



Society of St. Andrew

GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

2023 Tennessee Impact Summary

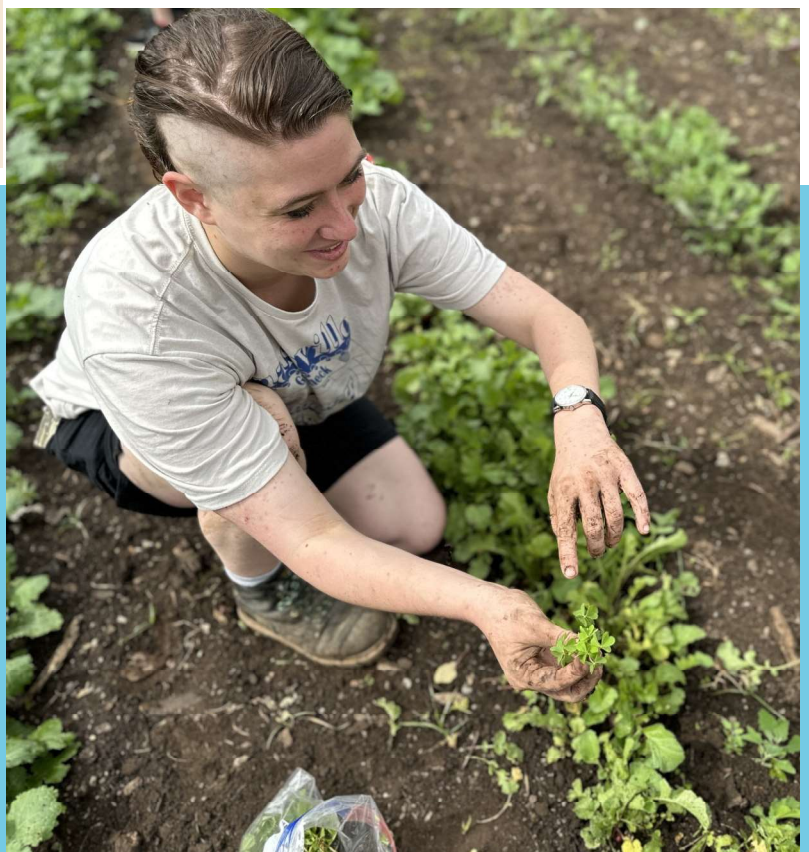
Our Mission

The Society of St. Andrew brings people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishing food to hungry neighbors.

Harvesting & Sharing Healthy Food

Felicia was a new Nashville volunteer who quickly became a twice-weekly gleaner. She has worked on farms in the past, and brought that experience with her to a spring gleaning (right) in 2023.

I Was Hungry Ministries is a community garden that specializes in holistic, organic growing. Felicia's weekly gleaning yielded over a ton of produce, especially leafy greens.



Thank you!

You've gleaned more markets, harvested more fields, and moved more loads, all to feed more people in need and keep more good food from going to waste.

2023 By the Numbers

Pounds shared:
1,646,177
pounds

Events:
829
events

Food providers:
127
Providers

Feeding agencies:
179
agencies

Bringing People Together

SoSA's seed project has been a staple of the Tennessee program for years. We share a truckload of seed potatoes with folks in Knoxville, and they sort and distribute them to organizations who will grow them to feed their hungry neighbors.

In the last few years, we've added other seeds to our program. Cabbage seeds, carrot seeds, and cauliflower seeds (among others!) are sent to community gardens all over the country. Besides providing folks with healthy food, the gardens are a place to learn about food, plants, and soil. And they're a place where people can come together around a common goal.

In 2023, 20 agencies received seed packets for veggies. About 40 agencies received seed potatoes. Growing the produce from seed is more time and labor for a receiving organization, but the community-building is worth it!

Right, top: seed potatoes in Knoxville getting ready for distribution

Right, bottom: the beginning of a potato plant in Clarksville, TN



Building Caring Communities



2023 brought us lots of bags! Churches, synagogues, and scouts in Clarksville, Smyrna, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Franklin, Memphis, Knoxville, and Pikeville all contributed to making bags for use at crop drops. We had so many bags cut by volunteers that they lasted until March this year!

The process is easy– we send a roll of plastic mesh (Think about the bags of onions you get at the grocery store with red mesh bags) to your org. You sit and socialize and cut and tie for as long as you like. We come get the bags, or you host a crop drop yourself and bag up some potatoes for your hungry neighbors.

Left:: Madison St. UMC of Clarksville made it a youth group challenge and made thousands

Recipient Agencies

24 Church
A Way Out Ministries
Advent Presbyterian Church
Alameda Christian Church
Alcoa Church of God
Angelic Ministry
Battlefield Farms
Beauty for Ashes
Beaver Ridge UMC
Binghampton Community Church
Blairland Baptist
Bledsoe County Community Food Bank
Boys and Girls Club Oak Ridge
Brooks Chapel Ministries & Kingdom Harvest
Burk's UMC
Burrito Ministry
Calvary Episcopal Church - Memphis
Catholic Charities
Catholic Church of the Ascension
Central UMC Lenoir City
Cerebral Palsy Center
Chimes for Charity
Church of the Holy Communion
Clinton City Schools
Clinton Memorial UMC
Cokesbury UMC Food Pantry
Collierville Christian Church
Collierville Food Pantry
Collierville UMC
Community Food Connection of Blount County
Concord UMC
Cornerstone Church of God
Crossroads Ministries Church
Dandridge Ministerial Association
Dorothy Day House of Hospitality
Dream Streets
Ebenezer UMC
Emmanuel Center
Eternal Harvest Food Pantry
Fairview United Methodist Church
Faith Fellowship Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Faith Lutheran Church
Feed America First
First Congregational Church
FISH Hospitality Pantries
Fountain City Ministry Center
Fresh Start Recovery Church
God's Warehouse
Good Samaritan Center
Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church
Grainger County Baptist Association
Grassy Valley Baptist Church
Greenhouse Ministries
Habitat for Humanity
Heartsong UMC
Hendersonville Samaritan Center
HER Faith Ministries
Hermitage Church of the Nazarene
Hermitage UMC Food Bank
High Places Church
Hines Creek Missionary Baptist Church
Idlewild Presbyterian Church
Jewish Family Services
Joseph's Storehouse of Hurricane Mills
Journey Home
Kareday Terrace
Kenton FBC
Knoxville Area Rescue Mission
Knoxville CAC
Ladies of Charity
LaunchPAD
Lennon Seney UMC
Little Free Pantry Martin
Loudon UMC
Love Kitchen
Magnolia Ave. UMC
Manna Café Ministries
Margaret's Place
Martha O'Bryan Center
Maryville Community Food Pantry

Reducing Food Waste

Schools across the country have been helping hungry kids and reducing waste by having Share Tables in their cafeterias. When children are done with lunch, they can put all unopened (packaged) or whole (fruit) foods on a table. If another child wants more to eat, they can visit

that table and have an extra apple or bag of chips, depending what's there.

A few elementary schools in Nashville found that some of the food on those tables at the end of lunch ended up in the trash. So they had refrigerators donated and called SoSA. SoSA sends volunteers to pick up the leftover lunch items, and deliver them to nearby agencies that can use the small milk cartons, yogurts, packaged sandwiches, and fresh fruit. In 2023, volunteers rescued and shared over 550 pounds of food.

This food would have ended up in local landfills, which are filling at an alarming rate. Because landfills are compacted so thoroughly, the decomposition of these items would be slow, and would produce more methane gas than natural decomposition. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, contributing to climate change. Not all of SoSA's food would otherwise go to landfills. But even the field gleanings keep us from wasting the time, labor, additives, land, and water that went into producing those crops.



Does your child keep bringing their bananas home from lunch? Try this!

EASY BANANA BREAD

Mash three bananas. Add 1 cup sugar (or less- the bananas offer a lot of sweetness!), an egg, 1/4 softened butter, 1 1/2 cups of flour, 1 teaspoon baking soda, and 1 teaspoon salt. Mix and bake at 350 until a toothpick or fork comes out clean.

- Jeannie

Recipient Agencies (continued)

Merge Memphis
Mid-South Food Bank
Midtown Valley UMC
Montgomery Village
Morgan-Scott Project
Morristown UMC
Mountain T.O.P.
Nashville Community Fridge
Nashville Rescue Mission
New Faith Revival Center
New Life Baptist Church
New Life UMC Food Pantry
Norcross UMC
Norwood UMC Knoxville
Nourish Food Bank
Oak Ridge Housing Authority
Oak Ridge Senior Center
One Generation Away
Operation Oneida
Operation Sharing Tennessee
Patchwork
Pellissippi Pantry
Pellissippi State Garden
People Loving Nashville
Pikeville UMC
Plough Towers
Portland Pay It Forward
Powell UMC
Rachel's Kids Inc.
Radical Mission
Reach 360 Church
Red Bird Mission School
Refuge Church
Rocky Top Food Pantry
Room In The Inn
Sacks Thrift Avenue
SAFPAW
Samaritan Place
Scott County Ministerial Association
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee
Second UMC
SEED Plant One
Sevierville Hispanic Church
Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry
Smith County Help Center
St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
St. Anne Church
St. Joseph's Pantry
St. Luke Lutheran Church
St. Luke's UMC - Memphis
St. Marks UMC
St. Paul's AME Zion
Store House Ministries
Sunshine and Daisy Mobile Food Pantry
Susannah's House
The Branch of Antioch
The Bridge Ministry
The Episcopal Church of the Ascension
The Good Shepherd Center
The Lord's Child Food Pantry
The Love Hub
The Memphis Church
The Nashville Food Project
The Store
The Village at Glencliff
Thrive Lonsdale
TN College of Applied Tech.
Trevecca Food Pantry
Trinity Community Commons
Trinity UMC Knoxville
Trinity United Methodist Church
Troy FBC
Trudy's Kid's Café
True Purpose Ministry
Tulahoma Family Food Ministry
United Ministries of Robertson County
Urban Bicycle Food Ministry
Vestal UMC

Offering Nourishment to Hungry Neighbors

This year Church of the Holy Communion hosted the first sweet potato drop in Memphis in almost ten years (picture below)! Volunteer and co-coordinator Barbara Boucher said, "It was all anyone was talking about on Sunday morning ." Over 200 volunteers gave potatoes to 31 Memphis-area agencies in just a few hours! Many of these were agencies SoSA had never engaged before, so it was truly an opportunity to engage more of our hungry Tennessee neighbors. If you haven't seen the magic of a crop drop, consider hosting one at your congregation or workplace.



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