

2023 Loaves & Fishes Annual Report

The last two years have shown the importance of our food pantry mission. For years we have seen individuals, families, and generations of families visit L & F on a regular basis, but it has become clear that for most of our clients L & F is a vital lifeline. It is a lifeline for food, personal care items such as toilet paper, for clothing and frankly for a kind word. The work that is done at L & F touches literally thousands of lives.

During the year we provide holiday foods, clothing when we have it, kitchen items for cooking, serving, and storing. We offer Christmas decorations, underwear, flip flops, hats, gloves, scarves, pet food when we can, diapers when we can, books when we have them, calendars, condoms, and so much more.

Our volunteers have the biggest hearts, but we are all aging. Many of our faithful have passed away (the Naxeras from Westminster Pres, and Joyce Conley and Liz Varnum from CEC to name a few), and our congregations are smaller.

Through the efforts of our volunteers, we were able to replace some old chest freezers with commercial grade upright freezers via a grant. We passed on one of the older freezers to 1st Congregational who started their own food pantry this year.

We continue to utilize HACAP for much of our food stuff and they have done a good job of offering seasonal fruits and vegetables, milk, and various meats.

I encourage everyone in the congregation to take a turn some Tuesday and volunteer. See CEC & WPC's mission work in action. Be Christ's hands. Be His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Your Sister in Christ,

Jan Kosowski

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry Director

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