elizabeth Griffin
Evine King
Andy LeMaster
Jean Makoujy
Marilyn Miell
Tracy Miller
Douglas Mohler
Mrs. Beverly Morrison
Fred Newsome
Stephen Sauer
Marvin Sutton

In Honor Of

David Bowen
Helen P. Crosby
Delilah (no last name)
Jim Geenen
Katherine Higgins
Mrs. Lesley Huffaker
Liz King
Vicki Lemons
Dr. Andrew Lewis
Pauline Lewis
Blake Miller
Baby Novotry
Duke Relyea and Judy Leek
Julie Taylor
Cathy Tillman
Jim Tongue
Rev & Mrs. Jim Tongue
Dr. Tom Truban and Staff
Urie (No last name)
Fran Yearwood

Executive Director's Report

By Steven M. Waldmann, Executive Director

SoSA Inspires Action

As this ministry focuses on preventing food waste and feeding the hungry, a lot of other things happen in the process. Nutrition is improved, the environment is helped, and just as important, people are inspired.

If you've been a reader of this newsletter for some time, you have noticed occasional stories of how people, young and old, have been inspired to action by their involvement in SoSA programs. This inspiration takes many forms, and is an important outcome of this effective and successful ministry.

You can read examples of inspired action in this edition of our newsletter. Action coming from SoSA-related inspiration comes in big ways and small, but it is always vital, and serves to help others living in poverty. Inspiration is usually the source of wonderful creativity, and that is the case with SoSA.

I remember a group of youth who started a gleaning network in Tidewater, Virginia back in 1987 after attending one of SoSA's Harvest of Hope retreats. That gleaning network is still active today and is part of SoSA. Harvest of Hope retreats have resulted in hundreds of post-event initiatives by both youth and adult participants. In fact, helping participants get involved in their own communities is a critical part of every Harvest of Hope event.

Creative fundraising has taken place, new farmers have participated, gleaning efforts have been started, devotions have been written, careers have been changed, and even books have been written - all because of the impact SoSA programs have had on individuals. And of course, millions have been fed.

Whether through the Potato & Produce Project, Harvest of Hope, or the Gleaning Network, SoSA programs inspire others to love and help others "... in deed and in truth." That inspiration is manifested in countless ways, and represents a huge bonus, as we continue to Glean America's Fields and Feed America's Hungry. ♡

Harvest of Hope Inspired Sarah Pope to Feed the Hungry

In the fall of 2014, 13-year-old Sarah Pope attended a Harvest of Hope gleaning retreat with her youth group. She and other



Sarah Pope attended a Harvest of Hope event in 2014. Her family now feeds thousands through Society of St. Andrew.

youth from Coats and Erwin United Methodist Churches in North Carolina traveled to Virginia to glean turnips, and to

learn about hunger in America. As it has for many others, the experience created a vision of service.

Back home in Coats, she spoke with her parents, John and Leslie Pope, about using some of their land to grow crops

the experience created a vision of service

to give away to the needy through Society of St. Andrew. The Popes own and run a poultry and tobacco farm, and they agreed they could set aside some land for corn and potatoes.

The next summer, the family invited SoSA area coordinator Tricia Lounsberry to bring volunteers to their farm and harvest the new fields of produce. In several trips, they dug more than 1,500 pounds of potatoes and picked almost

8,000 pounds of corn. Again, this year, SoSA is bringing volunteers to the Pope farm to collect truckloads of corn to distribute at the Coats UMC food pantry and through feeding agencies in surrounding counties.

John Pope says it can be hard to get away from the farm to be in mission to serve others, but his daughter's request has made it possible for the family to be in mission to the needy using the resources they already have at home ... a win-win, he says. Sarah says she is glad there is something they can do that makes a real difference in the lives of poor and hungry people. ➤



Pastors & Church Staff Mid-Week Retreat for Respite and Renewal Hope for the Harvest

Take three days to reconnect with God's creation and human need through gleaning, prayer, study, worship, discussion, and fellowship. Care for the environment, care for hungry brothers and sisters, and care for yourself during this fall mid-week retreat.

You'll return with new energy, new vision for ministry with your congregation and community, and new insights to share.

Dates: Tuesday, October 4 (7:00pm) – Thursday, October 6 – (Noon)
Optional stayover 'til October 7 for collaborative worship planning
Place: Camp Fincastle (near Roanoke, Virginia)
Cost: \$75 – includes five meals, lodging, and all program activities

Questions?

Contact Bill Leach
800-333-4597
sosahoh@endhunger.org

Registration and details available at
endhunger.org/hoh



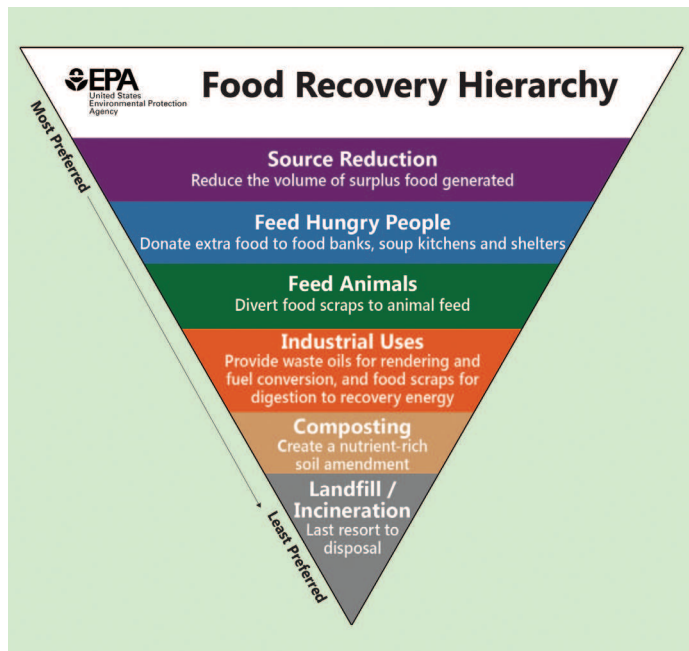
SoSA volunteers with potatoes they dug and bagged on the Pope farm. The corn behind them will be picked later. Farmer John Pope is in the white shirt.

NOT WASTE ... MORE LIKE “AWESOME”

By Lynette Johnson, Director of Church Relations

Doug Rauch, the former head of the Trader Joe’s grocery store chain, still thinks about food all day, every day. But now he’s thinking about food that he couldn’t sell when he worked at Trader Joe’s - food that’s not pretty enough to sell at the grocery store - the same food that the Society of St. Andrew thinks about every day. Doug has pioneered a new kind of grocery store in Boston, called the Daily Table, that sells fresh and prepared foods at a steep discount, because the ingredients are imperfect or otherwise considered unmarketable.

Our approaches to doing something about this kind of food are different, and our scale these days is vastly different (Society of St. Andrew moves a lot more food!) but Rauch says some important things that we’d do well to hear.



Doug challenges our language. He asks, “When you shop at Marshall’s, TJ Maxx, or Plato’s Closet, what are you buying? Is it clothing waste?”

He’s pretty clear about this. “No one wants to eat food waste!”

I don’t know that Doug has found the right phrase for imperfect and unmarketable food yet, but he’s

convinced me that “food waste” is the wrong one to use when talking about the millions of pounds of fresh, healthy, nourishing, and delicious fruits and vegetables that the Society of St. Andrew gleans or transports and distributes each year.

I’m leaning toward “unsold,” “available,” or maybe even “awesome.” What do you think? 🐾

* Lynette Johnson is SoSA’s Director of Church Relations. She recently participated in the *Reduce & Recover: Save Food for People* conference at Harvard Law School, sponsored by the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic. She had the opportunity to meet and talk with Mr. Rauch there.

“Feed Hungry People” is the Best Use

The *Reduce and Recover: Save Food for People* event held in June at Harvard University focused on exactly the solution SoSA provides. The number one way to prevent food waste is not to create it in the first place. But huge volumes of extra food are grown, and the highest-value re-purpose of that extra food is to feed people with it. That is the Society of St. Andrew solution.

Hundreds of leaders and decision-makers from around the country - including Lynette Johnson, representing SoSA - gathered in Cambridge, Massachusetts to share ideas about the best ways to recover excess food and use it for good purposes, instead of sending it to the landfill.

More than 40% of food grown in the U.S. is wasted every year. Policies, and habits, and systems need to be in place to reduce waste at every stage: from the field, to processing, to distribution, to sale, to consumer.

The EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy triangle (on this page) names *Feed Hungry People* as the very best use of that food. And that’s why SoSA is at the table. SoSA programs are the way 25-30 million pounds of food every year makes its way to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters. We are at the leading edge of this important effort thanks to our faithful supporters, volunteers, and farmers. 🐾



Simple Supper

To Benefit Society of St. Andrew
World Food Day 2015

Mark your calendar for World Food Day

Download SoSA's Simple Supper resources for use on World Food Day (Oct. 16), and start planning a Simple Supper for your family, neighborhood, or congregation!

EndHunger.org/simple-supper

THANK YOU

to the following

FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

that donated \$1,000+ in the second quarter:

Beazley Foundation, Inc..... Portsmouth, VA
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 Griffin Endowment..... Charlotte, NC
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 Lattner Family Foundation..... Delray Beach, FL
 Orlando Sentinel Family Fund..... Orlando, FL
 Penry Farms Inc..... Daphne, AL
 Selby & Richard McRae Foundation Jackson, MS
 Southeast Produce Council Millen, GA
 Walmart Foundation..... Bentonville, AR

Mobilize Your Congregation During Hunger Action Month in September

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

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



on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays of each month.

The pantry received a big boost recently with the donation of \$20,000 and a commercial freezer from Tyson's Foods.

With that support and continued fund-raisers, she can afford the storefront rental and utilities. And with the food pantry in place, other ongoing needs can be addressed.



Kenzie (and other volunteers) prepare for distribution days by organizing food and stocking shelves.

The Make a Difference Food Pantry also operates a mobile food program for senior citizens. On Wednesdays, volunteers prepare the food, and on Thursdays, it is delivered to three senior citizen complexes in Mt. Olive.

This summer, Kenzie's Kids Summer Café utilizes volunteers to cook and prepare food at the local Salvation Army kitchen. That food is then delivered on

Kenzie Didn't Wait - continued from cover

Fridays to three area Boys & Girls Clubs and distributed to 170 youngsters from families in need. This summer program is an extension of the Backpack Buddies program Kenzie

runs throughout the school year. Volunteers from her food pantry box up food

for four local schools where children in qualified families bring it home to assist their families in having meals over the weekend.

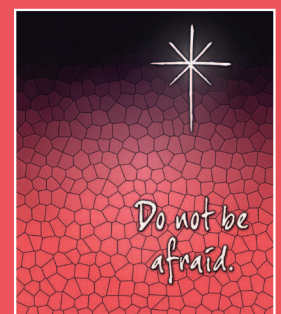
Asked how she believed she could launch such an endeavor, Kenzie replied, "Faith." To that, she has added a healthy dose of caring, energy, and hard work. Society of St. Andrew is so pleased to provide fresh produce to Kenzie's distributions to the needy in Wayne County. ☺

"Faith"

Plan for Advent with SoSA

Advent materials are shipping now.

Order yours at EndHunger.org/advent



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800-333-4597



Quarterly REPORT EndHunger.org

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

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