**4. Newsletters:**

Below, you will find two versions of the same article for your use. The text in yellow should be altered to reflect what is appropriate to you and you house of worship. A graphic is available at the bottom.

We’d LOVE to see what you published... please send a link to info@AmpleHarvest.org.

Longer Version - approx. 400 words

This weekend, [Coming up, the weekend of], September 21-23, 2018, we are participating in ‘Food Waste Weekend’ with thousands of [houses of worship/other churches/mosques/synagogues/temples] throughout the country. These other houses of worship encompass six of the major religions in the US: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Unitarianism. We are partnering with them to bring awareness to the issue of wasted food, which is when food gets thrown away before it is consumed. This can be food anywhere – at a party, on the farm, at lunch, at your wedding, at the supermarket, even here at our own Church/mosque/temple/synagogue.

The highest purpose of food is for feeding people [cite respective scripture], and we want to bring awareness back to what all of our grandmothers used to say: ‘don’t throw away good food!’

We don’t want food to be wasted when there are hungry people in our country, and right here in our community. In the USA, 1 out of 6 people will experience hunger at some point this year. Even here in our own [house of worship], 1 in 6 of us are unsure about how we will get the next meal on the table.

Food takes an incredible amount of time, energy, water, fertilizer, and land, to grow before it arrives on our plates. When it is not consumed, we squander all of those precious resources along with the food itself. The worst part is that food does not just break down when we throw it away – unfortunately, when food rots in the landfill, it releases methane, which is a greenhouse gas 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide over the long-term. We have a duty to prepare the Earth for the next generation [cite respective scripture], and when we increase greenhouse gas emissions, we are stealing the future health of our planet away from our children and grandchildren.

We are learning about the issue in Sunday School, in Confirmation Class, and other Church meetings. We are organizing a canned [food drive/campaign/other event] in support of the weekend. We are also [partnering with/highlighting/reminding everyone] about our local food pantry to collect fresh produce from gardeners within our community. This collection box will be placed outside the door throughout the weekend and on Sundays for the rest of the growing season.

Please talk with our clergyperson to learn how to get involved, or go to www.foodwasteweekend.org to learn more about the issue and how you can help.

Shorter Version – approx. 250 words

This weekend, [Coming up, the weekend of],

September 21-23, 2018, we are participating in ‘Food Waste Weekend’ with thousands of [houses of worship/other churches/mosques/synagogues/temples] throughout the country. We are partnering with them to bring awareness to the issue of wasted food, which is when food gets thrown away before it is consumed. This can be food anywhere – at a party, on the farm, at lunch, at your wedding, at the supermarket, even here at our own [Church/mosque/temple/synagogue].

The highest purpose of food is for feeding people [cite respective scripture], and we want to bring awareness back to what all of our grandmothers used to say: ‘don’t throw away good food!’

We don’t want food to be wasted when there are hungry people in our country/community. In the USA, 1 out of 6 people will experience hunger at some point this year. Even here in our own [house of worship], 1 in 6 of us are unsure about getting the next meal on the table.

We are learning about the issue in [Sunday School, in Confirmation Class, etc.]. We are organizing a [canned food drive/campaign/other event] in support of the weekend. We are also [partnering with/highlighting/reminding everyone] about our local food pantry to collect fresh produce from gardeners within our community. This collection box will be placed outside the door throughout the weekend and on Sundays for the rest of the growing season.

Please talk with our clergyperson to learn how to get involved, or go to www.foodwasteweekend.org to learn more about the issue and how you can help.

