

CHARLESTON AREA CH741URCHES

FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

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

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



AUGUST 2025

PANTRY NEWS

The pantry has BIG news!

Earlier this year our director, Todd Foster, was approached by the Habitat for Humanity director asking if the pantry would be interested in moving out of the part of the building which the pantry rents from Habitat. The request was made as Habitat, being the owners of the building, were needing more office space as they are expanding their operations.

Todd replied that the pantry would prefer to stay in the current location since all the space the pantry currently rents fits most of our needs, and is well known by the community members who depend on the service offered.

Now the BIG news, after much discussion between the two agencies it has been decided that the pantry will purchase the building, and Habitat for Humanity will relocate. If all goes as planned, the purchase will be finalized by the end of the year.

This purchase will give the pantry extra storage space that is needed, as well as continue the services offered to Coles County residents with no changes!

The pantry is currently working on raising funds to assist with this purchase by doing a capital campaign. Many donations have already been received, and the campaign will continue through November.

The pantry is very thankful for the donations given so far, and would appreciate the public's consideration to continue to make donations in any amount to assist with the fund raising.

In case you are wondering, Coalition for People in Need will continue operating in the building with no changes to their services.

In other pantry news, the Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours "Pizza At The Pantry" held on July 17th was a huge success, and lots of fun! Over 40 business people attended, enjoying Pagliai's Pizza, and learning more about what the pantry does for the food insecure of Coles county.

NUMBERS

Households:: 454 Individuals: 1,430

Meals provided: 12,870

DONATED FOOD (in pounds)

Ruler Foods: 1,026 WalMart: 7,864

USDA: 3,812 Eastern ILFoodbank: 1,969

FUN FOOD FACTS

SUMMER BERRIES

- Berries are a great summer food, coming in many varieties including strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, and blueberries.
- Berries can be eaten raw or cooked, used in salads, desserts, or in meat dishes as a sauce.
- Berries are low in calories, high in antioxidants, fiber, vitamins, and minerals.
- Health benefits are many, they protect cells, possibly help reduce heart disease and cancer, and improve brain health and cognition.

ENJOY THE REST OF SUMMER!

