

# impact

Living  
Your Values  
Out Loud

**“Offer yourself to the hungry.”  
Isaiah 58:10**



## WORLD HUNGER: IT'S TIME TO GET PERSONAL

**Hungry people are our problem because they are made in the image of God.  
And because He cares about their welfare, we are to care about it as well.**

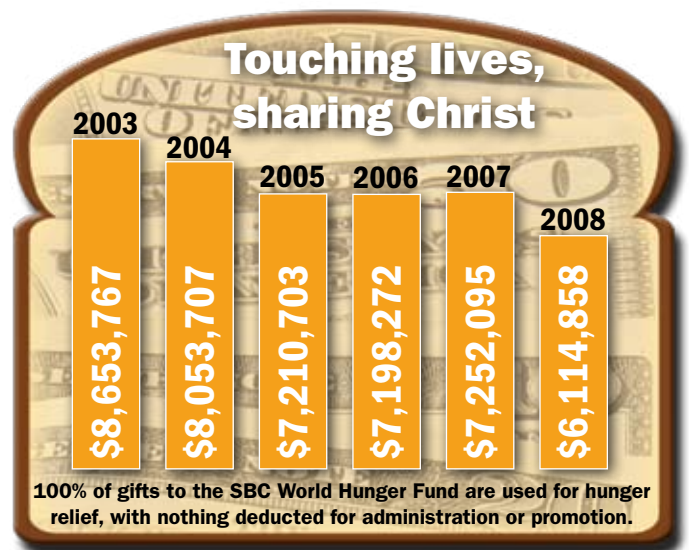
Do we give hunger the attention it deserves? We shake our heads in pity when we see reports of the desperation wrought by poverty. We scour our pantries when the church conducts a food drive, looking for canned goods we bought on a whim but know we'll never use. And many of us are convinced the federal government should be doing a better job of alleviating hunger and poverty, given the amount of taxes being withheld from our paychecks.

Yet through gifts to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund ([worldhungerfund.com](http://worldhungerfund.com)), many Southern Baptists are providing missionaries and volunteers in North America and around the world with resources to feed those in need. When possible, they teach people to grow their own food and raise their own livestock in order to help them become self-sufficient.

One hundred percent of every donation to the World Hunger Fund flows directly to the mission field, where the love of Christ is shared as an intentional part of every ministry. When an individual sacrificially gives to the fund, God blesses that gift.

However, we can be assured that God expects Southern Baptists to do more. He expects us to demonstrate an urgency to pray, to give,

and to minister on behalf of those who are hungry—both physically and spiritually. When will you get personal about hunger?





Millions of people around the world are hungry every day. Thankfully, missionaries are on the field, providing food and often a hand up toward independence. Yet without our generous gifts, these missionaries lack the food and means to give aid, leaving many evangelistic opportunities unfunded. Won't you and your church join in giving to feed the hungry in Jesus' name?



*Richard L. L.*

## THE WORLD HUNGER FUND AT WORK IN 2008

In North America, Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers provided more than 5 million meals through over 2,000 hunger ministries. There were more than 90,000 volunteers working in hunger ministries, and nearly 17,000 new volunteers were trained in evangelism. They were able to share the gospel over 785,000 times because of the opportunities provided through hunger ministries, and they reported over 36,000 professions of faith.

At the Calvary House shelter in Beaumont, Texas, \$50 provides food assistance for a homeless or transient family for a week.

At Grace Community Church in Marion, S.C., \$2.80 provides two meals and two snacks for one child each day school is out of session.

Internationally, Southern Baptist missionaries and their Great Commission partners implemented over 500 projects. They addressed acute needs resulting from natural disasters as well as the chronic issues of poverty, hunger, and poor water quality.

In Zimbabwe, where citizens are suffering in a food crisis brought on in part by political strife, hyperinflation, flooding, and a cholera epidemic, \$80 provides a food parcel that feeds a family of six for a week.

In India, a dozen widows and abandoned women were living in desperate poverty until they were each provided a dairy cow and calf. Through the sale of milk, the women were able to repay the cost of the livestock and support their families.

“Some of the elderly wept and thanked us, saying that they had been praying for food and now God had provided it. They were amazed that Baptists in the United States cared enough to send them food when their own countrymen don't seem to care that they are starving.”—from Zimbabwe

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. **PRAY** that God will help you see others as He sees them and for boldness to reach beyond your comfort zone to someone in need.
2. **LEARN** about how hunger affects those in your community, the United States, and around the world.
3. **IDENTIFY** hunger and human needs in your community and lead your family and church to be involved in meeting them.
4. **READ** about the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund at [www.worldhungerfund.com](http://www.worldhungerfund.com).
5. **GIVE** through your church, designating your offering for the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund. Contact your state Baptist convention to learn how it distributes hunger fund gifts.

