

Hunger Bits

*Doug Sensabaugh, Hunger Action Coordinator
Shenandoah Presbytery – No. 5*

We give gladly to help with hunger relief in many ways. Here are some of the programs we support through our contributions.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance helps those without hope following a disaster. The Disaster Teams heed the call **“to stand among those locked in fear and distress.”** Local and International teams travel from West Virginia to Sudan, Asia, Florida, and to anywhere to help bring peace to those locked in fear. They provide support, advocacy, distribute food and clothing, and offer the compassion of Christ to a hurting world.

Meal Time is a new soup-kitchen ministry begun in the Morgan County, WV, area and supported by Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal and Wesleyan congregations. In addition to operating 3 days a week, the program hopes to offer classes on nutrition and food preparation. The Berkeley Springs congregation helps provide volunteers to serve and coordinate the Meal time program.

Highland Memorial Food Pantry has been in existence since the late 1980's. In 2004 Highland served 1,014 families for a total of 3,220 household members and distributed 71,170 lbs of food. Food is supplied from the Lord Fairfax Food Bank, along with donations from many other sources. The pantry's dedicated staff represents the Highland and Clearbrook churches and people from the community. This year they sponsored a Christmas shop for the patrons of the pantry.

Lord Fairfax Food Bank is an area branch of the Blue Ridge Area Food Banks located in Verona, VA. Located in Winchester, it receives food from the Blue Ridge Food Bank and from the local community. It supports local pantries in Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudon, Page, Shenandoah and Warren counties and Winchester city.

Valley Mission is located in Staunton, Va, where it serves the community's homeless. The mission not only provides shelter, but also provides for other material needs of food, clothing and nominal financial assistance. Ministering to the whole person, the spiritual needs of their patrons are a high priority. They also support and encourage those recovering from substance abuse. They provide a “Gift of Love” to many who are in desperate need.

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