



# The SaltShaker

May, 2009

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savour, Wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Matthew 5:13

**Florence Prayer of Hope** – As a part of the National Day of Prayer which will be held on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, Florence Prayer of Hope will host a community prayer week Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 8. This will be from 9 am to 3 pm each day at 1550 West Evans Street in the lot next to the SC Employment Security Commission office. Members of the Florence area faith community will make themselves available to pray for those who are unemployed and seeking employment. We believe that God answers prayer and that “nothing is impossible with God.”

Prayer teams from the Florence area will staff stations to offer prayer, encouragement, a compassionate ear and a word of hope. We want every unemployed member of our community to know they are not alone and that we care for them and their families.

**VOLUNTEERS are needed to form prayer teams** of 3 to 5 members to cover a one to two hour prayer shift, Monday through Friday. Please help us spread the word for the need for prayer warriors. Volunteers may respond with your name, address, phone number, email address and the day and time you can help. This can be sent to Rita Russell (665-0706, russell@fsd1.org), Laurie Wilson (260-6346, laurieruth2000@yahoo.com), Clyde Odom (665-2499, cmpodom@att.net). Your response is needed by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**In these tough economic times many people are searching for ways to “make ends meet.”** The rest of “The Saltshaker” will highlight some of the agencies that can help with providing one basic need - FOOD. This information can be used as a resource for people coming to you for help OR as an opportunity to donate goods or time to help these agencies with their ministry.

**“For I was hungry and you fed me.”**  
Mt. 25:35 (The Message)

**Harvest Hope Food Bank:** Each week Harvest Hope Food Bank provides assistance to thousands of hungry people in our service area. They accomplish this by distributing food and related products to more than 400 non-profit member agencies in 20 counties of central South Carolina.

Harvest Hope Food Bank's Pee Dee Region covers Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Lee, Marlboro, and Marion counties. The Emergency Food Pantry serves clients with a 4 to 5 day supply of food which includes non-perishable and perishable items such as fruit, vegetables, bread, meat, and pastries. In addition the Emergency Food Pantry helps clients apply for Food Stamps (by appointment only) and find other resources for help if needed.

If you or someone you know is in need of emergency services, please call 803-254-4432 ext. 107. The Food Pantry is open Monday-Friday 9am-12pm and 1:30-3:30pm; Thursdays 1:30-3:30pm. Anyone needing assistance should bring their own Photo ID and Social Security Cards for themselves as well as for all individuals living in their home.

There are many ways that churches can be involved with this ministry of feeding the hungry. You can host a “food drive” for your church and donate the food to Harvest Hope. They have barrels you can borrow to put the food in. You can also become a “partner” with them and have a “mobile food bank” to come to your church. For details about these ministries please go to [www.harvesthope.org](http://www.harvesthope.org).

- The Pee Dee Branch is located at:  
2513 West Lucas Street  
Florence, South Carolina 29501  
(843) 661-0826 phone  
(843) 661-0699 fax

**Angel Food Ministries** is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities throughout the United States. The program began in 1994 with 34 families in Monroe, Georgia and has grown to serve hundreds of thousands of families every month across 35 states. Angel Food Ministries crosses denominational lines and has spread the good news of the gospel of Christ through salvation tracts that are placed in each food order.

Angel Food is available in a quantity that can fit into a medium-sized box at **\$30** per unit. Each month's menu is different than the previous month and consists of both fresh and frozen items with an average retail value of approximately \$60. Comparison shopping has been done across the country in various communities using a wide range of retail grocery stores and has resulted in the same food items costing from between \$42 and \$78.

Generally, one unit of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week or a single senior citizen for almost a month. The food is all the same high quality one could purchase at a grocery store. There are no second-hand items, no damaged or out-dated goods, no dented cans without labels, no day-old breads and no produce that is almost too ripe.

There is no limit to the number of units or bonus foods an individual can receive, and there are no applications to complete or qualifications to which participants must adhere. Angel Food Ministries also participates in the U.S. Food Stamp program, using the Off-Line Food Stamp Voucher system.

Orders and distribution are handled by local church host sites. Orders and payments are collected by the host sites during the first part of each month. The food can be picked up later that month. The local host sites in the Florence area include:

- Highland Park United Methodist  
1300 Second Loop Rd. 29505  
843-662-1233  
[www.hpumc.net](http://www.hpumc.net)
- Gospel Temple Worship Center  
3987 W. Palmetto St.  
Florence, SC 29501  
843-665-2546  
[www.GTWCFlorence.com](http://www.GTWCFlorence.com)

- McLeod Health  
555 E, Cheves Street  
Florence, SC 29501  
843-777-2141  
<http://www.mcleodhealth.org>
- Aimwell Baptist  
367 Bass Rd  
Pamplico, SC 29583  
843-493-2145

At some of these host sites orders can be placed online. For more information go to [www.anglefoodministries.com](http://www.anglefoodministries.com)

**Lighthouse Ministries** provides financial assistance to families and individuals with limited resources. It helps with mortgages, rent, utilities, medicine prescriptions, traveler's aide, **food**, and assists the participant in finding additional resources to move beyond their crisis.

Appointments for services must be scheduled by calling 843-629-0830 at 12 noon on Monday and Wednesday. The appointments are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursdays. No walk-in appointments are given. Financial assistance is given once in a 12 month period upon approval. When coming for an interview the participant must bring a picture ID, social security card, and copy of the bill.

- Lighthouse Ministries, Inc.  
210 E. Elm Street  
Florence, SC 29506  
[www.thelightonline.org](http://www.thelightonline.org)  
843.629.0830

**Manna House** serves the Florence area as an emergency food pantry for families in crisis situations. The food pantry is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am until 11 am. Services are free. Families are screened for the food pantry and there is a 90 day waiting period before assistance is available again unless there is a dire emergency. They also have a Soup Kitchen that serves lunch Monday through Friday. Manna House is always in need of food to stock their food pantry. They are also in need of volunteers to help in the soup kitchen and to help organize the food pantry. Manna House is located at 450 Jarrott Street. For more information contact Daphne Tedder at 667-6077.

The *Salt Shaker* is a bi-monthly publication produced by the Florence Baptist Association to promote missions and ministry networking among churches.