

# Ecumenical **FOOD PANTRY** of Pike County

Nutrition, Respect, Choice

Newsletter  
Fall 2025  
Nancy Potter, Director

Your support  
makes a difference



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*A year to be proud of*



Computerized our records to make registration friendlier and smoother for our families, and record keeping easier and more efficient for volunteers.



Provided food to a monthly average of 355 families. That's about 10,000 pounds of groceries a month.

Partnered with Good Shepherd Church to serve over 60 guests each month in our Community Lunch Program.



Welcomed young volunteers to the world of volunteering. Serving others builds understanding, empathy, and sense of community. How about those smiles!



Launched the pantry's Recipe Program, sharing easy economical recipes using foods available in the pantry.



# Meet The Neighbors We Serve



One of the greatest benefits of being a pantry volunteer is meeting people and learning their stories. Getting to know pantry families teaches us about hardship, suffering, pain, resiliency, and hope. The following three stories are not unique among pantry families.

The pantry has helped families through tough times since 1991, and we will continue.

Frank lives alone, has a full-time job with health insurance, and needs dialysis three times a week. He has a job, but his income is not enough to cover rent, utilities, car maintenance, miscellaneous things, and food.

Sue and her three sons, ages 1, 3, and 5 years-old, started coming to the pantry in late spring. Her husband's job was eliminated, and he has been searching for another job. For this family, supplemental groceries from the pantry are critical to preventing their slide into food insecurity.

Pam and her husband both work at low-paying jobs. Pam's work is seasonal. Their grocery needs have increased with two growing children, ages 10 and 12, and making ends meet is becoming harder and harder. Groceries from the pantry provide a lifeline of support.



## It Takes a Community

It's been a year of uncertainty for the pantry as we dealt with supply chain issues, rising food prices, and a big increase in the need for our assistance. And it's been a year of uncertainty and hardship for the families we serve as they face higher costs for essentials like housing, healthcare, utilities, and food along with employment issues. So far we haven't missed a beat and continue to serve Pike County families every week. But it's getting tougher and tougher. The pantry does it with the support of our amazing community. It takes a community to fight hunger. *Thank you, Pike County.*

## *In the Words of a Volunteer*

As a new volunteer, I was warmed by the embracing welcome. The theme from the TV sitcom *Cheers* played in my mind:

*Sometimes you wanna go  
Where everybody knows your name  
and they are always glad you came.  
You wanna be where you can see  
Our troubles are all the same.  
You wanna be where everybody knows  
your name!*

We are family. I have seen our volunteers give compassion for those with recent losses, for those with bittersweet remembrances, for those undergoing or dealing with medical conditions.

We share and rejoice with happy milestones and bright futures.

The people we serve at the pantry are our family too.

We share embraces. *How are you?  
Missed you. Where have you been?*

*Laura Horn*