

## 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



APRIL 2019

### PANTRY NEWS

The big news with the pantry this month is the introduction of a new software program from the Eastern Illinois Food bank (EIF). This new program allows more information to be entered for each member of the households served.

Basis information such as age, gender, and relationship to the head of household is obtained, along with employment status, and whether or not a member is a veteran.

This information serves to get a bigger picture of the type of guest using food pantries, and how better to serve them. Another benefit is that once a guest has been entered into this new program they will show up at all food pantries served by the EIF.

As with any change, there is also a down side. Entering all this information is time consuming, which causes a delay during distribution times. Fortunately, guest have been patient as this process goes on.

This also requires training for the front desk intake volunteers, which is also time consuming. However, once all current guest information is entered the process will go much quicker. At least that is the plan!

Just as a reminder, all work done at the pantry is by volunteers, which allows the pantry to use all the monetary resources to be used for the purchase of supplies for guest distribution.

## THANKS

\* A huge **THANK YOU** to the food pantry volunteers for the work you do! You are appreciated very, very much! Hang with us through this new process, together we have, and will, continue to do great work!

\* The Community Women's Club of Charleston for a generous monetary donation.

\* The Pre-K class from Cornerstone Christian Academy for 100# of food.  
ESA-Beta Mu sorority for 25 birthday bags.  
MEMORIAL – A donation was made in memory of Art Leu. May God's peace be with his loved ones.

## MARCH 2019 NUMBERS

Due to the new computer program it was not possible to pull numbers for March.

### FUN FACTS – EASTER

- Easter is always on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the 1<sup>st</sup> full moon after the Vernal (spring) Equinox.
- This revolving date was set by the Council of Nicaea in the year 325. This was the first ecumenical meeting to establish Christian rules. This is known as the Nicene Creed.
- The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon goddess Eastre, who symbolized the hare and the egg.
- The egg represents fertility, and new hope. Christian use it as a symbol of Christ's resurrection from the tomb.
- 91.4 billion eggs are sold at Easter.
- Candy sold on Easter includes 16 million jelly beans, 90 million chocolate bunnies, and 700 million Peeps.
- Rutherford B. Hayes started the first White House Easter egg roll in 1878. *HAPPY EASTER!*