

Churches Now Uniting to Distribute 40,000 Eggs to Families

At a time when grocery prices continue to strain household budgets, two Chicago churches have joined forces to distribute 40,000 eggs to the community. Salem Baptist Church and Progressive Baptist Church worked together at the House of Hope, where volunteers packaged the eggs with messages of encouragement and invitations to attend church services.

The initiative comes as egg prices have soared due to an ongoing bird flu epidemic, making this basic source of nutrition increasingly expensive for many families. "This is all about saving money, meeting the need in the community, helping everyday people," said Kenya Grooms, who coordinated the volunteers.

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The churches purchased the eggs in bulk from a distributor, saving money by handling the packaging themselves. Rev. Charlie Dates, who leads both churches, emphasized the importance of the effort. "Families are hurting, struggling. Eggs are a primary source of protein for a lot of low-income families. You are not forgotten. You are seen, and you matter. That's our message."

It will take the volunteers all day to package the eggs, accounting for some breakage—something they say comes with grace and forgiveness. On Saturday, they will take to the streets, personally delivering the eggs to neighborhoods in need. This act of generosity reflects the churches' commitment to both spiritual and practical support, ensuring struggling families know they are cared for.

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Grocery stores across the country are now rationing eggs as a severe shortage drives prices higher. The shortage stems from a bird flu outbreak that has led to the loss of more than 13 million hens since December, according to the Department of Agriculture.

To manage supply, major grocery chains have implemented purchasing limits. Publix and Trader Joe's are restricting customers to one dozen eggs per day. Walmart allows customers to buy up to two 60-count cartons per purchase, while Kroger and Aldi have set a limit of two dozen per trip. Whole Foods and Costco are capping purchases at three dozen per person in select stores, and Sam's Club has imposed a two-carton limit.

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