

### Minute for Mission

#### Option 1

*(Leader takes a rough note of the congregation's size and divides by 5. Then selects enough people to reflect the 1 in 5 statistic.)*

[Name], please stand up. [Name], please stand up. [Name], please stand up.

I promise you aren't going to be called on to speak, and you haven't done anything wrong. But there are [number] many of us here in worship today. And the people I've asked to stand up reflect the same number of people in our community who will go to bed hungry tonight.

In Mississippi, roughly 1 and 5 people don't have enough food to make it through the day. In the United States, hunger is a hidden problem — one that lives deep in communities and may not be visible to you and to me.

We may not see the face of hunger but we do see the demand. Our food pantries are in more demand now than perhaps they ever have been before. Food pantries like the ones our church — and St. Andrew Presbytery — support.

Community food pantries, based in churches and community centers, are popular because they reach deep into communities, where it is easier for those who suffer hunger to hide the shame that often comes with enduring it.

Our church joins 54 other congregations in St. Andrew Presbytery to provide grants to community food pantries that will help purchase food. The presbytery's goal is to raise \$12,000 to provide grants to pantries for food that will help our hungry siblings.

Our estimates indicate it takes around \$35 to feed a family of four for a day. Will you help us? How many do you think you and your family might be able to help? Or your Sunday school class?

Our offering on [date] will be directed towards feeding our neighbors most in need. I invite you to please, give generously. Thank you.

## **Minute for Mission Option 2**

The latest figures on hunger are grim. Most estimates indicate around 1 in 5 Mississippians don't know where their next meal will come from.

Every day, without knowing it, we encounter the people who suffer hunger. Hunger is often hidden and comes with considerable shame. It can be hard to ask for help because you don't have enough food for your family.

Our job as followers of Christ is to make sure help is available for those who endure hunger around the world. In our community, these are people we encounter on the sidewalk. In our stores, at the post office, even right here in our congregation.

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Community food pantries, based in churches and community centers, are popular because they reach deep into communities, where it is easier for those who suffer hunger to hide the shame that often comes with enduring it.

Our church joins the 54 other PC(USA) congregations in St. Andrew Presbytery to provide grants to community food pantries to help purchase food. We are helping to raise \$12,000 to provide grants to pantries for food that will help our hungry siblings.

Our estimates indicate it takes around \$35 to feed a family of four for a day. Will you help us? How many do you think you and your family might be able to help? Or your Sunday school class?

Our offering on *(date)* will be directed towards feeding our neighbors most in need. I invite you to please, give generously. Thank you.

### **Bulletin or Newsletter Announcements**

#### **Option 1** *(For regular congregations with a regular collection schedule.)*

We are working together to fight hunger here in northern Mississippi! Help us reach the presbytery's \$12,000 goal by the end of 2024. *[The children collect our Cents-Ability offering on the 1st Sunday of each month.]*\* Thank you for your generosity!

*\*Describe your church's schedule and/or how folks can give.*

#### **Option 2**

We are working together to fight hunger here in our presbytery! Help us reach the presbytery's \$12,000 goal by the end of 2024. Donate to your church today! For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/HAGinfo](https://tinyurl.com/HAGinfo).

### **Other Helpful Links**

- Denomination-wide information and resources: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/nationaldevelopment/what-cents-ability/>
- Information about our presbytery's efforts, including a printable bulletin insert: [tinyurl.com/HAGinfo](https://tinyurl.com/HAGinfo) (Or visit [standrewpresbytery.org](https://standrewpresbytery.org) and click on "Hunger Action Grants" under "Events & Missions.")
- Donate to the presbytery's Centsability Fund online: [tinyurl.com/HAGsupport](https://tinyurl.com/HAGsupport)