

## 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



DECEMBER 2017

### PANTRY NEWS

It has now been one year since the pantry started using a tablet in place of the card system we used for years. At first volunteers were unsure how this new way of signing in clients would work, but now it is hard to imagine going back to the old way. As long as the tablet works correctly, which is probably 99% of the time, the intake process goes much quicker than the old card system.

The Eastern Illinois Food Bank, which is our governing agency, has added a question to the tablet to find out how many veterans we serve. The Food Bank is working with Feeding America to show the need for services to veterans. The population of veterans in need is probably larger than most people realize, and they certainly deserve any extra assistance they can receive.

The pantry here thanks all the military veterans we serve, along with the countless others we do not need to come through our doors. May God bless all of you!

### THANKS

The pantry was blessed with the following donations in November:

- EIU fraternity Phi Kappa Theta sponsored a food drive which totaled 1,866 pounds of food, and \$20.00.
- Farmers and Hunters Feed the Hungry donated 202.5 lbs of venison.

- Boy Scout Troop # 41 also held a drive which netted 229 lbs of food and \$179.15 in cash.
- CCAR Industries donated 296 lbs and \$60.00.
- 2 very generous regular supporters of the pantry donated a total of 2,695 lbs of food, mostly products purchased on sale!
- 2 people donated turkeys.

The pantry would also like to thank all the churches that support us on a monthly basis. Regular support is very helpful.

There were also memorial donations received for the passing of Jean Weidner and Thomas Hildebrand. May God grant peace and comfort to their loved ones.

### NOVEMBER 2017 NUMBERS

Households - 466

Individuals - 1,629

Meals - 4,887

Children > 18 years of age - 558

### FUN FACTS - CHRISTMAS TREES

- Approximately 25 to 30 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States every year.
- It can take as many as 15 years for a tree to grow to the typical height required to be a Christmas tree.
- Every state in America grows Christmas trees.
- Germans are credited with bringing the first Christmas tree into homes for decoration, dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!***

