



News from the Gleaners

OntarioGleaners.org

Spring – March 2017

Ontario Christian Gleaners

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Haiti – *Impact Nations*

First of all, thank you for approving us for a shipment of the Gleaners vegetable mix to St. Marc, Haiti. This food will be providing much needed nutrition for orphans, poor school children and very poor families in five villages.

About five years ago we arranged our first shipment of Gleaners food. It travelled by mule-train across three rivers and up and down three mountains. It fed children from an extremely poor community called Bouvier. What triggered our response to them was when our water team called me in Canada from the location and told me about children actually crying from hunger. Thank you for responding to their situation. Over a year ago, Gleaners food helped feed children in the Gracette valley, a very poor area about two hours northwest of Port-au-Prince. Our partner, Dieudonne Batrville, told us of a 13 year old girl who after only one month of eating the meals gained twelve pounds.

My wife was with Dieudonne recently. She reported that over the past year, the formerly “protein-starved” children have flourished, both physically and mentally. (Every time I visited those children over the past three years, I was struck with how very small they were—10 year olds looked like six or seven.)

This latest shipment will allow us to extend our reach to even more malnourished children. It also gives us time in our transition into sustainability. We have goats that are being raised, small businesses starting, and we are working on establishing a small trade school so that DD’s kids can learn work skills.

It has always been a pleasure to partner with the Ontario Christian Gleaners. We work with very poor and hungry people in many developing nations; most of them are in Asia and Africa. The proximity of Haiti to Canada makes what we are doing in Haiti possible—but only because of your help, vision and dedication.

Again, on behalf of all of us at Impact Nations, thank you for all you are doing to help feed the hungry.

- Steve Stewart

Impact Nations - Our driving passion is to rescue lives and to see communities transformed by the power of the all-encompassing gospel of the Kingdom of God. <http://www.impactnations.org>



Important Dates:

Open House Tours:

@ 10:30am on
March 9th & 28th
April 25th & 28th
May 11th & 30th
(Join us for a 45 minute
guided tour)

Closures:

Good Friday April 14th
Easter Monday April 17th
Victoria Day May 22nd

Fundraising Dinner:

Friday April 21st
@ Waterloo Region Police
Association Building
Ticket purchase required
See details in this newsletter



ONTARIO CHRISTIAN GLEANERS FUNDRAISING DINNER

Friday April 21st
Waterloo Region
Police Association
1128 Rife Rd. Cambridge

Doors open 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm

Tickets \$28

(\$220/table of 8, \$275/table of 10)
Order your tickets by April 6th

Online @ OntarioGleaners.org
(click on What's Happening)
<http://ontariogleaners.org/1488>

Or 519.624.8245

As ticket prices cover the cost of the dinner, an opportunity will be given to donate financially to the Gleaners

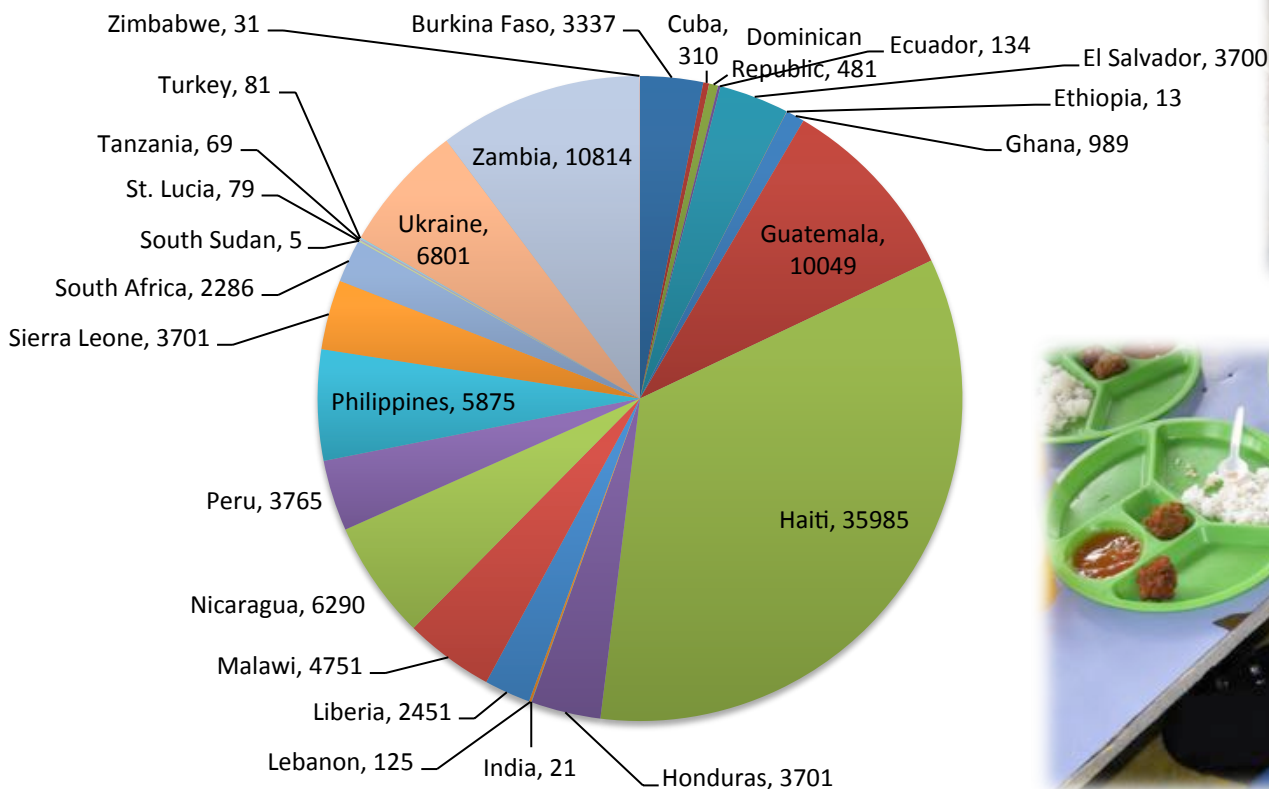
Stats for 2016...

- Over 6.2 million servings of vegetable mix, 3793 bags of dried apples and 16,915kg of other dried products were sent overseas to 26 countries with 31 mission groups/ organizations.
- Provided 52 scheduled guided tours of the Gleaners building and 27 off-site speaking engagements

First two months of 2017...

- Over 1.1 million servings of vegetable mix and 67 bags of dried fruit have been sent out to help feed those in need overseas.

Ontario Christian Gleaners 2016 Food Distribution by Country (in kg) (105,844 kg)



The Shantz Mennonite Church Youth group was pleased to have the opportunity to serve at the Ontario Christian Gleaners on February 3, 2017. We are a group of high school students from the Baden/New Hamburg area. That day was a P.D. day, and instead of sleeping in, fifteen of us got up early to travel and help out at one of our favourite places – The Gleaners!



There are many reasons our group enjoys serving at the Gleaners. Here are some of the youth's comments –

“I enjoy serving and helping people who live outside our community and in other places in the world”

“Packing the soup made the whole experience personal for me.”

“We had fun singing and telling stories while we worked.”

“ I love knowing that the soup we packed is going to feed many people.”

“ I tried to keep track of how many bags of soup we put together, and lost count, but I know the soup we were able to make will feed hundreds of hungry people.”

“ We washed pails, and that seems like a very small thing, but knowing that those pails have so many uses made the work worthwhile.”

We are so thankful to the Gleaners for welcoming youth groups, and for the mission that they have to feed the hungry in our world. May the Ontario Christian Gleaners and everyone who serves and works there continue to feel blessed as they make a difference in hungry people's lives!



Youth from Bradley Street Church of God washing pails in preparation for shipping Gleaners food products



Quilt Auction

Silent Auction for this beautiful hand-stitched crib quilt made by one of our Amish volunteers.

Bids can be submitted by email gleanerspromo@gmail.com, phone 519-624-8245 or at the Gleaners building.

Highest bid will be updated @ the building and online (www.ontariogleaners.org/3219) Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Auction closes on Monday March 13 @ 12 noon.



New Truck coming!

(Hoping to be rolling by Easter!)

BIG STEP of faith to upgrade the truck, thanks to a donor who provided a base chunk of the funds towards this much-needed purchase. Thank you to all who donated towards this project.

In Matthew 6:11, Jesus teaches us to pray for our day-to-day needs. "Give us this day our daily bread". We happen to live in a part of the world where we have the luxury of stockpiling food. We are grateful for the ability to dry it down to a preserved state and see it redistributed to the most needy around the world who often times, have no idea where their next meal will come from. We trust that as we move forward to fulfill God's vision, that we will continue to see God's provision.

Exciting Collaboration - DriedWithLove.org

Back in 2008, we were inspired to launch operations through learning what 2 similar organizations in western Canada were doing. As the first drying-food-for-aid-group of this type in Eastern Canada, we have since resourced info to 3 other groups in Ontario to similarly dry surplus food to feed the hungry around the world. The concept is growing! Our desire is to strengthen the ties between the (now) 8 organizations in Canada, support one another, pool information, and share best practices. Regular meetings by video allow us to pray together, learn from one another, and reciprocate encouragement. The need globally is massive and we are all seeking to do our part. In 2016, the combined effort of these 8 organizations repurposed 3,544,473 kg of nutritious food to send to the impoverished in 43 nations. (494,953 kg at OCG to 26 countries) We look forward to what God will do in and through this network of food-drying organizations.



Using Surplus Produce to Feed a Hungry World.

With Joy, *Shelley Stone*

2016 Food Distribution by Country

(716,713 kg)
(8 of 8 reporting)

