



Holsey Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

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Press Release

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HOLSEY CHAPEL PARTNERS WITH EASTER FOOD DRIVE

FITZGERALD, GA, MARCH 24, 2008: The Food Bank of Southwest Georgia says it has certainly seen the impact of hard economic times with a greater number of people in need of its services. While February was one the best donation months, the Food Bank says it could

always use more, especially canned goods. During this past weekend, the Food Bank sponsored an Easter Regional Food Bank Drive. Across the area, Sam's Club and Wal-Marts became the central point for accepting donations. Locally in Fitzgerald, the Holsey Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church partnered with our local store, Wal-Mart Store # 686. Bo Carroll, store manager, and his staff provided the necessary facilities and space for the food collection.



Holsey Chapel Pastor Rev. Dr. Leroy E. Dumas (center) mans the food drive collection station along with Stewards Jim Turner (left) and Roosevelt Freeman (right).

"Twenty-one percent of our population here in Southwest Georgia is at or below the poverty level. So, we have a huge need for food assistance in our area. If nothing else, partnering with Holsey Chapel and Wal-Mart will help raise hunger awareness," said Brett Kirkland, Southwest Georgia Food Bank President and CEO.

The Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County community donated over two hundred pounds of food items. Holsey Chapel volunteers manned the collection station and were able to share the blessings first-hand of this ministry. Hunger causes malnutrition, increases susceptibility to illness, and contributes to brain development deficiency. Southwest Georgia has some of the poorest counties in the State of Georgia, who desperately need our help. "We are proud to partner with this noteworthy organization," says Pastor Leroy Dumas.



Holsey Chapel Food Drive volunteers pictured from left to right are Michelle Flagg, Mildred Taylor, Thelma Graham, Joyce Jenkins, Rev. Leroy Dumas, Jim Turner, Roosevelt Freeman, Ola Freeman, Jennifer Turner, and Annie Pearl Stepherson. Also, participating, but not pictured were Christine Fletcher, Oletha Player, Jim Smith, and William Stepherson.

The Food Bank's mission is to eliminate hunger in Southwest Georgia. Its goal is to ensure that every community that

depends on its services is adequately assisted in our efforts to end hunger. 1 out of every 5 families in the poverty stricken region lives at or below the poverty level. For every dollar spent, 93 cents is used in the community providing services that directly help people in need. The Food Bank of SWGA is one of more than 200 food banks and food rescue organizations affiliated with America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest hunger relief charity, but governed by a local board of directors. Additional details and pictures are available at www.cmefitzgerald.org and www.foodbank-swga.org.