



DOORDASH DELIVERIES CONTINUE

Since the Covid pandemic came on two years ago our pantry has had to make many adjustments to serve our clients. To safeguard the health of our volunteers and clients we had to switch from being a choice pantry, where clients could come in and choose the food they wanted, to having a limited number of volunteers pack boxes and fill carts with meat, bread, milk products and vegetables and take filled baskets out to clients' cars.

Many clients were no longer able to come to the pantry because they lacked transportation or were elderly and did not want to be exposed to Covid. That's when we started DoorDash deliveries.

Every Tuesday we make 20 to 25 deliveries to clients, mostly to the Hart Apartments or Alliance Towers, and the person who makes that happen is Celeste Lautzenheiser, seen right. Using a list of food assembled by pantry manager Debbie Skubiak, each Monday Celeste fills more than 20 boxes with a variety of food including cereal, meat, vegetables, bread and butter, eggs, cheese, milk and canned food.



We started DoorDash in the spring of 2020 with the support of United Way of Summit County. They continued through 2021 and this year the Akron-Canton Foodbank is paying for deliveries.

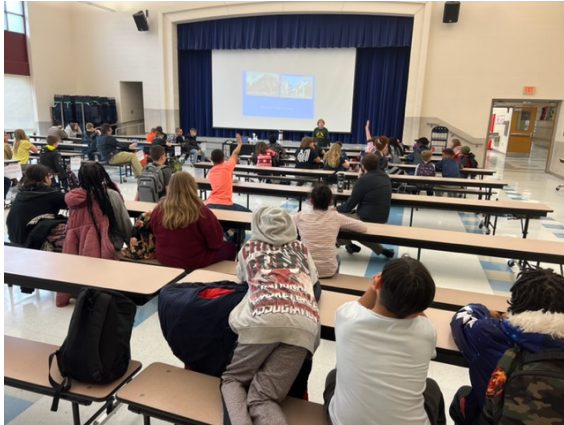
PAPER PRODUCTS AND CANNED FOOD ALWAYS WELCOME



Our pantry has a fresh supply of paper products and canned food thanks to the members of Christ United Methodist Church who have been dropping off donations to the church through April. Seen here with church secretary Dolores Lawrence. About 100 items were collected, according to Jane Helwig who organized the collection.

Thanks to all at Christ UMC!

NAVIGATORS LEARN ABOUT PANTRY



The fourth- and fifth-graders at Alliance Intermediate School learned about the pantry thanks to longtime volunteer Joan Gecina. Joan spoke to about 50 members of the Navigators Club after school in April. They were very attentive and interested in her PowerPoint presentation. She told them about the issue of hunger in our

community, how the pantry started, who we serve, how people get food, where we get our food, what kind of food we can get, how people support the pantry by giving money or donating food, and how our volunteers make it work.

Joan, a retired elementary school teacher, ended each subject area with an opportunity for discussion and students asked many questions. It was a valuable lesson for all. Joan gave each child a word search and crossword puzzle on Healthy Food and a cookie snack from the pantry.



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ANNUAL PANTRY INSPECTION



We had a nice visit in April from Linda Steinhebel (left) from the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank who conducted her annual inspection of our pantry. Linda, partnership development specialist for the Foodbank, comes every year to check our facility and food handling procedures, required client paperwork, the operation of the pantry, temperature of refrigerator and freezer logs, etc. Most of all she

participates in an honest discussion with pantry officers about our needs and how we can continue working together to serve our clients.

Meeting with Linda were Pat Gates, board president; Jim Greiner, Tuesday day manager and treasurer; Cathy Torma, office manager; Joe Cullum, warehouse volunteer; and Mike Patterson, board vice president; and several Tuesday volunteers.



From Left: Linda Steinhebel, Pat Gates, and Cathy Torma