

NEWS FROM THE GLEANERS

March 2006

Contact us:

Ontario Christian
Gleaners
c/o John Verbinnen
1456 Brock Rd RR4
Dundas, ON
L9H 5E4
ph # (905) 659-7366

Board Members:

John & Cindy
Verbinnen
Harry VanDyke
Derrick VanderKlippe
Amy VanDyke
Pete Scholtens
Hobbe Smit
Ross Drummond
John Wubs



Seeking to demonstrate
God's love to a hungry
world.

www.OntarioGleaners.org

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you all and thanks for your continued interest and support. We would like to give you a quick update on the status of our Ontario Gleaners project.

On March 2nd we submitted an application to the township of North Dumfries for a zoning by-law amendment specific to the Gleaners operation. This will allow us to dry food on agricultural land just south of Cambridge. If we meet all the requirements, there will be a public meeting around mid April for any neighbours to voice their concerns or objections to the proposed application. Then the North Dumfries township council will have some time to review the application and the responses received at the public meeting and vote to approve or disapprove the application.

We are encouraged by the support we have received from the planning department and we believe that the town council is also in favour of our project. It has been a long fall and winter as we patiently waited for feedback from various public agencies. Please join us in praying that the Lord will bless this process so that our application will be approved.

If, the Lord willing, we receive approval, we will be applying for building permits. A number of architects and builders have offered to help with designing and costing of the project. We have also had some pledges of various equipment and supplies. Once we get the plans drawn up, we would like to send out more details and sketches.

We estimate that we will need to raise approximately \$500,000 for the whole project. Thankfully, we have already received almost 10% of that figure without any active fundraising. We would like to ask you to keep us in your thoughts and prayers during this coming year, especially if you hear from us that we have the go ahead to design and build this special project.

The potential is enormous. The last newsletter we received from the Okanagan Gleaners gave a summary of their production last year: 909 forty-five gallon drums of soup mix and 300 drums of dried apple and pear chips, and blueberries. Each drum of soup mix contains about 70 bags of soup mix and each bag contains 100 servings. That's approximately 6.4 million servings of soup mix alone. What a blessing! Praise the Lord for such an abundant harvest and for the many volunteers that helped process all this food. If it weren't for this organization, that food would not have reached those in need, but instead would have become compost.

What about the Ontario harvest for this year? We hope and pray that the excess will not rot in the field. With your help and the Lord's blessing we can do a mighty work this year and help feed many hungry people.

John Verbinnen

info@ontariogleaners.org