

Hunger Bits

*Doug Sensabaugh, Hunger Action Coordinator
Shenandoah Presbytery – No. 7*

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

Loaves and Fishes operates in conjunction with the Martinsburg, WV, C-CAP program. They distribute food to in need within the Berkeley County community. Open Monday-Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm, the food pantry is housed in the basement of the old St. Joseph's Catholic School and is supported by nearly 60 area churches. Hunger relief to the community is a universal effort of many faiths. C-CAP also provides material and financial assistance to the needy of the community.

Glen Kirk Church Food Pantry distributes food on the first Monday of each month. Serving 35-40 families each month during 2004, fifteen volunteers packed and delivered 43,186 pounds of food in 2004. In addition to food donated from area churches, and free USDA surplus food, the pantry is supported with financial contributions from other local Presbyterian, Brethren and Methodist churches. Area Ruritan clubs, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts have donated food items and funds to support this important hunger ministry in the Dooms community.

Volunteer Farm of Woodstock is a labor of love for Bob Blair, formerly on the staff of the Disaster Assistance Relief agency of the Methodist Church. In 2004, they began a demonstration project using volunteers to plant and harvest five acres of fresh, nutritious vegetables for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, serving the northeastern section of Virginia. Fifty-two people on 4 teams donated 649 hours to plant bush beans, watermelons, squash, tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. Sixteen tons of food was harvested and distributed to the 18,000 monthly clients of the 425 food pantries in northeastern Virginia. In 2005, 20 acres will be planted – all to benefit the clients of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

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