

Shelter Ministries

CLIENT NEWSLETTER

2017
JANUARY

Welcome to Shelter Ministries! As we begin a New Year, in our new location, we thought a quarterly newsletter might be a good way to share information and keep everyone informed about what's happening here at the Shelter! *Let us know what you think!*

2016 was an exciting year for us. God worked His miracles so we could purchase this beautiful new location... and we worked very hard to get it remodeled so we could move without too much disruption of the ministries for you.

The Food Pantry was moved on Memorial Sunday thanks to County Line Church volunteers. It was A LOT of work to pack, move, and unpack, but we love our new pantry.

The Clothing Bank and Christmas Bureau were moved on June 24—thanks to the United Way's Day of Caring volunteers. It took the longest to pack and unpack—but it turned out even nicer than we imagined it would.

The Offices were moved the following month, and finally, the Open Porch was enclosed in October — just in time to protect you from the cold weather. Please help us keep it clean.

It was a lot of work to get here — but, I think everyone will agree, the new location is worth it, and we hope you enjoy it as much as we do!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Volunteers having fun sorting food at our new location!

(May 2016 Mail Carriers Food Drive)

Plans for the New Year THINK SPRING!

We'd really like to plant Pumpkins, Squash, and Fruit Trees, all around the go cart track so we can have a big Fall Festival in October—allowing the community to “Pick-Your-Own” Pumpkins. (And fruit in future years)

But the area has been allowed to go to weed for the last 5-6 yrs. We need *many hands* to get the area ready, help plant the seeds & plants, keep them watered through the hot summer months, and help out with the harvest in the fall. Please think about helping out in April and May.

Also, we would love to get the hoops onto the post in the Bankshot Basketball court. For this we need a couple very strong volunteers to help us in late April.

And, we have everything needed for playing a round of golf—but it's in really bad shape after several years of neglect. The cost of liability insurance prohibits us from opening it to the public, but if we can get it fixed and cleaned, we can have it opened for a special event like the Fall Festival!

All of this is going to be *a lot of work...* but **together** we can make it happen. Please, think about donating a hour or two of your time.

Remember—many hands make work fun and easy!

What's New and Not

We not only have a new location—we have some new problems too. The most important is parking!

We have a larger parking area than before—but this means you will have a longer walk to our front door! And everyone wants to park as close as possible... *but you can't!*

It is not only dangerous to people. It is dangerous for our building. We do NOT have a turn around area. And, we've seen many a close call with cars trying to back up. Please, stay in the parking area either in the outer lot—or in the handicapped lot. If no handicapped spaces are available, wait for one outside the fence, out of the way. If you have trouble with walking from a handicapped space — GET SOMEONE TO HELP YOU.

We have carts (and sometimes carryout) to get your items to your vehicles, but we are not allowed to do home deliveries. Please try and car pool with a neighbor.

And we are sorry, but we do not have a public restroom. Our restroom is located off the food pantry so it is restricted to employees only. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

(There is a gas station just down the road).

Please do not leave the building with our numbers. If you need to leave, please bring the number inside to us to save your space. We can't replace just one number — and it's \$100.00 to order a complete set! We are currently missing Number 30. If you know where it is, please ask them to return it—no questions asked. (I even hear there is a **large ham** reward for it's safe return!)

We try our best to keep things running smooth. But we need lots of volunteers to make this happen. Please consider donating an hour or two of your time, every month or so, for one of our ministries.

We have lots of things for everyone to do, regardless of your age or ability.

Thank You!

Food Pantry Info

We served **3008 Families in 2016!** — That's a lot of jars of Peanut Butter isn't it?

Did you know most phone calls are for the Food Pantry? *Calling to see if it's open and what the hours are.* So the Food Pantry now has it's very own extension—**Ext 307** (Don't leave a message, it doesn't save them).

If you need to speak with someone in the Food Pantry, you can leave **Victoria** a message at **Ext 302**.

The Office number is: **260-925-9200**. If we are closed due to a holiday, bad weather, or vacation, we will put it on the answer machine. For a complete list of services and hours—please dial **Ext 7** as soon as the automated teller answers.

And please, be sure to pick up a Shelter Ministry brochure!



Dress Warm for Winter

Cold weather is here to stay for a few more months. Please dress warm and protect yourself from the dangers of frost bite.

We will try and warm the waiting area with the heat from our refrigerators and freezers by opening the door from the Food Pantry. Please help us by making sure the outer doors are kept closed as much as possible.

We have lots of free hats! Did you know that most of your body heat is lost through your head? By keeping your head covered you will stay warm longer!

If you need winter clothing—please schedule a shopping time at our **Clothing Bank.**
260-925-9200 EXT 308.

