

CHARLESTON AREA CHURCHES

FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

"for I was hungry and You gave me food; I was thirsty and You gave me drink; I was stranger and You took me in." Matthew 25:35

Hours M-W-F 1:30-4:00



JANUARY 2026 & 2025 Year End Report

PANTRY NEWS

2025 was a busy year for the pantry, with one big change. The pantry is now the sole owner of the building we operate from. Habitat for Humanity relocated to Mattoon, and the pantry purchased the building. The pantry is now using the large workroom that Habitat used for storage and projects for the same. The extra space is very useful as it frees up space in the pantry area for food storage.

The Coalition for People in Need will continue to rent space for their operations. The remaining unoccupied area will be rented once the pantry board develops a plan for its usage.

There have been some new volunteers working in the past year, but we always have the need for new people willing to serve. It takes 6 volunteers to work on distribution days. On really busy days they are super tired at the end of the days.

THANKS

The capitol campaign the pantry started in May ran through December, and was a huge success. This campaign was started to raise funds to purchase the building. The board decided to not use savings for the purchase, as that money is our save guard for buying food and being available for emergency expenses.

Enough was raised to purchase the building, with extra that will be placed in reserve for the added expense that pantry now has with being the building owners. It was easy to just pay Habitat monthly, but now the pantry has the building expenses to be responsible for.

The pantry is extremely thankful for all the people who donated to the capitol campaign, as well of those who made donations for the regular pantry expenses.

The pantry director, board, and volunteers believe in being good stewards of all provisions given to the pantry. The belief is all that is given is provided from God, and He is blessing the service to the community!

December 2025 Numbers

Households: 387 Individuals: 1,110 Meals: 9,990
Donated food in pounds – EIF: 63 USDA: 4,450
Ruler: 2,874 Walmart: 8,532

2025 STATISTICS

NUMBER SERVED Households: 5,214
Individuals: 15,661 Meals: 140,949

DONATED FOOD (in pounds)

Ruler Foods: 28,312 WalMart: 84,661
Eastern IL Food bank: 28,002 USDA: 60,232
TOTAL FOOD DONATED: 201,207

The pantry keeps track of weekly donations from Ruler and Walmart as they are given through *Feeding America*. USDA and Eastern Illinois Food Bank are received monthly. There are many other food donations that we do not weigh, as we are not required to keep track of those amounts.

Sometimes there is food that is just dropped off. Todd, the pantry Director, estimates the amount not weighed is probably equal to the amount that is recorded. It is amazing how much food comes and goes through the pantry doors!

EXPENSES

FOOD: \$96,059.00 NON-FOOD: \$1,182.00

OTHER EXPENSES

OPERATIONS/RENT: \$18,775.00
VEHICLE EXPENSE: \$1,182.51
SUPPLIES: \$677.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$117,875.51

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2025!
LOOKING FORWARD TO A BLESSED 2026!

