

December 3, 2024

Volume 1, Issue 6



# Food for Thought A Newsletter for Volunteers

## Holiday Greetings!

As another year closes, we wish all of our volunteers a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous 2025.

Thank you for all of your efforts in 2024. Our client list continues to grow, and you have served each of them with care and kindness.

You are the heart of our operation, and we look forward to working together in 2025 to make sure no family in our community goes hungry.



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## Knights of Columbus, Council 2035

The Knights of Columbus, Council 2035 was established in 1919, and has been continuously active for 104 years.

Through their fundraising efforts, the Knights have been very generous in giving to our pantry. Recently, SK Joel Weinberg presented an installment of their pledged donation to our building

fund. The Knights also had a November Coats for Kids and fund drive outside local Piggly Wiggly stores. Coats and proceeds were delivered to local pantries, including ours. We are blessed to have



the support of the Knights, and look forward to continuing our relationship with them!

### December Birthdays

- Jim Scarpaci, 3rd**
- Mary Marchese, 25th**
- Scott Brost, 27th**
- Sue Kruske, 28th**
- Joan Schommer, 31**

# Birthday Program

The birthday program distributes birthday presents to seniors over the age of 65 and children between the ages of 0 and 18. Toys, games, hygiene products, clothing, books, and cake supplies are given. We have successfully reached our goal of distributing all new gifts to youth, and are actively working towards a goal of distributing new gifts for seniors as well (excluding books).

Layettes are assembled and given to clients who are expectant mothers. We have made 7 layettes since June of 2024. Included are laundry baskets that contain several sizes of diapers, wipes, different sizes/seasons of clothes, a receiving blanket, books, and when available, feeding items, bathing items, and anything necessary for a baby.

We are actively implementing strategies to enhance our pick-up process. There may still be instances where children and seniors are inadvertently excluded from our system. A suggestion to address this is to provide additional education to volunteers and families regarding our programs. Also, any new items that come into the pantry that can be used as gifts, such as socks, underwear, hygiene items, clothing, blankets, games, and household goods should be directed to the birthday room for distribution.



## Birthday Program—Statistics

### Children

Month	Gifts Made	Picked Up
June	13	11
July	16	11
August	23	18
September	22	19
October	16	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>73</b>

### Seniors

Month	Gifts Made	Picked Up
June	5	
July	4	
August	5	
September	7	
October	3	
November	3	
December	4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	



### In Appreciation



- Jim Schmit of Schmit Bros Automotive for the donation of 100 Thanksgiving turkeys.
- The Wild Turkey Federation for the donation of 24 Thanksgiving turkeys.
- Culver's of Port Washington for choosing us as their named charity for 'Concrete for a Cause'
- St. Boniface Episcopal Church for their November food drive
- The crews who have been picking up and sorting food on Fridays.
- St. John XXIII Students for their food deliveries and student volunteers.
- Align Chiropractic in Port Washington for collecting coats and food in November
- Brouillette Chiropractic for collecting coats and food in November

## Food Drives, Fundraisers & Events

- A \$25,000 matching funds drive is ongoing through January 10th. See website for details
- Port Family Pharmacy held a raffle for donation of food to the pantry
- Drew's True Value in Port Washington is hosting a food barrel
- Suburban Harley Davidson is hosting a food drive through December 23rd.
- [Moonlight Tavern](#) has partnered with Surly Brewing to bring a new house beer on tap: Anchor Point Lager. They will be donating \$1 from every beer sold to [The Food Pantry, Inc.](#) for the rest of the year!
- [The Steerage Dining Saloon](#) \$1 from featured gin specials will be donated to [The Food Pantry, Inc.](#)
- Target Circle Campaign ends on December 31st— Please donate your points to our cause!
- The **Wisconsin Singer/Songwriter Series** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mequon-WI/Wisconsin-SingerSongwriter-Series/319175545297> is hosting a Food Pantry Benefit on Saturday, December 7th. Various artists will perform and there will be 'grab bag' gifts for those donating to The Food Pantry. This will be at the Unitarian Church—North, 13800 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon. Doors open at 7 p.m., music at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$20, day of \$24, and students \$12 always.



## Notes & Suggestions

- Please note that our holiday hours on Tuesday, December 24th, and Tuesday, December 31st, are 9:00 a.m. until noon. There will be no afternoon shift on these days. Notes to clients will start going out on December 3rd.
- Don't forget to update the calendar at the pantry if you will be gone from your normal volunteer slot. See Lorraine Halls if you have any questions.



- The Salvation Army is a generous contributor to the pantry. We are bell ringing for them again this year. Friday, December 6th is our next and final date. Please see Scott Brost to sign up.

## Pantry Collaborations

- Saukville Food Alliance shared many cases of canned Pinto Beans, Kidney Beans, and applesauce cups with our pantry..
- Family Sharing delivered 65 cases of Doritos snack chips to us.
- A follow-up meeting was held among the 3 pantries



## The Food Pantry, Inc.



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**Working together to alleviate hunger in our community by acquiring and distributing food to those who seek aid.**

### Our History

Serving all of Ozaukee County residents, as well as Random Lake in Southern Sheboygan County. We distribute to all faiths and are blessed for the donated space in the Saint John XXIII rectory basement since 1982.



### Board Members

Steve Hansen, President  
Jim Langford, Vice President  
Jennifer Binninger-Gomez, Secretary  
Liz Busateri, Treasurer  
John Vallier, Churches  
Tom Didier, Business/ Community  
Brian Boettcher, Food Resources  
Sandra Pessaro, Schools

### Board Members Emeritus

Pat Curtis  
Pat Kozak  
Phil Groothousen

### Food Pantry Operations

Marcia Nosko, Executive Director  
Joyce Brost, Food Manager  
Lorraine Halls, Volunteer Manager

### Marketing

Todd Korb

### Grant Writing & Foundation Liaison

Monica Beale