



Alliance Community Pantry

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MOUNT CLASSES HELP OUT

We are fortunate that many University of Mount Union students often help in our all-volunteer pantry, and in recent years among those have been students in Dr. Beth Canfield-Simbros classes. In a week in early April we had great help from her students.

One Thursday, 13 students in her nutrition class came and helped re-pack donations, clean fans, refrigerators and freezers, and load carts for our clients. Then the next Monday morning 17 students in her poverty class came in to do more of that same work and to get some hands-on experience into what they are studying.

Working with the students were Debbie Skubiak, our pantry manager, and Jim Perone, one of our day managers and board secretary.

Our volunteers always appreciate the close connection we have with Mount Union and its students.



LIONS CLUB GIFT

We have always received amazing support from area service clubs and organizations to help us serve our clients, and among those has been the Alliance Lions Club.

Once again the Lions came through, as Lions Club President Bill Prueter, on the left, presents a generous gift of \$1,000 to Bruce Helsel, pantry board president.

In addition to financial support, our pantry also benefits each week from the valuable work of several volunteers who are Lions Club members.



LIONS CLUB BENCH

Our Pantry has a new convenient bench outside next to the loading dock, thanks to the Alliance Lions Club and their members who are among our loyal volunteers. The bench is seen here being tried out by Lions' volunteers Bill Sol, Paul Domino and Jim Greiner.

The bench is made totally from recycled plastic, which we get a lot of, as seen by Bill Sol hauling some out to be recycled.

When Covid first started in 2020, Judy Young, the Lions District Governor, was trying to find a project to keep the clubs active without much personal contact. It was determined that Tyco was willing to accept plastic from Lions clubs and turn it into benches. To date the Lions have received seven benches and the pantry received one because of our recycling contributions.

At first, 500 pounds of recycled plastic was needed to build a bench, but that has expanded to 1,000 pounds and the Lions are also limited to the number of benches they can get.

The Lions bench is a nice addition since the old wooden picnic table we had there had seen its last days.



LAKE SUCCESS

This 12th year of Light Up the Lakes held April 5 was a great success and a great service to the people we serve at our pantry.

The annual event, put on by Mount Union's co-ed service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, sold 234 lanterns that were floated on the Mount Union lakes in memory of a loved one.

In the end, \$2,031.59 was raised for the pantry and 577 pounds of food was collected, as seen here delivered to the pantry by Hanna Scott and Claudia Yahasz.



MEIJER VOLUNTEERS

The new Meijer store on West State Street is working to make a difference in the community even before they open May 14. One morning they sent a team of seven employees down to volunteer and they did a great job.

They were kept busy bagging up a variety of groceries to take out to our clients, moving carts, and re-bagging fruits and vegetables. Among those helping out were Ande'Marie Green, Savion Royster, Gayle Williams, Jennifer Bolander, Kerry Messenheimer, Kayla Barber, and Stacey McCune.

It was great working with them today and into the future. They let us know last week our pantry was going to be beneficiary of their Simply Give program when they open which certainly will help us serve our clients.



FROM ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PANTRY BOARD

Betsy Brown, Pat Gates, Jim Greiner- Treas., Bruce Helsel- Pres., Jan Horning, Ivory Lyons, Missy Miller, Tim Morrison, Mike Patterson- VP, Jim Perone - Sec., Glenn Rupp, Betty Rush, Chris Schade, Beth Simbro, Marge Simmons, Cathy Torma, John Whitehair

