



Servants of our Lord Ministry

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Food Distribution Center: 389 N. Main St. Stanton, KY 40380

*Summer 2018 Newsletter
Happy Independence Day!*

Distribution Update



Our Ministry completed its largest food distribution yet to the poverty-stricken area of Eastern Kentucky. Midwest Food Bank of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois provided the trucks and the food for the region. On June 6th, 24 volunteers helped distribute over

100,000 pounds of food to 30 Eastern Kentucky food relief agencies free of charge. The many volunteers worked together to prepare the food for pickup at our Stanton, Kentucky warehouse where each agency received 175 cases of food, including soup, canned fruit & vegetables, cereal, chips, pasta, beans, juice, protein bars and a variety of other items.

Why Kentucky? Don't we have needy families locally? Eastern Kentucky is home to some of the poorest counties in our nation. The New York Times ranked each county in the United States using six basic metrics: educational attainment, household income, jobless rate, disability rate, life expectancy and obesity rate. Weighing each equally, six counties in eastern Kentucky's coal country (Breathitt, Clay, Jackson, Lee, Leslie and Magoffin) ranked among the bottom 10 counties of our nation. In Lee County, the median annual household income is just over \$14,000 (\$39,000 less than the national average of \$53,000). Education is another big problem in that area of Kentucky, with the high school dropout rate at over 33% and only 3% continue on to receive a bachelor's degree, a fraction of the 29% national average, leading to an unemployment rate that is more than twice the national and the statewide average.

With all of this need there should be plenty of help available locally, right? Where we live, in McLean County, there are roughly 75 agencies that provide some form of food relief for needy families. In many counties of Eastern Kentucky there are only two, maybe three places where a hungry family can receive food at no cost. This is where our ministry's founder, Roger Whaley, chose to focus his efforts and where the ministry continues to provide food to thousands of hungry families today.

Our ministry operates solely on individual donations and the help of volunteers. If you have the time and desire to help with the monthly food distribution, there are a variety of tasks that need volunteers. Please contact us via email at servantsofourlord@live.com or phone (502) 791-6430. If you would like to help with the Ministry's monthly operational costs, please send your tax-deductible donation in the envelope provided or mail to P.O. Box 224 Lexington, IL 61753.

(Turn over for more news)

OUR MISSION

To serve our Lord, Jesus Christ, by meeting the spiritual and material needs of the many economically deprived individuals living in the Appalachians and surrounding areas.

MONTHLY SCRIPTURE

For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. *Hebrews 6:10.*

MINISTRY NEEDS

Prayer Partners. Please lift up the food pantries, volunteers that make this all possible, and the families that receive God's abundance! Also pray for the ministry leaders, that they may know the will of God.

Financial Partners. It is only through faithful supporters like you that this ministry is able to meet the spiritual and material needs of thousands of needy families living in Appalachia Kentucky. Please prayerfully consider ways you can help with a monthly donation. 100% of all donations go to providing food to the Eastern Kentucky region.

Volunteers



We are all servants of our Lord. We gather in our warehouse to do God's work. God provides the resources to feed the hungry families of this region. When volunteers were asked why and how often they serve the answers ranged from "I enjoy doing God's work" to "It makes me feel good to be able to give back to the people that need it". Many of our food pantry volunteers help out several times per month. That is a lot of time serving our Lord! Here are a few of our food pantry volunteers in action!



Welcome

We would like to welcome our newest agency partner, Cumberland Valley Domestic Violence Services, Inc. of London, Kentucky. They offer emergency shelter, food and clothing to victims of domestic violence in Bell, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Rockcastle and Whitley counties of Kentucky. They also help with Parenting Classes, Safety Planning, Legal Advocacy and Domestic Violence Education.

Future Needs

Praise: Our ministry now has the use of a heavy-duty box truck to transport additional food and supplies from Illinois to Kentucky every month. We have been blessed with additional food that we can supply our agency partners, so the addition of the box truck is fabulous! In order to meet these needs, our fuel expenses will be increasing, as some months we will be taking down both our trailer filled with donations and the box truck. Please prayerfully consider a financial donation to help with these additional monthly costs.

From everyone at our ministry, we wish you a very Happy 4th of July!.

Thank You!

Finally, we thank God for providing financial partners like you that help with our monthly financial needs to provide emergency food and supplies to many needy families in Eastern Kentucky. Last year the agencies we serve, in turn provided food to over 200,000 individuals. Thank you.

