



PCM FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER

It's a GOD Thing!

Early this spring, the refrigerator in our main pantry room died! Fortunately one of our volunteers noticed it and we didn't lose any food. Then the 'God Thing' happened. A grant was offered through the Food Bank of Iowa specifically for refrigerators and freezers. The funding came from an Iowa Department of Natural Resources Solid Waste Alternative Program with matching funds by the Iowa Food Banks. Our Pantry was one of 25 to receive the grant. We have purchased a new larger refrigerator to use in our Pantry room where our neighbors choose their food.



Food Bank of Iowa Conference



Pastor Ann Johnson from the Monroe Presbyterian Church and director of the Food Pantry and Sue Ponder, Pantry Board member representing the Prairie City Methodist church attended the Food Bank of Iowa Partner Agency Conference on May 8th. Sue was also a speaker on a panel about "Accessing Produce". Her presentation was on the Seeds of Hope Food Pantry Garden, a ministry of Prairie

City United Methodist Church and vital to the Pantry with the garden goodies we receive through the growing season. The Church of the Brethren reports their potatoes are planted and doing well. Neighbors are sharing rhubarb and recipes.

Community Generosity

Kyle Padgett brought in a donation of 17 dozen eggs for the Food Pantry. His sons, Garin and Zeb, recently started raising chickens and selling some of their eggs. They hope to donate on an ongoing basis to the Pantry. Love the lesson this is teaching these young boys.

Items Needed

We need Flour, Sugar, Peanut Butter, Hamburger/Tuna Helper Meals, & Toilet Paper. We also need kid-friendly food - remember the kids will be home from school without the benefit of a school lunch.

We did a month by month comparison of food pantry usage over the last 3 years. Our numbers have steadily grown as we get the word out that the Food Pantry exists to ease the burden of our neighbors during difficult times. We also found that December is our busiest month and in January-March our numbers are generally lower. Are we able to ease the holiday burden? Is winter just too hard for some people to get out?



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Goldie's Ice Cream Shoppe

Goldie's Ice Cream Shoppe in Prairie City is well known for their prize winning tenderloins. They are also known for their generosity. Brad Magg, owner of Goldie's, contacted the Food Pantry to see if we could use the end pieces of pork loins. Sure-meat is always needed and very much appreciated. What we got is a **'God Thing'**, 56 large packages of pork to share with our neighbors. Next time you stop at Goldie's, remember to thank them for their generosity.



It's a Government Thing & A God Thing

We have requirements that we must meet in order to be a partner agency with the Food Bank of Iowa. One of those requirement is all volunteers must be complete a Civil Rights training and we must display a non-discrimination statement on all publications. That's the government thing.

The God Thing is best said in Jeremiah 29.11 – “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

On all future newsletters, we will footnote a U.S. Department of Agriculture non-disclosure statement.

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Together, We Make a Difference!

