

BUILDING THE WALL OUR GLEANER CAMPAIGN



The American Heritage Dictionary defines the word glean as; To gather grain left behind by reapers, or to collect or gather anything little by little or slowly. Wikipedia tells us gleaning is the act of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have harvested.

So, we surmise, the process of gleaning involves gathering or collecting something bit by bit. It is the process of bit by bit collecting that garners for Macedonia Men or Macedonia Women a coveted reward and bragging rights. Each year since October 2000, the men and women of Macedonia have participated in a concerted effort to give above and beyond their regular giving toward a very Special Giving Campaign. This campaign is titled 'Gleaners'.

The Gleaners Campaign is the last Special Giving Campaign of our calendar year. (The other Special Giving Campaigns are; Family & Friends Month, Church Anniversary, Vacation Bible School and Revival.) When we first began this campaign those men and women that agreed, each received a cardboard coin holder designed to hold quarters. Macedonians took as many of the coin holders they planned to fill. This campaign was designed to have us collect our loose change and use it to give to our Building the Wall Campaign. The coveted reward is having Macedonia Men or Macedonia Women placed on the plaque listing each year's team that out gives the other and receives the year's bragging rights.

That first year we received an overwhelming amount of coin holders and loose change from piggy banks. We began the campaign by asking members to collect loose change. We never would have imagined the enthusiasm and the monetary amount raised that first year. The Gleaners Campaign provided such excitement and such a thrust to our Building the Wall Campaign. And, (drum roll please), the year 2000 team that contributed the most to the Gleaners Campaign was the Mighty Men of Macedonia. You can only imagine the men bragging, and bragging, and bragging, taking full advantage of such an opportunity.

The Macedonia Men went on to be victorious not only that first year, in 2001 and 2002 as well. Yes, for three (3) years straight, the men were honored to have Macedonia Men placed on the brass plate that adorned the Gleaners Campaign plaque.

Macedonia's women were determined not to let the men continue along the same path. In 2003, 2004, and 2005, the Macedonia Women's team was the happy, excited, and thankful team that could now brag. And, yes, bragging is an understatement, when it comes to describing the women's jubilation. The Macedonia Men's team was able to regroup and regain their title in 2006 and 2007.

And now the competition continues. Who will be the 2008 winning team? We all will be WINNERS! All monies from the Gleaners Campaign go toward our Building Fund, making the entire Macedonia Family the winners.

So, who will receive the 2008 bragging rights? The Gleaners Campaign will be highlighted in September kicking off the 2008 Gleaners Campaign. Get Ready....Get Set.....Glean!!