



FEED THE HUNGRY

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What the Bible says about hunger, helping the poor, and justice:

- * Isaiah 58:5-10
- * Matthew 25:31-46
- * Luke 14:12-14
- * Mark 6:30-34
- * Psalm 146:5-8
- * Proverbs 19:17
- * Deuteronomy 15:7-8
- * James 1:22

HAA!
Hunger is no joke.



HUNGER ACTION ADVOCACY IN THE PRESBYTERY OF SAN JOSE

Spring, 2005

Make a Difference!

Hunger Advocacy Training for People Who Care

A FREE 2-hour learning opportunity presented by the California Hunger Action Coalition and The Hunger Action Advocacy Program of the Presbytery of San Jose through a grant from the Mazon Foundation, a Jewish Response to Hunger



TWO FREE WORKSHOPS FOR YOU!

Tuesday, May 3, 9 a.m.— 11 a.m.

No. Monterey County Community Center, 11261 Crane St., Castroville

RSVP: TO Lee Mercer: (831) 722-7110, ext. 220

Tuesday, May 3, 1 :00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, 728 W. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale 94087

RSVP: Pat Plant, 408/737-7370; patplant@comcast.net

Review and learn key things you need to know to be a successful advocate for hungry people:

- How to track legislation that will benefit the people
- How to lobby your representatives
- How to write letters to politicians that get noticed

GUEST SPEAKER: Nancy Amidei, faculty member at the University of Washington School of Social Work, directs the Civic Engagement Project which works with non-profit groups throughout the country offering advocacy training, workshops and resource materials. A writer, teacher, and advocate, Ms. Amidei has written a guide to policy advocacy, 'So you want to make a Differ-

HUNGER ACTION DAY in Sacramento - Tues., May 10, 2005



Join **California Hunger Action Coalition** and many other hunger-fighting groups, agencies, and individuals for a day of legislative visits, briefings on current hunger legislation and issues, and testimony from grassroots groups.

Buses will leave from several places in our Presbytery, so contact **Pat Plant** for details: (408) 737-7370; paplant@comcast.net.

For more Hunger Day news, visit the CHAC website at: <http://www.hungeraction.net/actionday.html>

"Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world.

Indeed it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead, Anthropologist

PLP — your HAA



I'm so proud of being the **Hunger Action Advocate** for the Presbytery of San Jose. Over the past three years I have gotten to know

many church leaders and pastors and visited many church mission committees. I have met some very dedicated people and many with a sincere heart for the poor.

Starting this job coincided with an

amazing event I ran at the Sunnyvale Church that mobilized our congregation to serve eight local agencies that help the poor on one day, a Day of Service. Since then my life has been one event, talk, phone call, Presbytery meeting, promotion, and church meeting after another—all focused on helping people see God's call to give and serve to those in need.

Being part of the national Presbyterian Hunger Program network of Hunger Action Enablers has been a treat. I now have friends across the country who share similar interests to my own and we email each other often, and annually meet to learn and share.

I won't be at the June 4th Presbytery meeting (though my hunger stuff will all be there with a friend who will sub for me) because I will be at the National Gathering of *Bread for the World* in Washington DC, (see more info on p.3) which this year is a joint gathering of all the *Presbyterian Hunger Program* HAEs too!

I promise to absorb all that both these amazing organizations toss my way and then share everything I learn with you in days to come.

Many blessings, **Pat**

Cents-Ability



Cents-Ability is a national Presbyterian Hunger Program activity in which church members participate each year

across the country. Cents-Ability centers around a small personal discipline of putting a few cents (2-5) in a cup or bank at each meal. At the

same time the giving takes place, grace is said on behalf of those without food, or perhaps even a table.

At some point in the year the banks are collected, the money deposited, then given to the Presbytery to give, on behalf of all of its members, to worthwhile causes.

Our plan is to give our collected funds this year to the Second Harvest Food Banks of Santa Clara County, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties, and

the Monterey County Food Bank.

The Goals of this year's Cents-Ability Campaign include:

- In addition to other activities we do to help the local poor, help some more
- To increase generosity to and support of hungry people who live in the area of our Presbytery.
- To unify the Presbytery around one common, simple activity

Visit the PHP website and see all the details on Cents-Ability: <http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/hunger>

GRACE FOR THE TABLE

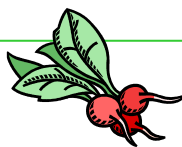
By the Rev. Cathy Stentzel, Pastor, Clague Road United Church of Christ, North Olmsted, OH; University of the Poor website: <http://www.universityofthepoor.org/>



Awesome God! God of power and might who creates all that is! Thank you that you care about us and all people. Thank you that you nourish us with food and friends today and feed our hope for tomorrow. Thank you that with this meal you empower us with courage and strength to do the work of justice in your world. Amen.

Our table is filled with beautiful food, O God, and soon we too shall be filled with this bounty from your hand. Now, and again in a little while, help us to remember to give you thanks for all your blessings. And help us to remember the ones who have neither food nor table. Amen.

Plant A Row for the Hungry



Plant A Row (PAR) is a nationwide, people-to-people program sponsored locally by UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners and Community Food Banks. The goal is to connect home gardeners who grow extra fruits and vegetables with those in our community who are in need of that nutritious food.

Share with your church members

Here's all you do:

- Plant an extra row of vegetables in your garden—no matter what the size, and give what you grow there to local food pantries that serve the hungry in your area.
- Plant vegetables and fruits that travel well and are good keepers including: broccoli, cabbage, carrots, peas, green beans, tomatoes, sweet peppers, eggplants, summer squash (including zucchini), winter squash, onions, beets, apples and pears.
- Harvest and thoroughly clean your produce and deliver to local food pantry.

MAJOR FOOD BANKS IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Second Harvest Food Bank 750
Curtner Ave., San Jose (408)
266-8866; www.2ndharvest.net

Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties, 800
Ohlone Parkway, Watsonville
(831)722-7110
www.thefoodbank.org

Monterey County Food Bank
815 West Market Street, #5
Salinas, CA 93901

(831) 758-1523 from Salinas
(831) 372-7843 from Monterey Peninsula: <http://www.food4hungry.org>

Bread for the World



Formed 31 years ago, **Bread for the World** (BFW) is a nationwide Christian citizens movement seeking justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying our nation's decision makers. **BFW Institute** seeks justice for hungry people by engaging in research and education on policies related to hunger and development.

Bread for the World is a Christian voice for ending hunger in God's world. This nonpartisan citizen's movement has a membership of 53,000, including 2,500 churches. These people of faith and conscience help hungry people by writing, calling, and visiting our nation's decision-makers about legislation that addresses hunger in our communities and around the world. This outpouring of concern helps advance justice for hungry people, makes vital policy improvements, and wins hundreds of millions of dollars each year for anti-poverty efforts.

For **membership information** as well as lots of information on **Bread's** efforts to help the hungry and how people can help, visit their website at: www.bread.org.



One way **BFW** hopes churches will participate in the legislative arena, is to plan an Offering of Letters, where people are encouraged to write letters to their legislators in favor of positive legislation and sharing their sorrow over the plight of the poor in their community and in our world. Stacks of letters can sway and inform political will. This year's theme is "Make Hunger History." For instruction book and bulletin inserts, visit the website or call them at 1-800-82-BREAD.

Also, you could attend the **BFW** conference, "One Table, Many Voices" - The National Gathering and Lobby Day in Washington D.C. June 4-7. Among many other things, attendees will learn lobbying skills and visit their legislators .

Westminster Church and Many Others Work on Alleviating Hunger



Mary Fatula with always-present Second Harvest food barrels in **Westminster Church** office lobby.

Many of our San Jose Presbytery Churches actively work on hunger by having regular food drives, food pantries, volunteering at local food banks and advocating for hunger-fighting legislation.

The Second Harvest Food of Santa Clara County at their 2004 Food Drive awards honored Westminster Church with their Community Champion Trophy for donating 3,496 lbs. of food and \$1,175.

For more stories on our churches and their contributions to hungry people, go to our Presbytery website (www.ssanjosepby.org) and click on the **Hunger Advocates** webpage.

"Lord, to those who hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice." - Latin American prayer

Bible Study



Hunger for the Word



Isaiah's Challenge to the People of God

This booklet provides the clear and disconcerting link between worship and our neighbor's Hunger. Enough material for a multi-session class or a one night study. FREE. (PDS Item#74360-01-305)



HUNGER NO MORE - A leader's guide and handouts for a study on causes and cures for hunger. This study was created by a variety of denominations working together and is downloadable from the PHP website: www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/hunger



Children's Sermon and Activity Suggestions relating to the "Feeding of the Five Thousand." The PHP offers the "A Kid Started It" children's message packet, which includes a children's sermon, activity suggestions, a teaching picture, and ten temporary tattoos. (Item # 7436002309)



A Children's Curriculum on Hunger Booklet. Any child can understand the concept of sharing. Could that make a difference in how we deal with the issue of hunger? Interactive and biblically based, this new curriculum presents a balanced world where there is enough for all God's children. Five stand-alone sessions, adaptable for kindergarten through middle school. Can be used in Vacation Bible School, Children's Church, after-school and intergenerational settings. Leader's Guide with reproducible participant pages. [PDS: 74360-99-324](http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/hunger); free

A Fast That Lasts

A Fast That Lasts, kit. A complete kit for a 24 or 30 hour fasting retreat with lasting impact. Includes Hunger Has A Cure CD-ROM, a three segment video, Bible study, games, activities, and a detailed planning guide. Adaptable for middle school through high school, year 1 and year 2 versions. [PDS: 74360-99-326](http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/hunger). \$20.00



Links to hunger websites:

Presbyterian Hunger Program:

www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/hunger

Bread for the World: www.bread.org

Second Harvest Food Bank of San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties: www.2ndharvest.net

Second Harvest Food Bank of San Benito and Santa Cruz: www.thefoodbank.org

Monterey County Food Bank: www.food4hungry.org/

The University for the Poor: www.universityofthepoor.org

OXFAM: <http://www.oxfamamerica.org>

Kids Make A difference: www.kidscanmakeadifference.org

Equal Exchange (Fair Trade Coffee) www.equalexchange.com/

There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.

- Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist*

CHECK OUT THESE BOOKS ON HUNGER



These three GREAT, (informative, good reading) books can be ordered from the **Bread for the World** website: www.bread.org.

"Grace at the Table" by David Beckman and Art Simon, \$8.95

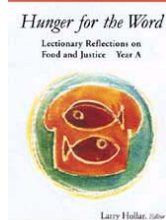
Grace at the Table is a primer on the causes of hunger and what we as ordinary citizens can do to end the problem at home and around the world. Written in an easy-to-read,

question-and-answer format with practical strategies to effect change. Comes with a study guide.

"How Much Is Enough" by Art Simon from Bread for the World

How Much Is Enough? Hungering for God in an Affluent Culture points out that while possessions may capture our hearts, they are unable to nourish our souls or give us joy. In Simon's keen analysis, our consumer society is set against the backdrop of a world in which 840 million people are chronically undernourished.

"Hunger for the Word" by Larry Hollar



Long-time Bread for the World staff member Larry Hollar has edited this new collection of scripture reflections by 46 pastors, lay per-

sons, and biblical scholars who are BFW members and activists. Following the readings for Year A of the Revised Common Lectionary and the Roman Catholic Lectionary for Mass, this book includes suggestions for music and children's sermons.

www.sanjosephy.org

Visit our website... it changes daily!

Many articles that are begun in this and the Presbytery Newsletter, *The Monarch Messenger*, are completed and amplified (lots of photos and more information) on our website!