



MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: Rev. Dianne Kareha, CROP Hunger Walk Planning Team Convener at 610-706-0168 or email karehad@gmail.com

Fight Hunger Locally and Globally through the Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk

WHAT: Congregations, schools, community groups, families, and individuals make a 6-mile or 1-mile trek through Allentown to raise funds that support hunger relief through local soup kitchens and food banks and around the world.

WHEN: Sunday, October 14, 2018

WHERE: St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Ott & Walnut Streets, Allentown, PA 18104

TIME: Registration begins at 1:00 pm; walk starts at 1:30 pm.

This annual event, sponsored by the Lehigh Conference of Churches, is one of more than 900 CROP Hunger Walks held around the country—with 100,000 hunger fighters of all ages, faiths, and backgrounds raising nearly \$9 million to provide emergency response to floods and other disasters, as well as support for hunger relief and hunger prevention programs in the United States and throughout the world. One-quarter of the total proceeds of the Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk will be shared between the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Ecumenical Soup Kitchen and the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank. In 2017, the walk raised nearly \$30,000.

There are two opportunities for local walkers of all ages and abilities to get involved:

- A 6-mile loop through Allentown, with rest stops along the way
- An accessible "Golden Mile" through the neighborhood around St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Nonperishable food items will be collected at the walk by the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank; needed canned items include tuna, beans, vegetables, fruit, and soup, plus peanut butter, rice, cereal, and pasta and sauce.

For those unable to walk on October 14, donations can be made online at [crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa).

Hunger is a life-threatening problem across the world and in our country, where, as of 2016, 41.2 million Americans live in food-insecure households and are unsure of where their next meal is coming from (according to Feeding America).

Locally:

- In 2017, the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Ecumenical Soup Kitchen and Daybreak drop-in center served more than 41,544 meals, of which 820 were served to children.
- Each year, the Allentown Area Ecumenical food bank provides food for about 25,000 people.

Churches, schools, and community organizations who want to get involved can register for the Greater Allentown CROP Walk at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa/Account/Register>. For more information about this year's CROP Hunger Walk, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Planning Team Convener, at 610-706-0168 or email karehad@gmail.com, or contact Conference Volunteer Coordinator Laura Rowe at 610-433-6421 or email lrowe@lehighchurches.org.

Editor's Note: Many opportunities for photography, video, and story content.

Paula Hynes, Community Relations Coordinator, phynes@lehighchurches.org Advisory date: 8/22/2018
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