It’s About More Than Pounds...

Over four million pounds—that’s how much food one of The Society of St. Andrew’s regional networks distributed in 2020. It’s an incredible amount of food, but that doesn’t tell the whole story. The rest of the story is about more than pounds. It’s about partnerships—last year proved how working together ensures more families are fed.

Every obstacle, crisis, and tragedy throughout 2020 created more opportunities for people to partner together. These connections and relationships demonstrated the power and effectiveness of a true Christian community in addressing critical human problems, particularly hunger.

Rev. Diane, of Carmel, IN shown volunteering at a farmer’s market, makes it a priority to donate to SoSA monthly. She explains, “My donation is an extension of my grocery budget—it extends our dining table to feed those I otherwise might not know to share a meal.”

These fresh potatoes were distributed to two different partner organizations, 120 miles apart, who helped further distribute this food to dozens of agencies across Indiana.

It is a noteworthy milestone: In 2020, SoSA’s Indiana Gleaning Network shared more than 4 million pounds.

Continued – See It’s About More... on page 4
Gratitude is one word that sums up the Society of St. Andrew’s (SoSA’s) reflections on 2020. Every time the odds seemed insurmountable, energy flagged, or things felt hopeless, you were there. Farmers, donors, volunteers, reaching out and helping. All of us at SoSA are profoundly grateful for your prayers, your financial support, your gifts of food, time, and talent. You make this ministry possible every single day, as you have for over 40 years.

When 2020 began, hunger and food insecurity had declined to their lowest levels in decades, with about 36 million Americans unsure they would have enough to eat. Way too many people, but the number had been consistently declining. It felt like progress. We had heard a pandemic was coming but had no idea what that meant. As the year progressed, the number of evictions rose and unemployment climbed. By year’s end, 54 million Americans struggled to put food on the table.

Naively, in March we tried to postpone some events and wait out the pandemic. By April, we knew that wasn’t sustainable or right, so SoSA developed new COVID-responsive gleaning guidelines. These limited the number of volunteers, mandated masks and social distancing, and staggered times for gleaning groups, so non-family interaction was minimized. We kept our eyes on Georgia Tech’s county by county COVID-risk map so every person could make an informed decision about participation in gleaning, in that place. Altogether, SoSA’s amazing volunteers safely gleaned, bagged, and shared over 23 million pounds of nourishing food in 2020. You served, and in doing so, you brought joy to everyone involved. We’ve seldom seen happier gleaners than in 2020!

SoSA’s other big opportunity of 2020 was working with the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, distributing food boxes purchased by the USDA. In just seven months, the Farmers to Families program shared 132 million food boxes across the United States. SoSA handled the final mile logistics for 23 million pounds—or about 1 in every 150 food boxes distributed nationwide. This program was an “all hands on deck” endeavor every day, week after week. Each distribution was planned and re-planned until every food box found a family to go home with. SoSA is grateful for the numerous partners, the USDA, the vendors, and every group and person
Pandemic, Priorities, and Perserverance

2020 was about more than a pandemic. It was about people with priorities. Whether you’re a farmer who gave food, a volunteer who gave time, or a donor who gave dollars— you made it a priority to help the people around you.

And because you made it a priority to help others, millions of hungry people could persevere through a seemingly hopeless time. As needs continued to increase, families continued to receive good food from The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA). In fact SoSA distributed 140% more food in 2020 than in 2019. Your continued support makes that possible.
of good food with families across 36 counties in Indiana. Since opening as a SoSA regional office in 2018, the Indiana Gleaning Network had previously rescued approximately 200,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious food each year.

Hard work; community partnerships; an expanding volunteer base; good, old-fashioned scrambling; and generous donors of food and funds from people like you made it possible to share 20x the amount of fresh food, year over year in a single state. Big numbers are meaningful because they calculate how many families were blessed in the way of much needed food, because of your generosity. Those 4 million pounds provided 12 million servings of nourishing food for hungry Hoosiers. Pounds and servings are still just part of the story. The rest is up to you!

As we celebrate communities coming together and sharing a twenty-fold increase in the amount of food shared in Indiana, there are still families struggling to put food on their tables. Drivers still line up for miles to receive food from distribution events—families wait, sometimes for hours, to receive food. Last year proved how effective SoSA’s grassroots methods are at responding to an unprecedented crisis. In partnership with SoSA, you make a powerful difference in the lives of people who need good food most.

By working with SoSA this year, you can again be a lifeline to many as you put food on the tables of struggling families and ensure their children don’t have to go to bed hungry.

Below: Indiana farmers generously shared from their abundance to help meet the rising need. These volunteers are taking a quick break in the shade during one of the three gleaning trips to this farm.
Recent Donations

These names represent gifts made “In Memory Of” and “In Honor Of” special people and/or significant occasions. As loved ones are honored or remembered these gifts bring people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors. Thank you.

In Memory Of

Mike Anderson
Ardarth and Dolores
George Atwell
Christi Barger
Brother Barnyard
Virginia Bealer
Andrew Benjamin
Shelby Jean Bizzell
Snead Boley
Carl A. Breitinger
Helen Brown
Mr. Sylvester Brown
Sylvester Brevard Brown
Evelyn Byrd
Peggy Campbell
Jack and Dorothy Christie
Brigett Torpey Crews
Bud Curtis
Bud the Spud Curtis
Nelson “Bud the Spud” Curtis
Cyrene
Jacob Dalton
William F. Daniels, Jr.
Bill Davis
Pat Davis
Erin Deibel
Carroll & Helen Freeman
Mary Sue Garcia
Dave Grimm
Linda Hewitt
Jane Ingles
Nancy Keefer
Mike Kingsley
Wilma Kuhlmeier
Audrey Levy
David Andrew “Drew” Lewis
Jean Makouy
Annis McCabe
Ronald McNab
Douglas Millirons
Tehmul Mistry
Sue & Bill Moore
Michael J. Morris
Robertta Murray
Marjorie Newman
Kathleen O’Donnell
Dan Olson
Billie Ogden Page
Nita Parker
John Paul
Milan Peters
Rebeab Pethkure
Wayne and Martha Pugh
Peggy Ramey
Glenn Rapking
Julia Reed
Jo Richardson
Ralph and Betty Rump
Bill and Dorothy Schminkey
Ronald John Seres
Charles Shupe
Skylar Van Smith
Donald Struchen
Douglas Thomas
My kind and loving husband, Warren D. Tudor
Raymond A. Vohden Sr.
Charlene Wade
Veronica West
Eldner Wiggins
Sharon Wikinski
Ruben Billie Wilson
Theresa Damon
Carol Burley
Busbee Family
Diana & Preston Chapel
Clergy Of the Danville and Farmville Districts and Their Families
Congregation Of Marion UMC
Covington First UMC Staff, Covington, Ga
Carol Croft
Cooper and Jim Davidson
Wesley Delaughter
Kim Dills
Disney Employees Who Give Smiles For A Lifetime
Disney Workers who are laid off
Lawrence and Eileen Egan
Emily, Tyler, Trey, Kayla and Riley Allyson, Christopher and Wilson Ey
Fatimaeliza
Bruce Ferguson
Malcolm Ferguson
Mark Ferguson
Noah Fine
Shawn & Amy Floyd
Lewis Gardner
Amos Goldie
Matt Gonzalez
Lauren Graves
Mollie and Marshall Guthrie
William Haddock
Stephen Hassmer Sr.
Regina Hathaway
Betty and Cecil Heishman
Andrew S. Hiester
Steve and Laurie Higgins
Fred Hill
Christine Hodgson
Carolann Hopkins
Pastor Edward Hopkins
Megan Hulgan
Shelton Ingram
Steven Dean Jacobson
Bill and Kathy Janky
Jesus Christ My Lord and Savior Logan Jones & Family
Dr. Olivia Walden Kendrick
Kimmel Family
Patricia Kroger
John & Marilyn Lanoreux
Charles Lillis
Linda and John
Hayley Lohr
Annie McCoy
Martin McGirt
Jonathan Middleton
Kelsey Miller
Mom & Dad
Our 6 Grandchildren
Our Family and Friends
Robert Pardue
Parks Family
Brenda Patterson
Jose & Lindsey Perez
John and Kay Peters
Rev. Joseph Phipps
Stella Pool
Rita Poranski
Prospect UM Charge
Carol Puckett
Jim & Faye Pugh
Alfred Pulido
Jack & Peggy Putnam
Barbara Quinby
Janis Ranck
Rev. & Mrs. Norman Tippens
Ria, Terry, Rebecca, Jenny, Jay, Chris, Brian
Todd Richards
Tom Ricks
Sarah Riester & Tim Bodenreider
Robert & Eric
John Robinson
Wynter Mitchell Rohrbaugh
Pastor Joe Rowley
Adwoa Sam
Barbara Sayles
Schweiger Family
Thomas Short
Susan Sineath
Matthew Smith
Society of St. Andrew

In Honor Of

Matt Alford
All the Volunteers With SoSA Who Love Their Neighbors
Lester Anderson
Velma Aschenbach
Alan Bancroft
Rev. Dawn Barnes
Franco Bendict
Mike Benedict
Jessa Birchead
Robert Boesch
Mariana Boska
Tim Bradford
Kaitlyn Brown
Karen Brown
Wallace and Olivia Bruce
Bryan, Mercedes, Riley, Angie, Shane & Katie
Rev. Harriet Bryan
Wayne & Barbara Burgess
continued on page 7
In fact, many people who received food themselves were eager to help others as well. Volunteers who unloaded trucks and distributed food often said they were recently laid off, furloughed, or had otherwise experienced a loss of income. We heard countless stories of people who received good food and then eagerly delivered another bag, box, or bundle of food right to their neighbor’s doorstep.

You, as partners of SoSA, redefined a difficult year, not as the “year of the pandemic” but as the “year of people living out their priorities.” You placed others above yourselves as you gave generously of your food, time, and dollars. Each time you gave again, your actions brought not only good food to families in great need, but hope.

Every time you served, your efforts demonstrated your passion. We know your time and energy are limited. You also have jobs, families, and personal lives. You have plenty of responsibilities to care for in your own lives. And yet you gladly looked beyond your own needs and served your neighbors.

You made it possible for children to sleep at night, with full stomachs. You gave from the resources that provide for your own families and employees. You believed you had enough, so when presented with the opportunity, you partnered with SoSA and blessed entire communities.

Your gifts put good food on the tables of families who might otherwise have gone without. You reached deep and gave the very dollars you worked hard to earn. You recognized an abundance in your own lives and lived out your faith, sharing with neighbors in need.

You—SoSA’s volunteers, farmers, and donors—made it a priority to lend a helping hand when called upon. You rescued good food and shared it with families in great need. Thank you.

These tomatoes are from North Carolina but no matter where the food comes from, it always ends up on the tables of local families in need.

Join the mission to end hunger.

While volunteering is an exciting way to get involved, it’s not a perfect fit for everyone. If you live far from the nearest gleaning event or have a physical limitation that might make gleaning in farm fields difficult, or don’t have a desire to be outdoors lifting, bending, and stooping, then there are other ways you can serve.

Make a donation to SoSA. We do not charge fees for our services but rely 100% on donations. Gleaned food is shared with recipients at no cost to them.

Your donation covers all the logistics of rescuing food, including packaging materials and transportation of the food gleaned to where it is most needed. Those materials and transportation get food safely and quickly from the fields to the tables of hungry families.

Giving is simple, and a small gift makes a huge impact. A $25 monthly donation through the 12 Baskets Monthly Giving Program is a great way to start. Your monthly gift shares more than 800 servings of food, every single month, with families in need.

For more information about 12 Baskets Monthly Giving Program, go to EndHunger.org/12
THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS that donated $1,000+ in the 4th quarter of 2020

Atmos Energy Corporation ...................................................... Dallas, TX
Bell Family Foundation for Hope ........................................... Atlanta, GA
Braveheart Foundation ............................................................ Fishers, IN
Carlson Family Foundation ...................................................... Chapel Hill, NC
Charles A. Frueauff Foundation ............................................... Little Rock, AR
The Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond .......... Richmond, VA
Community Foundation of Greater Huntsville ....................... Huntsville, AL
Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee ....................... Nashville, TN
Community Foundation of South Georgia ......................... Thomasville, GA
County of Bedford ................................................................ Bedford, VA
Croft and Associates LLC............................................................ Nashville, TN
Davenport & Company LLC .................................................. Richmond, VA
The Duke Endowment ............................................................ Charlotte, NC
Dunkin’ Joy Foundation ............................................................ Canton, MA
Fidelity Charitable Gifts .......................................................... Cincinnati, OH
Finn Family Foundation ......................................................... Fulshear, TX
Florida Blue Foundation ......................................................... Jacksonville, FL
Florida Department of Agriculture ......................................... Tallahassee, FL
Hill Crest Foundation Inc ......................................................... Birmingham, AL
Honda Manufacturing of AL .................................................. Lincoln, AL
John S. & James L. Knight Foundation ..................................... Miami, FL
Johnson County Community Foundation, Inc ......................... Franklin, IN
Johnson Family Foundation .................................................... Miami, FL
Kohl Foundation .................................................................. Grapevine, TX
Kroger .................................................................................... Memphis, TN
Kroger .................................................................................... Canton, MA
L.B. Lane Family Foundation .................................................. Rapid City, SD
Mass Mutual Trust ................................................................. Indianapolis, IN
The Memorial Foundation ..................................................... Hendersonville, TN
No Kid Hungry/Share our Strength ......................................... Washington, DC
Pershing Advisor Solutions LLC .......................................... Jersey City, NJ
Premier ProduceOne ............................................................. Dayton, OH
Publix Super Markets Charities ............................................. Lakeland, FL
Republic Services ................................................................ Andover, MA
Rotary Club of Forest ............................................................. Forest, VA
Royal Food Service, Inc ......................................................... Atlanta, GA
Schwab Charitable ................................................................ San Francisco, CA
Sectra, Inc .............................................................................. Shelton, CT
Selby & Richard McRae Foundation ........................................ Jackson, MS
Service First Pharmacies Inc- Madison Drugs ...................... Huntsville, AL
Southeast Grocers Foundation ................................................. Jacksonville, FL
Speer Financial, Inc ................................................................. Chicago, IL
Stewardship Foundation ........................................................ Tacoma, WA
Tennessee Cares Act ............................................................. Nashville, TN
The Atticus Trust .................................................................. Nashville, TN
The New York Community Trust ............................................ New York, NY
Vanguard Charitable ............................................................... Warwick, RI
Wake County Cooperative Extension .................................... Raleigh, NC
Wells Fargo Foundation ........................................................ Minneapolis, MN
Weyerhaeuser NR Company ................................................... Seattle, WA

Recent Donations - In Honor Of continued from page 5

The Great People At SoSA Florida!
Evelyn Spears-Newsome
Stephen, Andrew, Francis, Clare, Joseph, Christine, Mark, and Kathleen
Joseph Strausbaugh
Sullivan Grandchildren
Miriam Taber
Sylvia Teeuwen
Judy and Roger Thurman
Carl & Becky Ullrich
Mike Ultee
Bill and Laura Ellen Wade
Peter D. Weaver
Julia Webb-Bowden
Diane & Terry Wilson

Executive Director’s Column continued from page 2

that made “truck to trunk” distribution possible, at SoSA events in over 20 states. In each location, families waited for hours, sometimes from dawn to dusk, for food. Yet every greeting spoken, by volunteer or food recipient, was filled with gratitude.

The pandemic isn’t over, though it feels we’re rounding a corner. SoSA teams are at work every day, seeing that food gets to people in need, rather than be wasted. We are grateful for your partnership.

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Receive a daily Lent devotion in your email throughout Lent.

It’s not too late to sign up.

EndHunger.org/lent

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Walk Humbly

delivered to your INBOX

Deepen your faith & experience renewal in your own life with Society of St. Andrew, as you join our online readership family during the season of Lent.

February 17 – April 3, 2021
Volunteer Spotlight

Mae Wallace is extraordinary. At the young age of five, she volunteered with The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) in December 2020. Later that month, after receiving a Christmas gift of gymnastics lessons from her grandparents, which brought her great excitement, she asked her mother Beth, if she could end those lessons before March...

When Beth asked why Mae wanted to end her lessons early, before she’d even tried them, her daughter explained, “…all of the plants will start growing again in March. And I won’t have time to volunteer on Saturday mornings if I’m at my gymnastics class.”

Beth was proud of her daughter’s heart for service and assured her they could do both. This conversation made Beth realize she had passed on a legacy. Beth’s own father had shown her the importance of volunteering—with SoSA—when she was growing up.

Beth frequently volunteered with her father, for SoSA, over 20 years ago. She remembers her father’s truck and trailer safely carrying up to 5,000 pounds of food. She even remembers where the pantries were that they delivered food to, from SoSA gleaning events! Beth remembers seeing children her own age smile broadly when they received a bundle of fresh food.

Beth recognized that her parents provided a comfortable environment for her, as a child. Her father was an attorney and made sure his family’s needs were met. However, Beth also knew her father provided her with another great gift: a heart for service.

Beth volunteers with a number of organizations in her community. When asked why she volunteers so frequently with SoSA, Beth explains—“My husband is a chef and I’m an educator. We know exactly how important good food is for people to thrive. I also appreciate that SoSA makes it easy to see how my donations and volunteer hours are used appropriately and how they make an impact.”

- Prov. 22:6

Train children in the way they should go, Even when they grow older they will not abandon it.

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