

BLUE MOUND FOOD PANTRY NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2026

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Suggestion item to donate – any kind of cereal or cereal bars; canned **vegetables** or fruit; **canned soup**; canned pasta; mac & cheese; shampoo; antiperspirant

Contact Information

Karen Wilson: Cell phone: 217-820-3988 (Please text or leave a voicemail.)

email: kkwilson777@gmail.com

Volunteer Expectations

Church of the month please send **4** volunteers each Saturday. One person will lift boxes in and out of shopping carts or pack boxes. This person will be out in any kind of weather and should dress accordingly. One person will assist people with produce and table items in the new Bonus Room. This person is essential as Karen is trying to sign in families online as they come to get food. Two more people will sort, prep items, and possibly pack boxes for the next week.

We are now located at our new location at 305 N. Bolls Street. Please enter through the **exit** on Power Street and park along the fence facing Bolls Street. **Do not park on the street** as this will inhibit the flow of traffic into and out of the lot. 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 are payable to Interchurch Council.

The pantry is very appreciative of all donations whether it is from the Dollar General Stores in both Macon and Blue Mound, the bread man who delivers to our Dollar General Stores, the Caseys store in Decatur, from the member churches or from individuals in the communities. I am now back getting donations most Fridays from the Taylorville Food Pantry.

Deliveries come from the Central Illinois Food Bank on the first and third Mondays of the month around 9:00 am except for holidays. Please consider coming to help if it fits in with your schedule. With more help, the time goes quickly. Our next delivery is Monday, January 26th. This is a change because the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday fell on the date of our 2nd delivery in January. Because the Presidents' Day holiday falls on the third Monday in February, the 2nd delivery will come on the fourth Monday (23rd) at the same time.

A new program offering free food items started January 5th with the Central Illinois Food Bank. During the government shutdown in November, some corporations offered grants to the Central Illinois Food Bank to purchase food for food pantries. This is to help replenish the pantries from the increase in number of households coming to them for food caused by the temporary shutdown of the SNAP Program funds. As long as I have all my paperwork turned on time, our pantry is eligible for these items. Because of the changes in our deliveries due to the holidays, we will have to pick up these items at times. I even scheduled an extra delivery last week. The first week only packaged items were offered. Now there are fresh and frozen items available too. We have not been informed how long this program will last, but we appreciate it.

The Stonington United Methodist Church, located at 304 North Elm, is hosting their 3rd Annual Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, February 7th from 4 pm to 6 pm. The menu is as follows: regular or gluten free pasta, homemade sauce, salad, bread, and dessert with coffee & tea. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 10 and under.

The Blue Mound United Methodist Women are continuing to make T-Shirts quilts priced at \$150. You bring in your T-shirts and they will turn them into a beautiful quilt. For more information, contact them at BMUMCquilt@gmail.com.

Member Churches

February – Remnant Church
March – First Baptist Church – Stonington
April – Meridian Church of God
May – Blue Mound United Methodist
June – Joy Assembly
July – First Christian
August – Old Stonington Baptist
September – Macon United Methodist
October – Holy Trinity Catholic
November – Stonington United Methodist