

## Food For Latin America

Bob Bartell  
Broadview Church

I recently had the privilege of visiting a group of churches that were recipients of the container of Soup Mix shipped to Latin America. This container was coordinated by Broadview Church in Salmon Arm, BC. I travelled over 2000 km and visited 16 churches and an additional 6 pastors. In nearly all cases opportunity was given for folks to share the impact that the container had through their churches. Gratitude was expressed over and over for this delicious food. People were very quick to respond with enthusiasm about their own personal experiences. They often shared how they had prepared the vegetable mix, being very creative in making it their own. It was like a recipe exchange! They often commented with amazement at how much the mix expanded when water was added. One pastor's wife was preparing for a larger group of 17. She thought she had estimated correctly, but it expanded so much she had 3 times what was needed, so was able to share with many others as well!



A number of times folks commented how this came at just the right time. Churches that received the food were encouraged to share it beyond their congregation to others in need around them. Many people told of what a blessing it was to them to be able to take the food to their neighbours and others to share with them. One pastor noticed 3 young people gathered in a courtyard just below his apartment. He went down and gave them bags of vegetable mix. One of them said he had not had anything to eat in 3 days!

Often it seemed, it was the older folks particularly who had difficulty finding enough food to eat. One man, an unbeliever, said: "My President has never given me any food, but now the church is coming and giving me food!" One person had an older man come late one evening asking if she had some food to share with him. But she had nothing to share. During the night she was so concerned and prayed that somehow she could give him something to eat. And the very next day my friend showed up with vegetable mix that she was able to share with this man. They told of giving soup mix to a 68 year old man and an 84 year old man, and both of them accepted the Lord! There were a number of other stories as well of people who accepted the Lord as a result of food being shared with them.

One pastor shared vegetable mix with a government run Soup Kitchen, called a Comedor. As a result he now has an open door to go there to share the gospel with those in need.

Thank you so much for the work you do in preparing such delicious, nutritious food for those in deepest need!

Bob Bartell  
Broadview Church



## Contact & Connect



519.624.8245



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



1550 Morrison Rd, Cambridge,  
ON, N1R 5S2

OCG MANAGER

Elaine Merkus

[manager@ontariogleaners.org](mailto:manager@ontariogleaners.org)



# A Word From Our Manager

'Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.' Ephesians 3:20,21

2025 has seen another increase in food aid requests. Recent shipments of food have gone to Zimbabwe, Philippines, Pakistan, Ukraine, Cuba, Chad and Nigeria. These countries are experiencing food insecurity due to conflict, disrupted supply chains and infrastructure, displaced people, floods, droughts and crop failures. To date in 2025 over 15.4 million servings of food have left our building to help those in need around the world.

The next requests of food are scheduled to go to Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Philippines, Ukraine, Cuba, Haiti and Guyana.



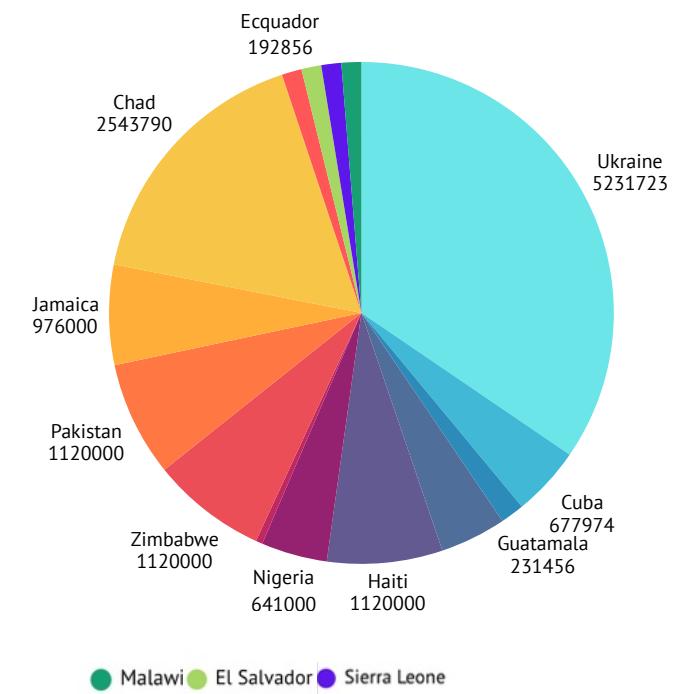
Youth from First Baptist Church, Missouri

At the same time that food aid requests have increased, so have the food donations. Recent donations of 40,000 pounds each of potatoes and sweet potatoes have helped fill our coolers while adding in broccoli, carrots and turnips for variety. One of our food donors even messaged us saying they will always find food for us as they are so thankful to be part of the work we do.

Increased food aid requests and food donations keep our volunteers busy. Early August, the Gleaners welcomed a group of students from First Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri. They spent a week serving alongside our regular volunteers and we received lots of great comments. Many students came our way over the summer and we will miss them as they go back to school, but as Elsa mentioned to a couple of the students, we 'expect' to see them on PA Days :)

*What a beautiful addition of color with these purple carrots to our mix!*

# SERVINGS DISTRIBUTED IN 2025: OVER 15 MILLION



Our Tuesday evening shifts have been popular and we encourage you to come out and join on your own, with some friends or your Bible Study or work groups. The next dates are September 16, October 7, November 18 and December 9 from 7-9pm. Signup @ <https://ontariogleaners//volunteer/>

Consider bringing your group or classroom during the week for morning or early afternoon shifts. Contact Elsa in the office to start your event planning 519-624-8245 or [gleanersoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gleanersoffice@gmail.com)

Mission groups continue to ask for food and we trust God to provide the food, funds and volunteers to make it all happen. What a blessing to be able to say 'sure' to those calls and emails requesting food aid, a reminder that God truly does meet all of our needs exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think or imagine.

To Him be All the Glory,

*Elaine Merkus*  
OCG Manager





If you are interested in donating an item or service please contact: (P) 519-624-8245 or email [gleanersoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gleanersoffice@gmail.com)

# You're Invited

## Gleaners Fundraising

# BANQUET

October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Heritage College & Seminary

175 Holiday Inn Dr, Cambridge, ON N3C 3T2

6:00pm doors open  
6:30pm dinner begins

Invite your family and friends & book a table of 8 or 9.

Corporate sponsors for this event are still needed! Please contact [gleanersoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gleanersoffice@gmail.com) if interested

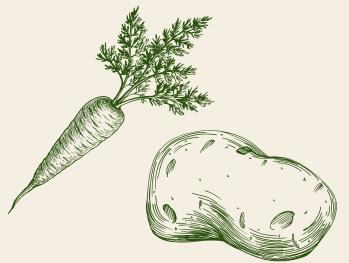
call 519-624-8245 or [OntarioGleaners.org](http://OntarioGleaners.org) (click on Happening Now) or scan the QR code!

Please Order by October 10th

**Ticket Prices Cover Cost of Evening:**

As it is a fundraising event, an opportunity will be given to donate to the work of the Gleaners.





# Needs this Fall at the Gleaners

**Donate.** YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE



## Feeding Hungry People.

\$8 - 100 meals  
\$40 - 500 meals  
\$80 - 1000 meals

**65 Bags of Vegetable Mix can fit in each Drum.**

65,000 Servings of Food per Drum!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**BANQUET**  
6:30pm Dinner  
October 24th



**OPEN HOUSE**  
10:30am  
August 20 Nov 18  
Sept 26 Dec 9  
Oct. 31



**EVENING SHIFTS**  
7-9pm  
Aug 19 November 18  
Sept 16 December 9  
October 7



**CLOSED**

Labor Day- Sept 1  
Thanksgiving - Oct 13  
Remembrance Day Nov 11  
Christmas Shutdown -  
December 22- Jan 2

## Split Peas.

Cost \$704 per metric ton (\$50/70kg)



## WHAT

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 \*\*  
All donations of \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt

## WHY

These items will help us in our daily work of processing surplus vegetables to make nutritious vegetable mixes for distribution to needy people in countries around the world. With the large demand for our food, we are working hard and creatively to meet these requests and your financial support for this is greatly appreciated!

## HOW

Gift cards specifying your donated item are available upon request when making a donation on behalf of a loved one.  
Donations can be made by:

- Cash
- Cheque
- e-transfer -

etransfers@OntarioGleaners.org (please note your name, address and item donating towards in the message section)

- Credit card -

[https://www.ontariogleaners.org/\\_credit-card-donation.html](https://www.ontariogleaners.org/_credit-card-donation.html)