

# faith feeds

For More Information:  
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*“This has been the most amazing year of feeding the hungry! I mean, when the Rock had no money, so many people came through so that not only did we NOT stop feeding the poor and hungry of Lexington, we did more of it! ... I can't tell you how incredible all the groups and agencies are! ...The whole Faith Feeds group - Wow. You packed the halls of our church each Sunday! ... It was amazing.”*

These are the words of Rev. Aaron Mansfield, pastor of LaRoca The Rock United Methodist Church. LaRoca is located in Lexington's inner city and serves a meal for anyone in the neighborhood every Monday night. Additionally, Rev. Mansfield takes food boxes to people in the neighborhood. Faith Feeds provides La Roca with fresh fruits and vegetables gleaned from local farmers' markets and orchards.

Faith Feeds is a co-operative association of individuals and faith communities who, through coordination and new initiatives, aim to assist in alleviating hunger. This goal is to be achieved by: (1) teaching people how to grow food and encouraging them to donate a portion of the food they grow to emergency food agencies; (2) gleaning crops from farmers' markets, orchards, and others that are willing to give their excess produce and then distributing the fresh produce to agencies and institutions involved in feeding the hungry; and (3) to the extent that the produce grown and/or gleaned cannot be prepared and served immediately, preserving the harvest by holding a “community kitchen” event at which, for example, excess apples are made into apple butter or applesauce or excess pumpkins are made into pumpkin pies and then frozen. Faith Feeds wants to do all of these things in a manner that results in fresh food being distributed to the largest number of individuals and families.

In 2010, the gleaning and distributing mission of Faith Feeds was carried out between June 17 and November 29. Forty Faith Feeds' volunteers collected approximately 37,500 pounds of fresh food from farmers' markets, local orchards, and farmers' fields in central Kentucky. This food was donated to 14 food agencies and churches in central Kentucky that feed the poor and hungry. **The 2011 gleaning season begins May 1. Volunteers are needed. Please e-mail us at [faithfeedslex@gmail.com](mailto:faithfeedslex@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering.**

Faith Feeds also hosts the Edible Garden Series – workshops for gardeners (new and experienced alike) – and, through In-Feed, is involved in starting gardens on urban infill.