

United Way for a grant of \$7,500.00 to be used for direct support of food purchases.

The Peace Pantry would also like to thank our food sources: Food Bank and Food Search.

Yearly Food Drives: Boy Scouts; Girl Scouts; Kathy Davis, Club Villa, Food For Thought Concert; St. Louis Skin Solutions; Lawn Systems, Eureka Chamber of Commerce; Pacific Chamber of Commerce; Harvest Moon Run; Concord Bowling; Sieveking; Cedar Hill Elks; High Ridge Rotary and Harvest Rescue.

Monthly Food Drives: Transformation UMC, Hillside Presbyterian Churches, and Hope Lutheran Church High Ridge.

Weekly Food Drives: Fellowship Baptist Church and Our Lady Queen of Peace. Knights of Columbus, House Springs, 3 food drives in 2021; St. Martin's Church, Dittmer, 4 food drives in 2021. Hillsboro Title, donated a processed whole cow & hog from Hillsboro Fair. We salute Heroes Care for their continued support throughout the year and everyone in the community who help us keep our shelves full 365 days a year.

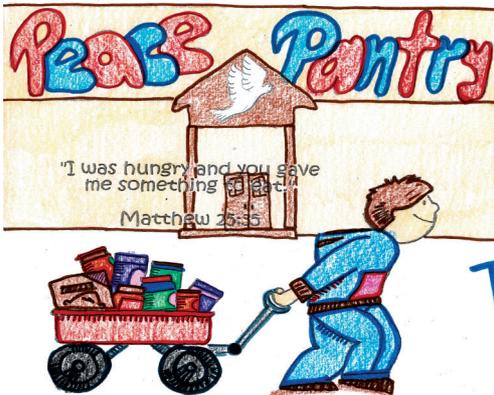
Each of our families will receive a turkey for Thanksgiving and a ham for Christmas. Please consider making a basket of meals for the side dishes. Families with small children will receive gifts from the Cedar Hill Fire Department Toy Collection and the older children receive gifts from the Jefferson-Franklin Community Action Corporation. Families will have a choice this Christmas to choose from:

1.) Individual givers shopping for families 2.) Families may shop for themselves at Walmart on a designated evening or 3.) Families may choose help with utility bills.

This festive greeting card was decorated by a child in our community and received the grand prize for the pantry's first coloring contest! Ten winners were chosen and received gift cards. Remember, the Peace Pantry relies on generous people like you! This greeting card is a reminder of the HOPE, LOVE, and KINDNESS that you and our community continue to give...just like the message the homeless man shared...GIVE AND KEEP GIVING EACH DAY OF THE YEAR!

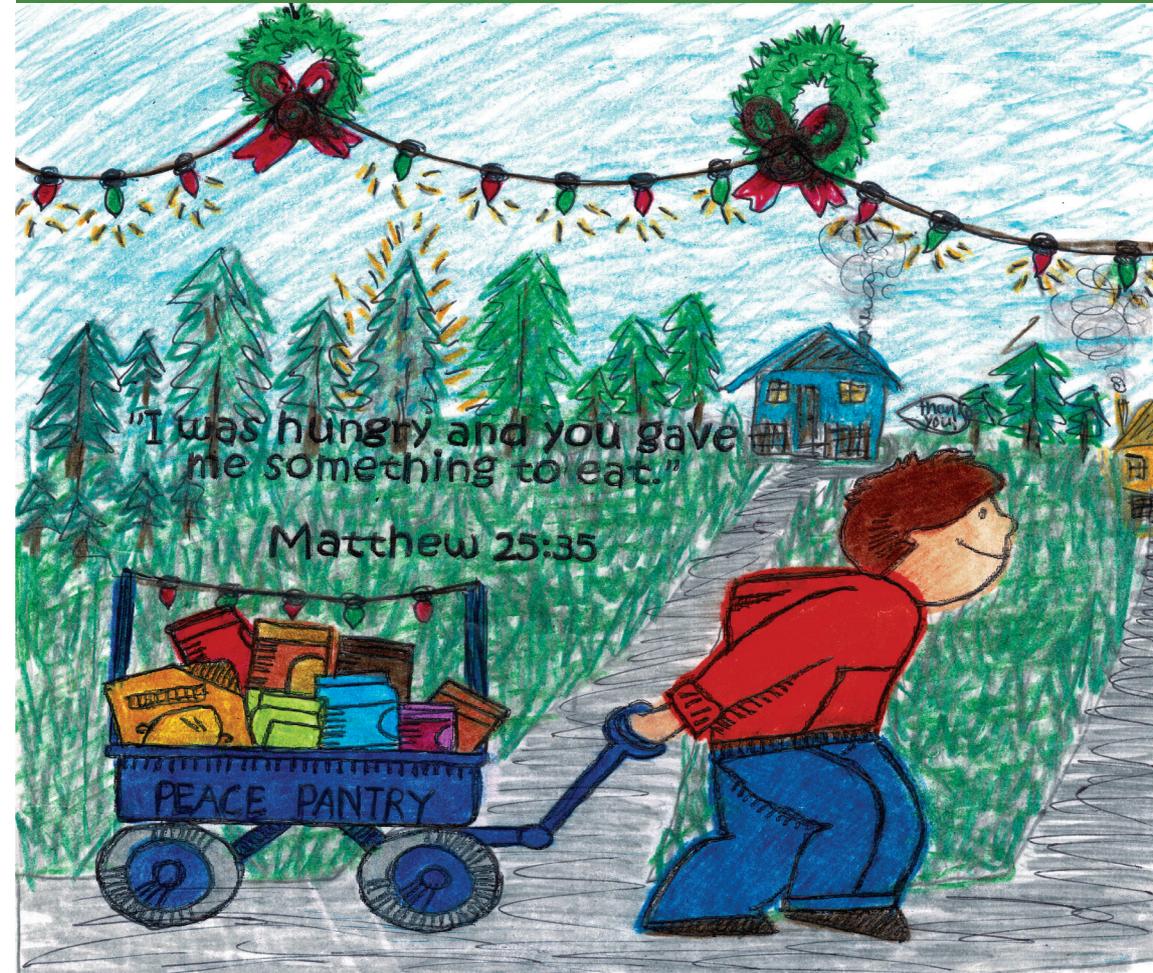
*May God Bless All!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Happy Holidays Feliz Navida*

Linda Schroeder, President
Robert Hanners, Director
On behalf of the Peace Pantry Board



Thank you!

Merry Christmas!



*"He who is generous
will be blessed"*
Proverbs 22:9



I am so blessed to be writing this letter again this year. You are blessed as well. We all survived Covid and are still here to support families who have lost loved ones to Covid, suicide, drugs, mental illness, accidents and natural causes. Our small community has received many of these tremendous heartbreaks this year. Here at the Peace Pantry we all believe no matter what "hill" we need to climb, we can all do it together. We must focus on God's continued blessings to our pantry which in turn blesses so many beyond where we live.

I recently saw the movie Same Kind of Different as Me, which gave me the inspiration I was seeking for the message I would like to share with you... The story was about a rich couple who grew apart and struggled for happiness. The wife never lost her giving spirit or gave up on their long marriage. Together they decided to use their wealth to bring each other closer by helping the homeless. They learned so much about love and compassion from the homeless community. At the end of the movie, the wife made one final request before passing away...she wanted the homeless man to give her eulogy, because it was he who saved their marriage and taught them the most important thing in life was to give and show love and compassion without judging and to accept everyone as an equal. The church was filled with all the other rich families and her children. They stared at the homeless man and waited to hear what he was going to say. He spoke loud and clear about how she changed their community and he thanked everyone for helping her save the homeless and families in need. He reminded them that we live our whole lives looking forward to someday going home, and when you think about it, we are ALL homeless until we are called to go home to our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church members stood up and applauded; they were smiling and there was light in their eyes again. They realized they were no different than the homeless man standing in front of them and that we should count our many blessings until we are called home.

We have the opportunity every day of our lives to help someone in need...it can be a whispered prayer, a kind word, a smile, volunteering or donating to local charities throughout the year. Pantries provide food, clothing, and household items that can be given to those in need or to sell in their Thrift Stores; the funds are then used to buy food. This is a great way to give comfort and joy in our small community in a big way!

It is the grace of compassion that brings a community together to extend peace and receive gratitude. Our Peace Pantry **volunteers who donate their time** and the **generosity of businesses, churches and individuals who contribute financially** in this community, continue to provide for our 250 families per week which collectively serves 30,000 people each year!

Our pantry thanks the following organizations who smile with us and offer hope every day:

Eye Thrive gave free eye exams to children. Twenty-five of those children needed glasses and received them the same day at no cost.

Jefferson Foundation grant funding has allowed the Peace Pantry to build an awning for a larger Farmer's Market that has now been opened up to crafters.

Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation provided Covid funding that allowed the Pantry to purchase a walk-in freezer and walk-in cooler for our Farmer's Market/U.S.D.A. commodity building.

Jefferson Foundation grant funding was received by the Peace Pantry for a Dental Program. Families were able to receive a free checkup and exam at no cost. If any dental problems were

found, the funds allowed for all procedures free of cost. Some families had never been to a dentist or hadn't been to a dentist in many years.

A Federally funded program provided free tablets to families and free internet for one year for only a \$10 fee. Many thanks to Ruby who helped families sign up allowing their children to do their schoolwork from home.

Jefferson County Health Department partnering with the Peace Pantry was able to visit our clients every month, 2 days a month. Families were offered free Covid shots, flu shots, health screenings, and free referrals. The Health Department also supplied work-out stations for our walking track. Anyone who walks the track can stop along the way and follow the exercise instructions. The signs can also be scanned to learn where other parks in the area are located with more exercise signs.

Show Me Hope visits the Peace Pantry on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays to offer MANY resources for our families.

Jefferson-Franklin Community Action helped the Pantry's families fill out paperwork for rental assistance and continues to support the Pantry throughout the year.

Visiting Nurse, Andrea comes to the Peace Pantry every Thursday for visits and checking vitals for our families and volunteers.

The Ridge Church in Pacific hosted a Halloween party and Movie Night at our pantry. Ten trophies were given out for best costumes to children and adults. Games and food were also provided at no cost.

Businesses and individuals who provided funds for benches around the walking track: Cedar Hill Topsoil, Selbert's Auto body, Flooring Systems, Lawn Systems, Toasted Coffee House, BPSL Rentals, Larry Benson, and Tom Scott.

Bone Heating and Cooling donated an air conditioner.

Diaper Bank partners with the Peace Pantry and supplies clients with 50 diapers per month for each child at no cost.

Nurses for Newborns donate baby clothes and food several times a year.

Next Step sends volunteers every Wednesday and Friday to work in the food pantry.

Easter Seals sends volunteers one day a week to work in the food pantry.

Hubbs Machine and Manufacturing sends volunteers once a month to help with commodities.

Cedar Hill Lutheran Church donates cleaning supplies for clients once a month.

St. Martin's Church, Dittmer supports Peace Pantry's Christmas gift program every year

Kelli Waldo, manages the Peace Pantry's social media by announcing events, creating flyers, and posting many messages of thanks to our donors on our Facebook site.