



## Prayers of hope during Advent

Society of St. Andrew's Advent Devotions ask  
"What do you hope for in the coming Christ?"

"Last year's Advent devotions booklet from the Society of St. Andrew really set the tone for our Advent season and caused us to reflect on each day's interactions with others," said Gayle Fiser of Quapaw Quarter UMC in Littlerock, Arkansas. "Thank you for helping us find Christ each day!"

This year the Society of St. Andrew offers its annual Advent Devotions program using the theme "Prayers of Hope: What do you hope for in the coming of Christ?"

"Through daily devotions, scriptures and prayers, readers will consider what they hope for as we celebrate the birth of the Christ child," reported Rev. Jennifer Moore, Director of Church Relations for the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA). "From the differing perspectives of contributing clergy and laity, the devotions will nourish the spirit while also providing an opportunity to feed our hungry neighbors."

"I've gotten so much mileage out of SoSA's (2008) Advent devotional booklet," wrote John Bradley of Bedford, VA. "It's helped open my eyes and helped validate what I'd already known, that SoSA and the folks affiliated with the ministry are a 'special' group, with a great mission – feeding both the physical body and the spirit! Thanks."

The Society of St. Andrew, a **Mission Outreach partner of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay**, is a national nonprofit hunger-relief ministry that rescues 20-30 million pounds of fresh, nutritious, excess produce each year that will go to waste for various marketing reasons. This food is then distributed to critical service agencies across the country at no cost to the agencies or the hungry people they serve.

During the season of Advent, the Society of St. Andrew asks participants to prayerfully reflect on the scriptures and devotions and then join in their ministry of feeding America's hungry by making a financial donation. Last year donations made through SoSA's Advent devotional program provided more than 1.2 million servings of food to the hungry. The need this year continues to grow among those hit hardest by the recession. "As Christians it is our responsibility to step out on faith and step up our support of those in need, responding to Jesus' command, 'You give them something to eat'," said Rev. Moore.

All materials for this Advent devotional program **are free** from the Society of St. Andrew. For a church sample kit or a personal packet, order by phone: 800-333-4597 online: [www.endhunger.org/advent.htm](http://www.endhunger.org/advent.htm); or email: [church@endhunger.org](mailto:church@endhunger.org). Or through the Florida office by contacting Barbara Sayles- 407-650-1956; [sosaf1@endhunger.org](mailto:sosaf1@endhunger.org)