
BLUE MOUND FOOD PANTRY LETTER FOR JUNE 2024

CHURCH OF THE MONTH – Remnant Church

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

New Volunteer Expectations

It was decided at our quarterly meeting that starting now member churches need to send **4** volunteers each Saturday instead of 2. One person that can lift boxes in and out of shopping carts and into cars. One person that can assist people with produce and table items. Both these volunteers will be out in any kind of weather and should dress accordingly. Two people to sort, prep items, etc. as you have been doing. Please park on Lewis Street on the west side of the building. You may enter through either the front or back doors. 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 the food boxes each week. Many of the donated items are snack type items, which are often put in the special bags we pack for families with children.

Thanks to all the supporting churches and the individuals who donated items this last month. Elwin United Methodist Church donated 114 cans of soup and 12 packages of Jello or pudding. The number of families coming for food in May has started to increase again.

The USDA continues to send large quantities of free commodities. There have been 2 different frozen meats as well as canned, fresh, and frozen fruits. We are looking for people who can lift boxes to help with our deliveries from the Central Illinois Food Bank. These come on the first and third Mondays of each month around 9:00 am, except for holidays. There were only 3 men available to unload our last delivery.

The Blue Mound Food Pantry will be going digital on May 25th. I have been collecting data over the last 2 Saturdays to enter into the program. Once the information is entered, all I have to do each week is find the name and check it off on my iPad. Any changes of information and new families still have to be entered, but I have a paper form to collect the information quickly.

Each week a grooming or cleaning item is included in the boxes that are packed. These kinds of items are necessities but are not covered by SNAP (government assistance). Please consider

donating some of the following items: shampoo, toothpaste, antiperspirant, bar soap, Kleenex, dish liquid, and laundry detergent. We are also using the donated plastic shopping bags at a fast pace. If you have any clean plastic shopping bags without holes, please consider donating them to us.

The Jubilee Community Garden in Blue Mound is looking for volunteers to do any kind of work in the garden. Contact me with any questions, and I will put you in touch with the garden manager. Any students needing community service hours for school are welcome to volunteer. Your report forms will be filled out and signed for this requirement. The Jubilee Community Garden provides fresh produce to the food pantry throughout the entire growing season.

The Stonington Summerfest will be held the weekend of June 21st – 23rd. The Stonington United Methodist Church will have its pie and ice cream booth open both Friday and Saturday that weekend. If your church is having a fundraiser or any event open to the public, please contact me by the 20th of the month so I can add the information to the newsletter.

Member Churches

2024

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

February – Holy Trinity Catholic

March – Stonington United Methodist

April – Remnant Church

Contact Information

Karen Wilson, Director

kkwilson777@gmail.com

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