



**Ontario Christian  
Gleaners**

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# News from the Gleaners

Autumn – September 2019

## Venezuela

Dear Friends,

I am happy to report that after seven long months of prayer, negotiation, and dedicated hard work on many fronts involving many people, the dehydrated vegetable mix prepared by Ontario Christian Gleaners has finally been released by Colombian Customs and we are now in the process of being able to get it into the hands and tummies of needy Venezuelan refugees. These photos were taken at a feeding program held in Cucuta, Colombia, (right on the border with Venezuela), where over one million Venezuelans have crossed over into Colombia, looking for food, shelter, employment, medical supplies, and a better future for themselves and their families.

In the photos you will see happy children enjoying a hearty meal of rehydrated vegetables and rice with their families. Also you will see dozens of empty 5 gallon white plastic pails. This is how we received the product from Ontario Christian Gleaners. We had to repack the dehydrated vegetables which arrived in sealed heavy gauge plastic bags (4 bags per pail). These bags were then packed into large woven fiberglass/plastic bags to be carried across the border into Venezuela on the shoulders of porters who are able to "talk" their way into Venezuela for a "Fee".

This is an expensive, time consuming process which we have started to undertake this week. The plastic pails are highly cherished by anyone who is fortunate to receive one from us. They make great food storage containers, "suitcases", laundry tubs, or water buckets. We have earmarked many of them for use in our Community Gardening Project in El Pinal, Venezuela.

We have the equivalent of approximately 500,000 servings being delivered from Cucuta over the next few weeks, and an additional 500,000 servings also being delivered from Maicao, Colombia to various churches and communities in Venezuela. We would covet your prayers for this operation in the coming weeks. If you are interested in learning more about the situation in Venezuela/Colombia please contact the Latin America Mission office at: <http://lamcanada.ca/>

Continued →

### Important Dates:

#### Open House Tours:

@ 10:30am on  
October 10<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
October 8<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
November 8<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
(Join us for a 45 minute  
guided tour)

\*Please note: no tours in July

#### Closures:

**Labour Day**  
Monday September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
**Thanksgiving**  
Monday October 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Remembrance Day**  
Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>

#### Race to Erase:

Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup>  
'Amazing Race' style  
fundraiser for the Gleaners.  
Participation details inside  
this newsletter!



(continued from front page...)

We have been fortunate to have had a wonderful team of videographers, photographers, scriptwriters, and pastors from The Peoples Church here for the past two weeks documenting the situation here in Colombia and Venezuela. They will be broadcasting three half hour broadcasts in late November, early December 2019, highlighting the personnel stories of some of the Venezuelan refugees and presenting you with opportunities to become involved with helping the many needy people who have been so deeply impacted by what is happening in this part of the world. Please watch for these broadcasts on Living Truth Television: <https://livingtruth.ca/> May God bless you for your faithfulness.



Thank you for you faithful prayers and interest in our activities in Latin America.  
- John R Steinmann

If you are interested in more information or supporting the Venezuela Relief Project, please visit <http://lamcanada.ca/>



Gleaners food for children in Jamaica with Food for the Poor of Canada

**2019 Gleaners Stats to date...**

- 5.7 million servings of dried vegetable mix
- 2724 bags of dried apples & pears and
- 7674 kg of other dried products (beans, coconut, apricots, cranberries, etc)

➤ Sent To

- 21 different countries around the world

➤ Sent by

- 28 different mission groups/organizations in 33 shipments



**Love The Amazing Race?** Here's your opportunity to participate!  
Challenges are a combination of savvy and smarts – running is not required!

**When?** Saturday October 5, 2019  
(morning with a lunch)

**Where?** City of Cambridge, ON (Hosted by the Cambridge YWCA)

**What?** - Build a team of 4 and have a fun morning racing to complete the challenges in the fastest time. The team with the fastest combined time of challenges is crowned the race winner.

Teams must fundraise a minimum of \$500 to participate with 100% of the money raised coming back to the Gleaners. This event also creates awareness for the Gleaners as teams share what it is that we do.

**Interested in participating?** Contact Elaine @ 519.624.8245 or [gleanerspromo@gmail.com](mailto:gleanerspromo@gmail.com) for info or <http://www.racetoerase.com/upcoming-races> to get started!



*Don't drop it like it's hot!*

## Fun Fundraiser!

Fun activities that support the work of the Gleaners and help feed those in need around the world while having a great time with your family, friends, small group etc

We'd love for you to join us at this inspirational event!

Contact us at 519.624.8245 or [gleanerspromo@gmail.com](mailto:gleanerspromo@gmail.com) for more info

or *jump right in* and *register* yourself and your team or *sponsor* one of our Gleaners participants

<http://www.racetoerase.com/upcoming-races>



*Shot in the dark*



*Life is like a box of chocolates – Reid's Chocolates!*



*Bucket Brigade*

## Using surplus produce to feed a hungry world.

"Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility." ----- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The first [one thousand days](#) of a child's life in particular is when the foundation for a healthy life is laid. Adequate healthcare and micronutrients are essential in order to boost brain development. The motor skills, cognitive ability and socio-emotional development impacts their future opportunities in life as they navigate school and other economic options as they develop.

Without a strong start in life to build the immune system, a child is put at risk for disease.

Proper nutrition is such a key part of a child's development. A wide variety of nutrients is needed to ensure healthy development.

The availability of food and access to that food is fundamental to life itself. Food is required to sustain life, to provide the strength for work, and to share in the fellowship of one's family and community.

[Ontario Christian Gleaners](#) seeks to support international Christian mission organizations working to meet nutritional food needs, reduce malnutrition, and encourage sustainability. Recipients include school children receiving an education, displaced people not knowing where their next meal may come from, and medical patients needing nutrient dense foods for their medications to take effect.

Recently we have donated large quantities of dried fruits and vegetables to be used in Christian schools across Haiti, serve displaced people from Venezuela, and a mission hospital in Zimbabwe.

We also wish to deepen the engagement of Canadians in efforts to end global hunger. We offer volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups to work at our facility in Cambridge, ON. As a charity we receive [financial donations](#) towards the cost of preparing the food, (credit cards, cheques, cash, e-transfers, monthly recurring donations) and provide [45 min guided tours](#) of our facility twice a month.

There IS enough food in the world to provide adequate nutrition for all, but there's a distribution issue. 800 million people in the world do not have enough food. The Gleaners' preserved healthy fruits and vegetables have a long shelf life and provide great benefit as it is redistributed to another part of the world.

Please consider joining in and participating in some way. Every little bit counts.

*- With Joy, Shelley Stone*

