



East Jamaica Conference Of Seventh-day Adventists

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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February 7, 2023.

TO: PASTORS, CHURCH BOARD, AND CHURCH MEMBERS.

Re: THE FOOD BANK, "GIVING, CARING, SHARING."

Did you know that somebody is dying from starvation at this moment and before the next (5) minutes, over fifty (50) persons will die from hunger worldwide? At this very moment, over 400,000 persons in Jamaica are hungry. That is an average of approximately of 27,000 people in each parish across Jamaica. They are in every community and quite likely in your congregation, on your street and probably beside you.

This inspires us to seek and source food for distribution to all those who are in need in Jamaica. In order to make this venture a reality, each member is being asked to contribute at least One Thousand (\$1,000) towards the Food Bank annually. While, the Church Boards are being encouraged to prayerfully sit and vote a generous donation annually.

In almost every community in this country, we can find those who are in need, those who are hungry, those who are malnourished, homes with food insecurity (unable to provide enough food daily, for the family), and persons living below the poverty line. Therefore, we have both a corporate and personal responsibility to assist these individuals who are our brothers and sisters.

We believe The Food Bank is the best response we have as members of the body of Christ to come together in unity to help fight hunger, alleviate human suffering particularly among the elderly and children, build the nutrition of the community and share the love of Christ through giving, caring, and sharing.

During this time of pandemic, which will be with us for a long time thousand upon thousands of homes with one or more children are experiencing food shortage. Brothers and sisters, hunger is a real problem in Jamaica. Although the church is doing what she can, when we come together and join hands and hearts together to fight hunger, we can place food in many homes and on the table of hundreds of thousands more persons who are suffering from the pangs of hunger because they cannot provide enough food for the family.

What shall we do as a people?

Isaiah 58: 6-8 reads, " 6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not



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to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?
8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward.”

We are asked to feed the poor. We can do so by supporting The Food Bank.

We are asked to help the needy. We can do so by supporting The Food Bank. We are asked to care for the homeless and give food to the hungry. We can do so by supporting The Food Bank.

For us to be feeding the poor and the needy is God’s delight. If we walk in the footprints of Jesus, they will lead you and me to the needy, the poor, the hungry, the naked, and the suffering. This is the objective of the Food Bank to feed those who are poor, hungry and having food shortage in Jamaica.

Think of all the good things we can enjoy in this life. Every good and great gift is from God (James 1:17). The marvelous and magnificence creation of skies and seas and species of blooming flowering plants and creatures, rippling rivers and majestic mountains, tall towering trees and short sturdy shrubs and best of all human fellowship and friendship with senses of sight, and sound and touch and taste are gifts from God. God is a giving God. He gave His one and only begotten son to us and for us. When we love we give. We give our time, talents and treasure, yea everything to God who gives us everything.

Think of all the persons who care for you. The Lord is our Shepherd. We lack nothing. No one cares like Jesus. There is no other friend so kind and true..... oh how much He Cares for you and me. God is a caring God. He relieves our suffering, He soothes our pains, He heals our maladies, He comforts our aching hearts. We too are called to bring relieve, healing and comfort for those in need of food.

The Food Bank is managed by the Jamaica Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventist and contribution/donations will assist the poor and needy island wide to alleviate hunger and food shortage, by God’s Grace. We are praying and looking forward to the annual donations. Live for Jesus, He died for you.

Yours in the Master’s Hand,

Sheldon Schooler
Pastor

