

# 2023 TO 2024 HARVEST MESSAGE:

Thanks to the food supplies handled by our main warehouse, Stoke on Trent Foodbank was able to feed and support 20,000 people in the last year through its sixteen volunteer crewed church centres.

Many people from many different parts of our community came together to make this happen.

Generous giving averaging 10 TONNES per month that's... that's equivalent to ten 1 tonne grand pianos!



WHICH WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR!!

However, due to ongoing rising food and energy prices and over all cost of living, Stoke on Trent Foodbank has been giving out, on average, 15 TONNES OF FOOD per month.

Photographed below are two of our Young Ambassador friends from Sutherland Primary Academy showing in crates full, a comparison of the amount of food, that has been coming in and going out monthly...



72 (x10) crates IN but 108 (x10) crates going OUT!

...WITH SO MANY COMING TO US UNABLE TO AFFORD THE ESSENTIALS

From our Trustee Karen Poxon:



Pictured, pupils from OLCA Primary Fenton give thanks for God's creation and provision singing ALL THINGS BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL a popular HARVEST HYMN

"In the Christian Calendar, this time of year is known as Harvest, and we give thanks for all the hard work that goes into growing, transporting, making available, preparing and cooking the food we enjoy.

At Harvest, communities giving thanks bring food, and then that food is shared with those in need.



St Paul's CE Primary Harvest collections



& The Priory Primary Academy

# TOGETHER FOR CHANGE

Corrine Boden MBE,  
Stoke-on-Trent Foodbank Director of  
Operations

“Being at the frontline for the last 10 years, helping people struggling, coming to us at a crisis point in their lives, has enabled us to see lives transformed. Each food parcel provided is just the tip of the iceberg of the emotional and practical support on offer. We look to give our guests the best support that we can to resolve the issue that brought them to us, by working with our large network of organisations, which includes our successful partnership with Money Matters.

We put lived experience at the heart of what we do. Many of our staff and volunteers have previously accessed a food bank, or struggled with some of the issues that our guests do. Our strategies, how we operate, is based on the needs of those coming to us.

By capturing and feeding back the reasons and statistics why guests are driven to us, we are providing a platform for guests to communicate their experiences and needs to national policymakers.”

*‘Myself and my carer had to use your foodbank yesterday for the first time, and we just wanted to say thank you. The people were lovely & we were given so much food. The food is amazing. It’s been such a stressful time & this feels like a huge weight lifted, I can’t even put it into words. Also, to the person who gave us the flowers, thank you for making me feel like a real human being again.’* Foodbank Guest

Jesus called His followers to be light... AND at Stoke on Trent Foodbank we give thanks for all our supporters and volunteers who come together to be beacons of light and hope in their communities.”



Please see the words of our Young Ambassador friends from Cooperative Academy, Tunstall below, and if you are able support us to...

MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS HARVESTTIME

Visit: <https://stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk/news/>

Please follow our work and see how donations help make a difference, follow us on social media or see our website

## WAYS TO SUPPORT US THIS HARVEST



<https://stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk>

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn: @stokeontrentfoodbank

Twitter: @OnFoodbank

## Poem for the Foodbank

When you sit and eat your meal tonight  
Or when you shop and buy all those treats  
Think of those less fortunate than you  
Those who're desperate or live on the streets

The ones who are worried about feeding their kids  
The ones who don't have a kitchen to cook in  
The ones whose bills and debts are piling up  
The ones who don't have a house to live in

For them there is a place they can go  
Where a friendly face will say hello  
A bite to eat and some good advice  
A local place that is warm and nice

So support our cities food banks  
Run by lovely volunteers  
They're a light in the dark times  
Taking away people's worries and fears

