



Bishop's Initiative to Eliminate Hunger

Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference The United Methodist Church
1505 SW 18th Avenue, Portland OR 97201 503-226-7931 1-800-593-7539

To the United Methodists of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference:

What is “enough”?

When it comes to eating, most of us have no problem getting “enough.” All my life I have had much more than I needed, and often, more than I wanted. I have never really known hunger. Yet, for many others in our communities and in the world, there isn't always “enough” food and therefore, hunger is a reality that continues to haunt us.

In 2006, I invited our Annual Conference to embark on a significant journey with me. I issued a call to our laity and our clergy to lead each ministry setting to confront hunger with acts of Christian compassion and generosity and love. The response has been overwhelming!

In the past two years, the Task Force for the Bishop's Initiative to Eliminate Hunger has become aware of many, many efforts by individuals and congregations to reach out to the hungry in our midst. We have been inspired by countless stories of direct service, sacrificial giving, and hours of volunteer work to eliminate hunger. Thousands of meals have been served, hundreds of thousands of food items have been donated, countless dollars have been placed in offering plates for the elimination of hunger. Letters have been written to politicians, rallies have been held at our two state capitols urging passage of legislation designed to change a system that perpetuates hunger, Bible studies and sermons have urged participation in the Initiative. Is that “enough”?

When it comes to responding to the hungry in our communities, what is “enough”? The Task Force has been working diligently to build an effective resource kit for you. “Recipe for Enough” is that resource. Our work has shown us that there is a profound desire on the part of United Methodists to make a significant effort to eliminate hunger. But many persons are eager to have more ideas and other means to continue their work against hunger. “Recipe for Enough” provides a comprehensive plan for your congregation right down to the details. The Task Force has produced a creative, inspirational, and “user-friendly” resource.

Our faith in Jesus Christ calls us to be in ministry to the hungry. The Task Force prayerfully offers you this “Recipe for Enough.” I invite you to renew your commitment to work with me to reach our lofty goal: the elimination of hunger in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference. Let us work together for the day when there is adequate food for everyone and when hunger is no more, and we will be able to say then that we have done “enough.”

In Christ's shalom,

Robert T. Hoshibata

Resident Bishop
Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church