

VIRGINIA
FEEDS KIDS



“Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll feed the whole family!”

An area of emphasis for teaching and preaching in the Commonwealth of Virginia during the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Honoring our heritage of hospitality and civility, we pass this rubric on to those generations yet to come; that all our children may be fed and nourished so they may grow strong in wisdom and favor before God.

*I, the LORD, am your God, Who brought you up from the land of Egypt;
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it. (Psalm 81:10)*

Leaders of our Commonwealth report that 300,000 children across Virginia suffer from food insecurity. This means they live day-by-day not knowing with certainty from where they will receive their next meal. Sadly, there are families in our midst struggling to stay afloat, and far too often the first activity thrown overboard is a consistent structure for family meals. The church can provide a solution. ***Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll Feed the Whole Family!*** What does this mean?

*For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat;
I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink;
I was a stranger, and you invited Me in... (Matthew 25:35)*

For Parents: Bring your family to church often! Participate in church activities like pot-luck suppers and fellowship hours. Teach your kids that the church is a place where families gather to share food and help each other. If you are struggling to feed your family, bring them all to worship, then while the kids are snacking afterwards during coffee hour, talk to the pastor about your struggles. ***Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll Feed the Whole Family!***

For Principals: Meet with pastors and other faith leaders of congregations in your school district. Encourage teachers to build and display maps of the community in every classroom, identifying places of worship, and other areas of refuge where families can go to share food and drink ***Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll Feed the Whole Family!***

For Pastors: Emphasize and resource the breaking of bread and sharing of drink at all church gatherings. Preach on the church’s role and responsibility in feeding the flock. It is God’s work, but our hands. ***Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll Feed the Whole Family!***

For Pediatricians and others throughout the Commonwealth: Recommend faith-based programs for struggling families with confidence! Know that by encouraging participation in faith-based activities you are bettering the health of the entire community. ***Kids Hungry? Come to Church – We’ll Feed the Whole Family!***

*Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
Come, buy wine and milk. Without money and without cost. (Isaiah 55:1)*

www.VirginiaFeedsKids.org

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