

Pantry Happenings Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 24
August 1, 2006



WEATHER RADIO

Please listen for alerts

We now have a weather radio at the pantry.
It is on top of the refrigerator.
It is turned up and will automatically turn on
if there are weather alerts.

Neighborhood Challenge Food Drive – Coming Up Quickly

We are getting a bit nervous, since only a handful of people have said that they can help with the Neighborhood Challenge on 9/9/06. This is an important drive and a great way to publicize the pantry to the community. Right now we especially need **neighborhood coordinators**, but the first week of September we will need people to put **flyers** on doors, **pick up food**, and **sort and stock** food. If you can help with any part of the drive, please contact Judy or sign up in the pantry.

New Computer

We will be installing a new computer in the pantry this week (paid for by the Compassion Iowa grant). The database will be pretty much identical to the old one, but the “sign on” will be a bit different. Please use the “Pantry staff” ID. That one will not have a password (although the database still will), and we will try not to clutter it up with extra stuff that you do not need. Please let us know if you have any trouble using the new machine.

Did Someone Say Prizes?

Please join us for the August in-service scheduled for Wednesday, August 16th at 7 PM. We will be learning more about what each of the four pantry teams (Administration, Operations, Connections, and Volunteer Support) do, plus hear from the pantry coordinator (Judy McRoberts) about her role, as well as the role of practicum students. Prizes are part of the evening, so don't miss out!

Recipes – How Can I Help Families?

There is a big purple binder laying on the front table in the pantry that is now marked “RECIPES Available, please ask a volunteer”. This contains all the recipes that the recipe team has distributed. If a family would like one or all of them, they are located in the green filing cabinet in the rear of the pantry. The top drawer contains supplies for future recipes (please do not use these). In the second drawer, there is a shoe box with tabbed cards separating the recipes by name. If a family has not received a set on a metal ring, there are also rings in the shoe box. Additional (or single) recipes do not need a ring. We would like volunteers to find the recipes for the families, so that we can try to keep them in order and keep track of when we

need to make more copies. Hopefully, by providing the "big purple book" to see what is available to choose from, we can avoid confusion in the filing cabinet. If anyone asks, we are trying to put out a new set of recipes every other month. The next set will be out in September.

Mouse update

We think we have the mice under control! We caught a couple and filled the hole (in the corner under the clothing shelves) with foam insulation. Thanks to Lucy, Ruth, and all those who have worked to get rid of the critters, and thanks to the Operations team and Paul Rudolph for his work on a more permanent solution. If you see or hear a mouse in the future, please let us know by putting a note in the log or contacting Char.

Vacation Bible School

The church has its Vacation Bible School during the evening this week, and they are using the MOC as a craft area. This should not affect the pantry, but there will be a lot more people around the church. It is still really hot, so if you see them working in the MOC, please offer them a drink of water.

Newsletter Submissions

Thank you to the several people who made Newsletter Submissions this week. Please send any submission to Tina D. by 8am on Monday to have them put into the current week's newsletter.

Up-coming Meetings/Trainings

08/01/06 – (4:00 pm) Recipe Group Meeting
08/03/06 – (6:00 pm) Operations Team Meeting
08/07/06 – (6:30 pm) Volunteer Support Team Meeting
08/09/06 – (7:00 pm) Administration Team Meeting
08/15/06 – (7:00 pm) Connections Team Meeting
08/16/06 – (7:00-8:30 pm) **In-Service Training – Day in the Life of Pantry Teams**
08/24/06 – (6:30 pm) New Volunteer Pantry Orientation
09/09/06 – **Neighborhood Challenge Food Drive**
09/--/06 – (AM) **In-Service Training – Volunteer Feedback**
10/--/06 – (PM) **In-Service Training – Review of Other Pantries**
11/--/06 – (AM) **In-Service Training –**

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An outreach ministry of the North Liberty First United Methodist Church