

REMEMBER OUR NATION'S HUNGRY



Leader: Thirty-seven million children and adults live in poverty in America. Many of them struggle every day to put food on their tables. What are God's people to do? "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land." (Deuteronomy. 15:11)

People: **God of justice, forgive our greediness. Unclench our fists and awaken our hearts so we may be your generous people. Give us the will to open our hands to the poor and our needy neighbors.**

Leader: "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." (Luke 3:11) God supplies abundantly! More than enough food is available to feed those who don't have enough to eat.

People: **God of creation, our land is filled with an abundance of food, yet some are still hungry. Give us grace to share joyfully with your hungry children across our land. Let us be a faithful people who meet the needs of the poor.**

Leader: "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food...?" Jesus, were you the woman who waited my table? Were you the man I walked by without seeing? Are you a child in my neighborhood who goes to bed hungry? "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."
(Matthew 25:37,40)

All: **Loving Father, You care for all creation and command us to care for the poor of our nation and world. Help us have eyes to see the needs of the poor, ears to hear the cries of your hungry children, and the will to respond. May we remember that the service we give to others is service given to your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

OBSERVE NATIONAL HUNGER AWARENESS DAY



Thirty-seven million Americans live in households that experience hunger or are at risk of hunger. This represents one out of ten households. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that 96 billion pounds of food is wasted each year from grocery stores, restaurants, bakeries, etc. Others estimate an additional 20% of commercially grown produce never makes it to the marketplace. This is enough food to feed everyone who is hungry!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Pray for those who are hungry and pray that we as a church will find helpful ways to respond.
- Volunteer with a charity that feeds the hungry.
- Fast one meal on National Hunger Awareness Day, remembering those who are hungry in our nation. Donate the amount you would have spent on that meal to the feeding ministry of the Society of St. Andrew or another charity of your choice.
- Study hunger issues and the realities of hunger in your area. Contact your senator or representative and find out what they are doing about hunger. *Bread for the World* (www.bread.org) has information about getting involved.



Society of St. Andrew

Gleaning America's Fields ~ Feeding America's Hungry

The Society of St. Andrew feeds our nation's hungry by salvaging produce that would otherwise be wasted and donating it to agencies feeding the poor throughout the country. By bridging the gap between excess food and the people who need it, the Society of St. Andrew salvages 30 million pounds annually at a cost of a few pennies a serving.

For information contact:
Society of St. Andrew ~ 3383 Sweet Hollow RD ~ Big Island, VA 24526
800-333-4597~ email: church@endhunger.org ~ www.endhunger.org



(For United Methodists, the Society of St. Andrew is an Advance Special, #801600.)