Hunger Action Team

In August 2006, under the guidance of Assistant Pastor Sally Lorey and Chairman Susan Hartman, the Hunger Action Team was created to respond directly to the needs of school-age children facing food insecurity in our community by providing healthy snacks and emergency food boxes for families. Contact was made with school counselors at St. Simons and Oglethorpe on St. Simons Island and at Altama and Burroughs-Molette in Brunswick.

To get started, pantries were established at the church and at Altama Elementary School. For a few years, an account at America's Second Harvest was funded so that social workers, counselors, and Safe Harbor personnel could shop there. Food items were donated monthly to Sparrow's Nest. Eventually, we consolidated all pantry items in our church pantry, and we now donate to Sparrow's Nest only periodically.

As the identified need increased and the committee and our Community Missions budget grew, we expanded our support to include the remaining elementary and middle schools and extended school holidays, including Thanksgiving and spring break. We also funded the packing of weekly backpack inserts organized by Christ Church.

In November 2008, we shopped for, packed, and delivered 43 Thanksgiving boxes to 4 schools. In 2025, we delivered 130 boxes to 10 Glynn County elementary schools and 4 middle schools. We also provide 12 to 20 emergency boxes each year as needed and school snacks at the beginning of each semester and upon request. We supply snacks for the Communities in Schools snack closets periodically. We also fund 50 backpack inserts that Christ Church packs and delivers to Burroughs-Molette weekly during the school year. We also help fund "The Deck," the student pantry at the College of Coastal Georgia.

Funds from the Community Mission budget, a yearly grant from the Katz Whittle Foundation, and individual donations help us continue our mission to help students and families who experience food insecurity.

Bonnie Rabert and Barbara Wilsher were co-chairs for several years. Barbara created a packing grid and numerical list for the orderly packing of the 11-by-17-inch covered boxes for school breaks. Barbara has stepped aside, and her system remains a guide for packing.

Hunger Action Team members contribute as school contacts, shoppers, and packers.

The young children of our church create a special card to include in the boxes for school breaks. Glynn County school vans deliver most of the boxes. A few are delivered individually.