



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A Publication of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Hunger Program
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Earth Day – April 22 End Plastic Pollution

Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 each year and this year is dedicated to providing the information and inspiration needed to fundamentally change human attitude and behavior about plastics.

Plastic pollution is poisoning our oceans and land, injuring marine life, and affecting our health!

Currently about 300 million tons of plastic are produced each year to make bags, bottles, packages, and other commodities for people all over the world. Unfortunately, only about ten percent of this plastic is properly recycled and reused. The rest ends up as waste in landfills or as litter in our natural environment, where it leaches dangerous chemicals into the nearby soil and water, endangering humans and wildlife alike.

Earth Day Network is asking governments, businesses, and individuals to End Plastic Pollution. Plastic pollution is not only impacting our waters and marine life, but also the food chain and our overall health. Earth Day Network is mobilizing key actors and institutions and citizens across the globe to bring about a new level of consciousness about plastics pollution and a paradigm shift.

Help End Plastic Pollution by finding out how many plastic items you consume every year and make a PLEDGE to reduce the amount.

Go to www.earthday.org/yourjourney2018/ and find the resources to help you.

*Is your congregation involved with a local food bank? Did you know they are eligible to apply for a hunger grant from the PMT hunger program?
For more information, contact the presbytery office at 615-332-3330.*



How it works:

Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food weeks leading up to the Big Game. Teaming up with local partners, these groups give 100% of donations to local charities, changing the nation's largest weekend of football into the largest weekend of caring.

Below are the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee churches who reported participating in this year's Souper Bowl of Caring:

Ellis Grove, Waverly	First, Lebanon
First, Fayetteville	First, Murfreesboro
First, Franklin	First, Pulaski
First, Hendersonville	First, Smyrna
Hillsboro, Nashville	First, Tullahoma
First, Lawrenceburg	

Become a Hunger Action Congregation



Hunger Action Congregations was launched on the first of June 2017. This new covenant acknowledges and celebrates the faithful work of Presbyterians to alleviate hunger and end its root causes, while inspiring even more holistic and justice-oriented action. See below for steps to take to become a Hunger Action Congregation. *(For more information in regards to becoming a Hunger Action Congregation, call the Presbytery office at*

615-332-3330, we will help you get started.)

Step 1: Form a Hunger Action Team

Gather church members who are passionate about addressing hunger, poverty, and related injustices, and meet periodically to examine and grow the church's practices in this area.

Step 2: Covenant to Become a Hunger Action Congregation

Covenanting: If you are doing hunger-related work in one or more of the six areas listed below, check the activities you are currently doing and submit to the PCUSA Hunger Program. You will be recognized as a Covenanting Hunger Action Congregation.

Certification: If you are doing activities in all six areas, after submitting the completed Covenant, you will be certified for three years as a Certified Hunger Action Congregation.

Six Areas for Ending Hunger & Its Causes

- Hunger Alleviation
- Developmental Assistance
- Hunger Education
- Lifestyle Integrity
- Corporate and Public Policy Witness
- Worship