

Addressing the Hunger Challenge across Kent Presbytery

Do you know what we're doing already?

Need some new ideas?

Here's what our congregations
have identified so far.

*At our May Presbytery meeting we agreed to make the Hunger Challenge
an area of focus across Kent Presbytery.*

If you haven't yet told us what your congregation is doing,
or if the attached list reminds you of something you're also doing, let us update
the list. Let your UCIA Committee know.

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And look for some further suggestions in the fall!

<u>Category</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Blenheim United gives out food vouchers for the local grocery stores as part of our Benevolent Fund.
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	We give out food vouchers for the local grocery store.
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Food vouchers are available for ValuMart (100 per month), Tuesday & Friday mornings
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Have helped locals with food, when approached. Have helped with car repairs and rides, when requested.
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Connected with the Blenheim Ministerial, who have gift Cards available for No Frills (\$25).
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	I have a discretionary fund that I can use for meals or groceries for those who need help short term.
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Several of our own families going through difficult times are assisted through our benevolent fund and with left-overs from meals. In one case, a congregation member has taken the young mother shopping and we have paid the cost.
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	Food vouchers available Tuesday mornings (funded through our Samaritan Fund... anyone can make contributions)
Benevolent Fund / Vouchers	We've made and sold Churchmade chili sauce with proceeds supplementing our Samaritan Fund
Beyond Hunger	Each December the "White Gift Services" are donated to the Merlin Christmas Baskets. In 2010, we collected "shoeboxes" of toiletries, 90 % of clients got a complete "Shoebox", everyone got something.
Beyond Hunger	24 homeless kits for the Salvation Army prepared in February/March consisting of toiletries (e.g. toothbrush & paste, kleenex, socks, deodorant, soap, pen/paper, chewing gum, etc) all wrapped in a bath towel
Breakfast Program	The stores that support such things as Toonies for Tummys and the School breakfast program in Ridgetown, when I am checking out, I just have them add this item to my grocery bill.
Breakfast Program	Volunteers and Donations to local Breakfast Programs.
Breakfast Program	Lend-a- Hand Breakfast Program in Schools: our thank-offering each Thanksgiving is donations of cereal and juice for this program. There is also a cash donation.
CFGB	CFGB - in co-operation with St. John's, St. Paul's & Zion
CFGB	Canadian Foodgrains Bank donations usually at Christmas
CFGB	CFGB - in co-operation with St. Paul's, Zion & Blenheim
CFGB	CFGB - in co-operation with St. John's, Zion & Blenheim
CFGB	Support is given to the Canadian Food Grains Bank , including a donation to the growing project at Fairfield.
CFGB	CFGB - in co-operation with St. John's, St. Paul's & Blenheim
Christmas Baskets	Take food boxes to families at Xmas (usually those who have requested food vouchers during the year.)
Christmas Baskets	Help with both the Blenheim and Merlin Christmas Baskets - sorting and delivery.
Christmas Baskets	One Sunday in Advent is White Gifts of food and \$ for Sertoma Christmas Basket project in Thamesville.
Christmas Baskets	We give fruit baskets to some of the local people at Christmas time who are in a low income group, including those who we know have a need but have no connection to the church.

Food Bank Our members contribute food and personal care items to the local food bank at the Baptist Church. (managed by the Salvation Army; already on the chart)

Food Bank Collect for the Salvation Army Food Bank in Ridgetown.

Food Bank A one time cash donation (\$1000) to Outreach for Hunger after their fire.

Food Bank Kids Cook program - part of registration cost is to bring an item for the Food Bank

Food Bank we collect food and take it to the food banks at the end of each month. Wesley goes to Outreach for Hunger in Chatham, Charing Cross supports the food bank in Blenheim

Food Bank we have a box in the foyer and each week folk bring items for the local foodbank and a volunteer gathers them up and takes it over to the Salvation Army.

Food Bank Every so often we have a special appeal for the foodbank.

Food Bank At Christmas, we had (and will likely again have) a project to fill grocery bags. We obtained the reusable bags that Sobey's/Foodland sell and got a list from the Salvation Army of items needed for the Christmas boxes--food, personal care items and children's gifts. We filled over 60 bags.

Food Bank On the first Sunday of every month we bring bags of groceries for the foodbank in Dresden.

Food Bank We have an annual Candlelight Service in December with a freewill offering, usually about \$350. which is donated to Outreach For Hunger.

Food Bank We have a Hallowe'en party for the community with admission being canned goods. We then put these in our church windows until Dec. 10. Our congregation adds to this so that by Dec. we have 25 items in each of our 8 windows. This may not be pretty but it is a reminder to the congregation to bring food items.

Food Bank For White Gift Sunday, I have given families a white bag and asked them to fill them with white items-sugar, salt, flour, paper products, etc, which is donated to Dresden Foodbank

Food Bank For our 50th anniversary, we asked for food bank donations instead of gifts if people wanted to do something. We had over \$700., as well money donated on-line to food banks, and 7 laundry hampers of food, as well as gift bags of stuff. Jean Atkinson at Botany did the same for her 90th birthday.

Food Bank I take all the extra from the garden to either Ridgetown or Chatham food bank so that it doesn't get wasted. The fresh garden produce is always in big demand

Food Bank If I happen to see really good bargains of fresh produce on the produce sale table (you know the big bunches of bananas that are too big for anyone to use of ripe stuff) , I will buy it and take it down to Ridgetown food bank at the Salvation Army where it can be given out. The bananas, for example will be shared with social service clients to have one while they wait - and they offer coffee and a spot to sit for people.

Food Bank I also will purchase items that are on special tables because their "best before" is coming very close - and drop them into the boxes at the door of the grocery store on my way out.

Food Bank First Sunday of each month a "foodbank" collection is held at each church - donated to Blenheim Food Bank.

Food Bank Both UCW's donated cash at Christmas to the Blenheim Food Bank.

Food Bank Occasional food collections during the year & response to special appeals

Food Bank We have "Focus on Food" during the month of October (one Sunday is World Food Sunday) and bring in food for Dresden Foodbank, nearest us.

Food Bank We asked the coordinator of the Dresden Foodbank to make a presentation during a service and that helped get everyone on board.

Food Bank We keep a collection going year round at the door and some folks drop things in each week especially since the fire in Chatham. We have been donating to Outreach for Hunger since the fire.

- Food Bank **Collection Basket for Salvation Army Food Pantry:** we have a basket available every week and also have an occasional focus appeal for donations throughout the year. Recently we had a KD (Kraft Dinner) train - the donated boxes were set up in the sanctuary during worship and after conversation the children knocked them down like dominoes. We also give cash donations from our Benevolent Fund once or twice a year.
- Food Bank There is an agreement of the Ministerial with the Salvation Army that we send individuals looking for assistance to the Salvation Army. All the churches and the Ministerial donate to the SA to assist with the Food Pantry.
- Food Bank collecting for the food bank in Dresden.
- Food Bank Ongoing collection for the Ridgetown food bank with food and cash donations. (One idea was to circle the Sunday school room with donations).
- Food Bank UCW sponsors a food drive every 4th Sunday for Outreach for Hunger
- Food Bank Sunday School collects cash and loose change every 4th Sunday for Outreach for Hunger
- Food Bank We provide an additional food storage location for Outreach for Hunger while they're seeking new facilities
- Food Bank We collect food, and about every four weeks we have one of those big plastic storage bins of non-perishable food to go to a local food bank - sometimes Ridgetown, Chatham or Chatham Salvation Army.
- Food Bank, plus Advent - each week of Advent we collect something different: White Gifts of food or money for Outreach for Hunger, hats & mittens for the Salvation Army, loose change for Sleeping Children Around the World, and non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army
- Food Distribution Coffee, tea and leftovers from our Friendship Meals are occasionally distributed to those in need during food voucher distribution
- Food Distribution Soup to Go - Churchmade soup available for distribution Tuesday mornings, October-May
- Food Sharing The **Table of Plenty** operates on Sundays in the summer months. People are invited to bring in extra produce from their gardens to give away. It is simply placed on the table and anyone is free to take what they can use.
- Meal We have a group of 5 helping with the Friendship Meal at Vic Ave. on May 29--our first time.
- Meal Each Thursday, we host a friendship meal called The Lunch Bunch, from 11:30 to 12:30. While Erie St. United is always the location, area churches take turns hosting the lunches, with about nine churches involved.
- Meal This year the proceeds from our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and our Easter Breakfast were donated to the Friendship Meal at Victoria Avenue UC (\$434.25).
- Meal Work jointly with Vic Ave UC on a weekly Friendship Meal (\$2500/yr plus volunteers)
- Meal In April and May 2011, we are hosting one of the "Friendship Meals" at Victoria Avenue.
- Meal **Community Meal and Movie Night:** a free meal (donations are accepted from those who wish and are able) followed by Movie (Family Friendly recent releases donated by local Video Shop). Usually the last Friday of the month. Attendance is usually between 80-100.
- Meal Hopeful about the ministerial starting a local supper in Dresden for those who are struggling or just alone. Hope to have someone come from Wallaceberg to talk to them about how they started theirs.
- Meal Each Thursday, we (or 1 of nine other Ridgetown area churches) host a friendship meal called The Lunch Bunch, from 11:30 to 12:30. at Erie St. United,
- Meal Host a Friendship Meal, once or twice each month, Sept - June (with support of other congregations)