

CHARLESTON AREA CHURCHES

FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

"for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and 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



APRIL 2018

PANTRY NEWS

It is with great sadness that the Charleston Area Churches Food Pantry had to say goodbye to one of our board members last month. Mike Strader peacefully entered into Heaven on March 24th. Mike was a founding member of the pantry, as well as the area Peace Meal where he was director for many years before retirement. Mike had a heart for people, and loved to serve those in need. Mike was a gentle soul with a quiet wisdom that will be sorely missed. May God bless his family and friends with comfort, peace, and many happy memories.

March is the month the pantry receives cereal and milk from the State of Illinois Department of Human Services TANF program to give to families with children under 18 years of age. TANF stands for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. This year the pantry received 39 cases of Toasted Oats which was 624 lbs worth, plus 46 cases of shelf stable 2% milk which totaled 1242 lbs. What a help this was for our families to help provide extra nutrients to their children!

April is the month that the pantry will be applying for grant funds through the United Way. This is only one source of income the pantry uses to purchase food. The United Way has always been a generous supporter of the all food pantries in the area, and their assistance is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU

Some of the generous monetary donations the pantry received in March were from the following:

- * The Charleston ELKS Club.
- * The Community Women's Club of Charleston.
- * Girl Scout Troop 2302 of Oakland and Hindsboro.
- * Trinity Episcopal Church.

There were also hefty food donations from St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and First Presbyterian Church.

All donations, regardless of amount or size, are appreciated and used for good.

Memorials were given in March for Robert Miller, Judy Duncan, and Linda Absher. God's blessings to the family and friends of these departed loved ones.

MARCH 2018 NUMBERS

Families -430
Individuals – 1,407
Meals – 12, 663
Children > 18 yr. - 464
Donated Food in lbs – 21,825

FUN FACTS - EDIBLE FLOWERS

Did you know that many flower petals and other plant parts are edible?

Eating and/or decorating food with flowers dates back to the Roman, Chinese, Indian, and Middle Eastern cultures.

Some common ones eaten are roses, pansies, dandelions, carnations, marigolds, violets, and day lilies. Most flowers from herbs are edible with the taste being slightly spicier than the herb itself. Check the internet for more edible species.

Wash the plants well before using, and NEVER eat flowers picked from the roadside, or ones that have been treated with pesticides. *BON APPETIT!!!*

