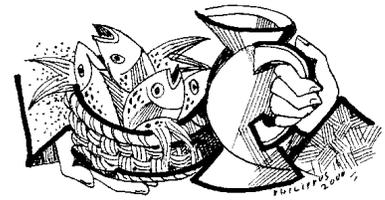


Mission News



Feeding 5000

For the 18th year, the “Feeding 5000” project will benefit the Somerset County Food Bank. Make sure you are a part of this important effort to bring much-needed food to so many.

“We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And Jesus said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled...about five thousand men, besides women and children. **Matthew 14:17-21**

Two thousand years later, you are invited to help feed the multitudes through this annual “Feeding 5000” project. Here’s how the food drive works. Take one of the food lists to a store sometime during the next few weeks. Purchase as many items on the list as you can and then drop the bag off in Fellowship Hall. One grocery bag filled with all the food items listed below will feed a family of four for two days – that’s 24 meals. When we fill 209 bags, we provide 5000 meals for families who depend on the Somerset County Food Bank.

FOOD LIST

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 2 cans of tuna | 2 boxes of macaroni and cheese |
| 1 large box of cereal (or oatmeal) | 1 jar of spaghetti sauce |
| Parmalat milk | 1 plastic jar of jelly |
| 1 plastic jar of peanut butter | canned fruit |
| 1 can of juice | 2 cans of soup |
| 1 box of pasta | 2 cans of meat (Spam, corned beef, stew) |

(If you cannot supply everything on the list, any portion is greatly appreciated.)

Also appreciated are cash gifts used to purchase food in bulk at the state food distribution center in Hillside. Checks should be made payable to Food Bank Network of Somerset County.

Suppose a donor gave money—not food—to a charity serving the hungry. Instead of going to the store to buy food, the charity takes the donated funds to its area’s food bank. There, for every dollar a donor would have to spend to buy cans of food, the charity would draw about \$3.00 worth of food. That’s because food banks serve as nonprofit, wholesale –like clearing houses for the food industry’s surplus food. So a \$10.00 donation ends up leveraging as much as \$30.00 worth of food for the charity to distribute.

Also instead of packing food into standardized boxes, the charity can display it in a store-like fashion and permit needy families to choose what they like. That practice, called “client choice,” eliminates the problem of needy families being given food they cannot use.

The bottom line is that for the same amount of money spent on buying cans for a food drive, donors can feed 3 times more families by providing cash.

If you wish to be a part of the delivery that will take the donations please contact the Peapack Reformed Church office at (908) 234-2733.

LAST DAY TO LEAVE FILLED GROCERY BAGS: Sunday, November 26

Thank you for your generous participation in this much-needed effort!