

## Blue Mound Food Pantry April 2024 Newsletter

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From:

Bcc:

Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 09:29 AM CDT

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### **BLUE MOUND FOOD PANTRY LETTER FOR APRIL 2024**

#### **CHURCH OF THE MONTH – HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC**

**Suggested items to donate this month** – any kind of cereal or oatmeal; canned fruit and vegetables; canned soup; pasta sauce; shampoo

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We request that the church of the month send **2** volunteers on Saturdays. A **3<sup>rd</sup>** volunteer is needed to assist **outside** with the Dollar General and Taylorville Food Pantry donations. Come at 8:00 and leave when finished. Be prepared to work without supervision and possibly do some cleaning or sorting of plastic bags. A donation of \$200 from the church of the month is requested to help share in the cost of rent, electricity, and pest control. Checks payable to Interchurch Council.

We continue to receive donations from the Taylorville Food Pantry, the Dollar General Stores in both Blue Mound and Macon, and from the Caseys store in Blue Mound. The Caseys store in Blue Mound and Dippin Mervs save boxes for me to pack food in for our neighbors.

Thanks to all the supporting churches and the individuals who donated items this last month. We served 72 families on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> when we gave away boxes packed with food for an Easter meal as well as a choice of ham or turkey.

The USDA has been sending large quantities of free commodities over the past few months. There have been 3 different frozen meats as well as canned, fresh, and frozen fruits. In March we also received fresh milk and cheese. In April we will receive several items from the TANF program. This program gives us free food items that can only be given to families that have children 18 or younger.

On March 20<sup>th</sup> I attended a food handlers' training which will cover me for the next 3 years. I will not have to go through the entire training which has been required of me in the past. On that day I also attended a workshop hosted by the University of Illinois Extension. I gained a lot of information about the USDA commodities program and other areas of interest to me as a food pantry director.

In the past the Zion Chapel United Methodist Church graciously let us send our newsletters out over the Constant Contact website. When they closed the Elwin United Methodist Church took over the payments for a short period of time. But they do not use the website themselves, so they discontinued the service. I am attempting to send out the newsletter from my email address as a group mailing.

The next quarterly board meeting of the Interchurch Council will be held on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am at the food pantry.

The Stonington Community Garage Sales will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. The Stonington United Methodist Church will have rummage and a lunch counter both days. If your church is having a fundraiser,

please contact me by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month so I can add the information to the newsletter.

**Member Churches**

2024

May – Stonington United Methodist

June – Remnant Church

July – First Baptist – Stonington

August – Meridian Church of God

September – Blue Mound United Methodist

October – Joy Assembly

November – First Christian – Blue Mound

December – Old Stonington Baptist

2025

January – Macon United Methodist

**Contact Information**

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217-820-3988 – must leave a voicemail or your call will not be returned