

THE WARNOCKS' ESCAPADES

Our Home Page: <http://home.comcast.net/~twcwmissions>

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Inspired by the Stop Hunger Now program located in Raleigh, North Carolina, Trinity United Methodist, a church belonging to The Methodist Church of Southern Africa packaged 600 meals in their first packaging event this week.

As part of my recent assignment to the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, I was asked to source the necessary equipment, and ingredients that will allow a self sustaining feeding program to become operational throughout South Africa. This seemingly simple task took me to Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, and many communities in between. The end result has been exceptional. We have been able to identify and source the rice, soy protein, flavoring cubes, and dehydrated vegetables that make each meal, and meal packet a reality. All of these items, including vitamin enriched products will serve to enable churches, colleges, civic and social groups to become engaged in making a difference in feeding those in need.

Stop Hunger Now's web site notes the following sobering statistical facts on hunger:

- 25,000 people die every day from hunger and related causes.
Source: World Food Programme, 2009. <http://beta.wfp.org/hunger-stats>
- 963 million people currently do not have enough to eat. This is an increase of 40 million since the beginning of 2008.
Source: FAO, 2008. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/8836/icode/>
- 907 million people in developing countries alone are hungry.
Source: World Food Programme, 2009. <http://beta.wfp.org/hunger-stats>
- Every 6 seconds a child dies because he or she is hungry.
Source: World Food Programme, 2009. <http://beta.wfp.org/hunger-stats>
- The world produces enough food to feed everyone. Total food production in calories per person per day has increased by 25 percent since 1961 and is more than sufficient to feed every person on earth 2800 calories per day. The principal problem is that many people in the world do not have sufficient land to grow, or income to purchase, enough food.
Source: FAOSTAT Agriculture Data: Food Supply, Crops, Primary Equivalent. February, 2004.
<http://faostat.fao.org/faostat/collections?subset=agriculture>

Trinity United Methodist understood the above and has also seen how storing a small percentage of the food packaged can provide a means to rapidly respond to disasters in their community. In this manner, they have taken their first steps towards a focused response to the humanitarian plight of people within their community and are learning how to be prepared for their next disaster.

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Group adds soy protein, rice, dehydrated vegetables, and flavoring cube into a vacuum bag.



Each package is weighed to ensure that they are equal and are between 185 and 190 grams.



Once the packaged meals are weighed, they are moved to the next station.



The meals are heat sealed, labels are placed on all bags, and they are then placed into storage boxes.



Members of Trinity United Methodist, along with Ted Warnock, celebrate their first packaging event that produced 600 meals. These meals will serve to expand their weekly feeding program.

As we collectively work together with the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, it is exciting to see groups begin to believe and realize that they can make a difference - once again.