



## Ontario Christian Gleaners

Winter – December 2018

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[OntarioGleaners.org](http://OntarioGleaners.org)

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# News from the Gleaners



## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

### A Word From the Manager

Using surplus produce to feed a hungry world.

*Luke 4:18-19 New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."<sup>1</sup> (Jesus)

A recent visit to the Philippines to meet with some of our mission partners who are distributing our food revealed several eye-opening creative ways to prepare meals for mal-nourished children using our Vegetable Mix and other products. Spaghetti, pancakes (vegetables milled into a 'flour'), vegetable stuffed sausages (with a hint of pork), stir fry, pizza (light sprinkling of cheese), stuffed fish ('Catch of the Day'), 'Meatballs' on a skewer, and 'Meatloaf' drizzled with banana ketchup with a side of rice (of course), and vegetable Omelette. Cornmeal muffins enhanced with our vegetables and spring rolls would be another common healthy snack food that requires no dishes. The dried vegetables from Canada were mixed with local ingredients to prepare familiar foods. Such creativity and ingenuity! One of the culinary leaders commented, "We need to focus on what we DO have, not what we DON'T have."



The food from Ontario Christian Gleaners is regularly being served to children in established nutritional programs in outdoor gathering spaces. The community leaders carefully document the monthly weight and growth of each registered child in these programs. In some cases, the schools have identified a certain group of students who need the nutritional boost of our food and their teachers provide them a healthy vegetable snack at recess.



Manila is the world's most populous city with 10x as many people per square km than Toronto, yet without the infrastructure. Urban poverty is portrayed with whole families living in cramped quarters, sleeping on the floor all in one room. People are living in every nook and cranny possible, including damp windowless bug-infested basements that were never meant to be inhabited. The great news: Some of the children living in these communities, at the urging of *Action International*, have completed their high school

### Important Dates:

#### Open House Tours:

@ 10:30am on  
December 20<sup>th</sup>

January 17<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

February 6<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

(Join us for a 45 minute  
guided tour)

#### Closures:

Family Day

Monday February 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Christmas Shutdown:

Saturday December 22 –

Sunday January 6<sup>th</sup>

We will reopen on

Monday January 7<sup>th</sup>

#### Fundraising Dinner:

Friday April 12th

Reservation info

coming soon!

education and are now attending college on scholarship.

One of the most encouraging patterns we saw, were staff members from various mission groups who were at one time a rescued child themselves. Who better to work with the incoming children than someone who understands what it is like~ We heard first hand stories of how they were brought into the oversight of the mission group, were nourished, mentored, disciplined, and now are leading and mentoring others.

With the culture being so community focused as compared with our individualistic North American mindset, supporting a high needs child impacts the whole family as well as the community. Parents living in very poor conditions welcomed us into their homes, expressing gratitude for the food being provided for their children, and lovingly prepared by the cooks connected with the mission groups.

Church resources are limited when the general population earn only a few dollars a day. But our food is a resource being put to good use to reach high school students in the neighbourhood of one church. They have a chapel service on Friday after school and the student pop in on the way home from school before starting their weekend. They enjoy the music provided and hear an encouraging challenge from one of the pastors, then visit together over carefully prepared healthy snacks. Another church connected with a local indigenous community a little further up the mountain through a shared meal together followed by games, singing, and even Karaoke machine!

Collectively with our brothers and sisters around the world, we are able to work together to share Christ's unfailing love. A gift of food and a personal visit is a reminder that we all have a role to play in caring for those in need. Ontario Christian Gleaners can provide the resources and the front-line workers do the hard work of allocating those culinary resources in the best way possible. They have some tough decisions to make and yet work together with great joy and expressions of gratitude.

What a blessing to be involved in this great work together!

- With Joy,  
*Shelley Stone*



Vegetable Fritters on a skewer



Local fish stuffed with vegetables



Veggie Pizza



Veggie sausages with a hint of pork



Veggie Patties



Cornmeal muffins with added vegetables



Ground veggie mix and mango smoothie

## More than just Soup!!

### Gleaners Distribution Stats (2018 to date)

6.24 million servings of vegetable mix  
1702 bags of dried apples  
24,711 kg of other dried products

### Postal Strike??

Not sure you want to mail a donation in? Credit Card donations can be made by calling our office@ 519.624.8245



1. I have been volunteering for 8 years now at the Gleaners.
2. Another volunteer had introduced me to the Gleaners.
3. I think the Gleaners is a fantastic organization, being able to help feed many hungry children and adults around the world with produce that would otherwise be wasted. I enjoy the atmosphere and fellowship with the other volunteers and it is a "make you feel good" place. As one of the volunteers stated the other day, it is the church in action. Hopefully I will be able to continue to volunteer for a few more years. - John

1. I have been volunteering at the Gleaners since the beginning.
2. My brother encouraged me to join.
3. It feels good to do good. - Jerry



**We asked some of our volunteers...**

- 1. How long have you been volunteering at the Gleaners?**
- 2. How did you start volunteering?**
- 3. Why do you come here to volunteer?**



1. I have been at the Gleaners since the beginning, 10 years.
2. I heard about the plans to start the Gleaners at my church, and knew right away that I wanted to be working there.
3. I have been upset about the waste in our country and in our daily living while at the same time so many people don't know where their next meal comes from. My mother was thrifty, living through the wars and emigration, and I guess it has rubbed off in my life. So many things are beyond my control and this is a positive thing that I can be part of. - Helen



1. I started at the Gleaners this past April, so not quite a year. I so enjoy the work and the community that is present at the Gleaners.
2. A long time friend invited me to come with her. I loved it from the first morning that we attended together.
3. I support very strongly the mission statement of the Gleaners. They have set up a way to harness the abundance of food that southern Ontario is blessed with and make it available to many other parts of the world that suffer with inadequate resources to feed themselves. I love spending my morning serving at the Gleaners. I am helping in a small way to feed people in a n impoverished part of the world. - Dayna



1. We have been volunteering for 10 years.
2. We heard about it through our church bulletin.
3. Volunteering at the Gleaners lets you help the less fortunate, have some social fun and it feels good! - Peter and Mary

1. I have been coming to the Gleaners for about 3 years.
2. I heard about what happens here from my friends.
3. It is such a meaningful ministry – to feed the hungry. It is also good fellowship, meeting all kinds of people who are there for the same reason – to relieve hunger in Christ's name. May the Lord continue to bless you and all involved. To HIM be the glory. - Harry



# Gleaners Wish List



Feeding Hungry Children  
\$8/bag (production cost, feeds up to 100)



Adjustable Stools \$80  
(6 needed)



Washer/Dryer \$1200  
(Amount remaining to raise \$700)



Special  
Coffee Break  
Day \$60

*coffee break*



Used Drums and Pails  
for Shipping Veggie Mix  
\$45 - \$60/skid (60 pails or 4 drums)



6 lbs Dried Onions  
(2000lbs needed) \$20



Peas by the metric ton \$425 (\$20/100 lbs)



Telling our Story in the Building  
(inspirational picture board  
to hang in our trimming room)  
\$400

## Donate to these projects...

These items will help us in our daily work of processing surplus vegetables and fruit to make nutritious vegetable mixes and fruit snacks for distribution to needy people in countries around the world.

**Please consider making a donation that will go directly towards purchasing one of these items.**

**\*\* Donations may cover a portion of the value of the item.**

Gift cards specifying your donated item are available upon request when making a donation on behalf of a loved one.

Donations may be made by cash, cheque or credit card. All donations of \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt.

**We thank you for your support.**



Concrete Pad

To safely access the storage trailers \$5500

**By Mail or at the Gleaners Building:**

Ontario Christian Gleaners  
1550 Morrison Rd.  
Cambridge, ON N1R 5S2

**By Credit Card:**

Gleaners Office: 519.624.8245  
Online:

[www.OntarioGleaners.org/1290](http://www.OntarioGleaners.org/1290)