

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



AUGUST 2018 PANTRY NEWS

It has been a busy summer so far at the pantry, new clients come in almost every day of distribution, and new volunteers are learning the ropes.

Master gardeners are bringing in fresh produce to share with the clients. If any one has extra produce, and you don't want to see it go to waste, just bring it to the pantry during operating hours, it goes quickly!

The largest amount of donated food the pantry receives is from the Eastern Illinois Food bank through the USDA. In July the USDA provided 8,265 pounds of a wide variety of food, along with 245 pounds from individuals and businesses from the community.

One type of donated food which the pantry really appreciates is the items placed on what is referred to as "the free shelf". Even though all the food distributed is free, these are items that are not suitable for the regular food boxes provided to client. These items are usually various types of sweets and drinks, salad dressings, chips, dessert mixes, condiments, foreign foods, and some vegetables. Clients are allowed to pick 2 items of their choice from these shelves.

THANKS

A big thank you to Syngenta for the donation of 150 pounds of sweet corn, which many families enjoyed.

Several of the supporting churches made generous monetary donations in July, every penny is put to good use! Thank you!

Thanks to the Master Gardeners, and other folks for the produce.

There were memorials made for Vineta Springer, who passed in July. God's comfort to her many friends, and her family, during this time of sadness.

JULY 2018 NUMBERS

Families – 487

Individuals – 1,692

Meals – 15,228

Children Under 18 yr. - 619

FAST FACTS - FARMER MARKETS

- Farmer markets have been around for centuries, and located all over the world.
- Items available for purchase are usually fresh produce, prepared food and beverages, baked goods, plants, crafts, and in some areas meat and cheeses.
- Foods may or may not be cheaper than in local grocery stores.
- Buying from these markets support the local agriculture and economy.
- Income eligible senior citizens and WIC participants are eligible to receive vouchers to use at farmer markets.

Local Markets

- 18th St. Market – located in the Coles Co. Health Department parking lot on Saturdays from 8-12 am through September.
- Charleston Market On The Square – Wednesdays from 8-12 am through October.
- Mattoon Lytle Park – Fridays 8-1:30 through October.

