

Grace Center Inc.'s mission is: providing nutritious food and promoting social interaction with commitment and grace to our rural community.

The Grace Gazette

MARCH 2013



Grace Center

701 W. Popcorn Rd.

Harrodsburg, Indiana

812-824-5595

OUR PANTRY HOURS

NEW Pantry Hours
Thursdays
3:00pm-7:00pm
 (Located on the corner of Popcorn Rd and Harrodsburg Rd)
Serving Clear Creek, Indian Creek, and Polk Townships

WISH LIST GOAL:

Spaghetti Sauce,
 Soup of any kind,
 Dry Beans, Canned Pasta (Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, Beefaroni),
 Macaroni and Cheese,
 Canned Beans,
 Canned Fruit

MISSION POSSIBLE

On a recent warm Thursday evening, the Grace Center Food Pantry was visited by a group of enthusiastic kids bringing the fruits of their hard work. As we carried load after load of canned and non-perishable food into the pantry, we soon realized these kids were serious. Who are they you might ask? Mission Possible Kids - from Sherwood Oaks Christian Church. What a great name and a nice play on the similarly named TV series and movie titles. These agents were on a mission to collect food. They grabbed the monthly food collection at the church. They went to Kroger and collected food from shoppers (with permission of course). Then they personally donated food to add to the collection.



But before we get to the total weight, what did they do while at the pantry. The kids stacked the food on both large tables and while Richard was weighing everything they got a special tour of the pantry. We explained that the food comes from places such as ... Continued on back

Kroger Gift Card Reload Update

Grace Center is \$2166 away from Kroger writing us another check. Keep reloading those cards. Use your card to buy groceries and gas! What a great way to help Grace Center without spending any extra money!



ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30, 2013 Rain or Shine

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Indian Creek Township Park

Help is appreciated for this event.

If you are able to volunteer please contact:

ICCA-Volunteer coordinator: ICCA-12@comcast.net or phone Clark Sorenson : (812) 825-5013

Contributions are welcome:

1. Hard Boiled Eggs
2. Individually wrapped small candy
3. Volunteer your time and talent and treasure



EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30, 2013

2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Harrodsburg United Methodist Church

9252 S. 3rd Street
 Harrodsburg, IN

Everyone is welcome to both events

VOLUNTEER

It does the heart good!

How Grace Center helped the Community in January

324 Adults served
 92 Children helped
 162 Families helped
 415 Bags of food given

Total Bags of groceries given out in 2013

415

Board Members:

Steve Fichtner, President
 Tina Baugh, Treasurer
 Connie Sowders, Secretary
 Jim Baugh, Incorporator/Member at Large
 Clarissa Hawk, Terry Brammer, and Terry Doane, Members at Large

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED

One of the biggest challenges for any Not for Profit and 100% volunteer organization is... volunteers. As we ramp up toward spring, we thought it would be a good time to cover some of our volunteer opportunities. Maybe you might be a good fit as we are generally very flexible.

Pantry Volunteer:

The various opportunities for a pantry volunteer are numerous. Volunteers can serve at the desk during check-in, stock and re-stock the shelves as needed, help patrons through the pantry, answer questions or distribute information. Odd jobs include weighing donations, sweeping the floors, removing boxes, and taking out the trash. The hours are flexible and since we are only open one day a week, a couple hours here and there is fine. A huge benefit to working in the pantry is you see how everything works and learn how a pantry operates.

Hoosier Hills Food Bank Shopper:

While not quite a normal grocery shopper kind of position, a food bank shopper is extremely valuable to our pantry. The food bank is where the bulk of our food is purchased. But it is not for the faint of heart because it is a physically demanding job. Here is basically how it works. You drive a pickup truck (or trailer) to Hoosier Hills Food Bank located on Vernal Pike in Bloomington or you meet another volunteer to help them shop. What you shop for depends on what is needed and what is available. Some things are free and some things have limits. Incidentally, there is some fun because you might discover a prized food item hidden from your usual line of sight. Load your selection on carts and haul to the checkout station. Everything gets weighed. When you are done, you take the food items out to your truck or trailer, load it up and drive to the pantry where it is unloaded. You can now leave knowing the food donated to the food bank is being used for a good cause and many will appreciate your efforts.

Summary:












Knowledge gained by volunteering at a food pantry is valuable but it also applies to just about any Not for Profit organization. Also, attending our board meetings is certainly a great way to see what happens behind the scenes of the pantry. We welcome a diverse idea base. Everyone has a different background and life experience. Apply it to volunteering whether it's Grace Center or any other worthy organization you choose. Whatever you do, Commit to Serve.

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tue	Mar. 5	• Grace Center Board Meeting at <i>Grace Center Pantry Building 6:00pm</i>
Thu	Mar. 7	• Grace Center Food Pantry 3:00-7:00pm • Harrodsburg Lions Club 6:30pm
Sat	Mar. 9	• Change clock forward before you go to bed (Sun 2am is when the time changes)
Tue	Mar. 12	• Euchre 12:30-2:30 at Harrodsburg Comm. Building Contact John or Martha Bastin for Euchre details.
Thu	Mar. 14	• Grace Center Food Pantry 3:00-7:00pm
Mon	Mar. 18	• Ladies Craft Night, Smithville Com. Center, 6:30 pm, Call Patty at 824-2611 for more information
Thu	Mar. 21	• Grace Center Food Pantry 3:00-7:00pm
Tue	Mar. 26	• Euchre 12:30-2:30 at Harrodsburg Comm. Building Contact John or Martha Bastin for Euchre details.
Wed	Mar. 27	• Indian Creek Lions Club 7:00pm Contact Lloyd, 824-9771 for location
Thu	Mar. 28	• Grace Center Food Pantry 3:00-7:00pm
Sat	Mar. 30	• Easter Egg Hunts (see front for details)

We continue to need your help! Thank you so much to all those who continue to work hard to bring in food for their neighbors. You can and do make such a difference! Remember, sometimes giving to others can help YOU as much as others!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO:

-  Harrodsburg United Methodist Church for 64 pounds of deer meat and 7 lbs. of food brought in when the freezers were almost empty!
-  Walkers Chapel for donating 42 lbs. of food, what a blessing.
-  Melissa Weaver for donating 9 pkgs. of diapers, an expensive and very needed item.
-  The Fichtners for donating 20 cartons of eggs and bringing them during pantry hours when the refrigerator was not working so patrons could still have eggs for the week.
-  The Munson family for donating fresh turnips, eggs and green beans when produce was low.
-  Darrell Anderson for always coming through with beans, corn, mixed vegetables and green beans. Thank you for your regular donations.
-  Marnise Miller for donating 23 lbs. of misc. food during a time when it was much needed.
-  Sherwood Oaks Christian Church Youth classes for donating a whopping 588 lbs. of food that stocked the shelves with many needed items and for visiting the pantry to learn more about giving.
-  Chrystal Schrock for donating 8 lbs. of food and for being a good example to others of how to help by just cleaning out her cabinets at home and sharing that with others.
-  Harrodsburg Assembly of God for your monthly monetary donation. \$1.00 can buy 6.25 lbs. of groceries at Hoosier Hills Food Bank (.16 per pound), so your money is really 'going to work' to help feed the hungry in your community!
-  Thank you to all our anonymous givers as well as the shoppers and volunteers. You are making a difference in your community!

Mission Possible continued.....the Hoosier Hills Food Bank and from donors such as themselves. We emphasize nutritious food as the goal for our patron's good health. They saw where everyone comes in and checks in at the desk. New patrons fill out an application form stating they meet certain income guidelines. Along the wall they saw a big scale where every donation is weighed and recorded.

Next we entered the pantry itself. They could see the food they brought starting to be placed on the shelves and the extras stored in the back room. Some things are limited in supply and are marked with "Limit 1" signs. The large refrigerator stores milk, yogurt and dairy items. Two freezers store meat and frozen dinners. If there is any produce, it is at the end of the counter. Basically, it's a small grocery store.

If the suspense is getting difficult to handle, wait just a bit longer. At the end of the tour, the kids asked some good questions. That is when we learned the total weight of their donation. 588 pounds! Wow! Grace Center is so grateful that these kids from Bloomington came all the way down to the bottom of Monroe Country to deliver food to a pantry they had never seen before and for people they may never meet. How encouraging is that? Thank you Mission Possible Kids. Come back any time. We are so glad we were your special target.

Have your name put here next month! Bring canned, boxed, refrigerated or frozen food to the food pantry on Thursdays from 2pm to 7pm. Also, you can always remain anonymous if you wish!

WHY KROGER WRITES GRACE CENTER A CHECK?

Grace Center gets Kroger gift cards that have a specific account on the card. Reload the card at Kroger and 3% of all your purchases, including gas, goes to Grace Center! To get a Kroger reloadable gift card, stop by the food pantry on Thursday evening between 2pm-7pm and purchase a card for \$5.00. The card comes loaded with \$5.00 so you get your money back! Use those Kroger cards for free rewards to Grace Center!

March 20
First day of Spring



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.
Daylight Saving Time Reminder

Daylight Saving Time, begins at 2am on Sunday March 10th this year. At 2am you change the hour to 3am. For most of us who don't stay up that late or find it inconvenient to set our clocks all at once, just begin the process Saturday evening sometime. But make double sure you set your alarm clock before going to bed Saturday night. Otherwise, you could get a nasty surprise by being an hour late for everything on Sunday morning.

website: www.gracecenterindiana.org

email: gracecenterinc@gmail.com

ADDRESS LABEL

STAMP



Grace Center Inc.
Box 5, Harrodsburg, IN 47434
Return Service Requested