

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 a stranger and You took me in." Matthew 25:35
Hours M-W-F 1:30-4:00 & Th 5:30-7:00



DECEMBER 2021

PANTRY NEWS

YEAH!!! That is the word to start off the pantry news. The addition is complete!

It was in last December's newsletter that we first announced the pantry's plans to build on. It may have happened sooner, but, as with everything else, COVID delayed some of the work. But, it is done!

The van fits in it beautifully and there is still lots of storage space. The new shelf frames have been assembled, however, the wood shelves are still on back order.

This extra room will be so useful for the food items Todd gets on his monthly trip to Bloomington, as well as the large amounts received from the Eastern Illinois Foodbank. Hopefully we can spread out a bit also to relieve congestion in some spaces.

Also, the volunteers who pick up food donations will appreciate being able to park inside to unload, especially in inclement weather.

THANKS

Ashmore Elementary School had a contest to see which class could donate the most food for the pantry. The total donation was 1,136 items totally 1,150 pounds! Not sure which class won though.

The Boy Scouts also had a drive and donated 1,257 pounds of food and \$343.79.

At this time of year people tend to reflect on the happenings of the previous year. The pantry was extremely blessed in 2021. Below are just some of the donors that made 2021 so special.

- The individual donors who give on a faithful regular monthly basis.
- Individual gifts given one time only.
- Area churches that donate money, and/or, food on a regular basis, or periodically.
- Businesses, civic organizations, and schools that donate money, and/or, food from a food drive.
- Hunters who donate deer meat (8 so far this year).
- Scout troops and 4-H clubs.
- Families that ask for donation in memory of loved ones who have passed away.

Finally, the MOST important blessing of all is PEOPLE. People who donate their time and talent volunteering to work the pantry, pick up donated food, clean the pantry, serve as board members and officers, keep the website up to date, and those who helped build the addition.

Every person helping out is a volunteer, which allows all our money to go to the operation of the pantry. What a blessing!

NOVEMBER 2021 NUMBERS

Families: 207 Individuals: 685

Meals: 6,165

Donated food in pounds:

USDA: 3,912 EIF: 3,523

WalMart: 9,835 Ruler Foods: 1,938

Individuals, churches, school, and

Boy Scouts: 3,160

*Wishing all of you a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2022!*

