

# Society of St. Andrew

GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~ FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY



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Dear Church Members,

Grace and peace! The **Society of St. Andrew (SoSA)** would like to invite your church to take part in this year's ***Feed Your Neighbor Sunday***. Now celebrating its second year, *Feed Your Neighbor Sunday* provides a creative, organized way to learn about local food needs, and to share fresh fruits and vegetables within your community.

## ***How does Feed Your Neighbor work?***

On a Sunday of your congregation's choosing, congregants will be asked to bring to church with them nutritious, quality produce from their gardens, local farmers' markets, and grocery stores. (For folks who wish to contribute from a farmer's market, it's easy to find one nearest you at [www.ncfarmfresh.org](http://www.ncfarmfresh.org).) After the service, church volunteers will deliver the produce directly to a location that SoSA coordinates for you. Locations may include low-income housing, senior assisted living, homes of refugee families, or homeless shelters. You may even decide to share with those in need who belong to your own congregation.

## ***What else does SoSA do?***

Since 1979, SoSA has been collecting and distributing wide varieties of fruits and vegetables to people with limited access to gardens or affordable markets. Some of your congregation members may already have helped us accomplish this goal by gleaning at local farms—picking produce that can't be sold because of minor blemishes, overproduction, or fluctuating market prices. The food SoSA gathers and gives away is always high quality and would often otherwise be plowed under or left to rot. In fact, this incredible waste is what happens to roughly 20% of all food grown in the U.S. The SoSA recognizes this need so we can get down to the serious business of celebrating abundance.

We hope that your congregation gets onboard this opportunity to glean and share fresh fruits and veggies from your own bountiful back yards!

**Your congregation can participate in *Feed Your Neighbor Sunday* on whichever date you choose.** Interested churches should email Kate Pattison at [sosanc@endhunger.org](mailto:sosanc@endhunger.org), or call (919) 683-3011 to find out more information.

SoSA will provide all participating churches a support kit including:

- Worship guides; to include suggested hymns, prayers, and scripture related to gleaning, food, and hunger;
- Children's activities;
- Location and contact information for delivery of collected produce;
- A report form to be returned to SoSA, with produce amounts recorded by weight and type.

The church that collects the most produce will receive a certificate recognizing their efforts, and SoSA will gladly publish the results in our newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you! Please contact either **Kate Pattison** or **Kristy Nash** at **(919) 683-3011** with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kristy Nash, Director, and  
Kate Pattison, Program Coordinator,  
*Society of St. Andrew ~ Carolinas*