

Bloomington, IL 61701

NON PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID **BLOOMINGTON, IL** PERMIT NO.121

# Ministry & More, Inc. Food Pantry

Alan McLaughlin Director

# **Director's Note**

Happy September! It finally rained, I got as you can see from the to mow my yard, and God continues to amount of groceries we bring in and the amount rain down His blessings on Ministry and More, Inc. We have enjoyed praying for His that goes out each month, supply and He enjoys showing us what He even more will need can do if we remain faithful. My board has to come in! We are so challenged me to "go deeper" as we look thankful that God has always provided for ways to extend ourselves in service to the funds so we have never had to turn our clients. I had an opportunity to visit with anyone away because we were out of the co-founder of a children's ministry that food, and we are trusting that God will will have meetings at our location for the provide, in His time, what is needed to children of parents that receive help from expand our hours and outreach. Ministry and More, Inc. Please pray as we prepare to make this ministry known to our Our goal is to increase the number of food drives and supporting churches, clients who have children or grandchildren, nieces and nephews. We believe God will schools or other entities as well as increase use this greatly due to His heart for children. financial support. We already have regularly Can Do Kids will be on Thursdays from scheduled food drives at five churches. 6–7:30 beginning October 2. You can check We are not into setting numbers (or limits) out Can Do Kids by visiting their website: in asking, but are trusting God to provide http://www.candokids-usa.org/ graciously and generously as He moves his

It is our hope to add one evening a week to our hours of operation so we can take it for granted and are always pleasantly increase our availability to those who encouraged when He shows His love for this cannot visit the pantry during regular ministry through people like you. hours, such as those who work during the day. To do this means we will need two We are so excited at what God is doing for us things to happen: more food to distribute and through us. "Ministering to Others While and more volunteers for the additional Ministering Together" will be our theme for 'shift'. I have the coming year.

already had two people offer to volunteer – so only one or two more volunteers are needed. However,

## Prayer requests: Will you PRAY—will you GIVE?

This is perhaps the most important part of this newsletter – so I hope you will take a few moments to read these heartfelt prayer requests.

Many needing housing	ł
Children grown- learning to cope	
with loneliness – feels useless	I
Financial breakthrough needed for	I
the family	1
Nephew has leukemia; another client	
has breast cancer	9
Healing after surgery or prolonged	(
illness – many of these	1
Son is getting a work release	
from jail	(
Trip to St. Louis for doctor	(
appointment for my child	1
To pass GED math test	
Many needing a job	
Find a way to get my roof fixed	I

Healing of family relationships Son is terminally ill Need wisdom and guidelines Mold in our home - landlord refuses to fix it or let us out of our lease Nephew has cancer Safety for my daughter and her children and that her children be reconciled with each other Praise – got a new job! Order of protection against my child's father – help him to be civil for the sake of our child

Family values 14yr old and 8 yr old grandchildrenlost both parents



### Ministry & More, Inc. Newsletter / September 2012



- people to give. God bless you and thank you so much for your gracious support. We never

Ministering to Others Serving Christ by While Ministering Serving Others, Alan **Together** 

Check out our new website: www.ministryandmore.org

## **Odds and Ends**

**Dollars and Sense program on WXRJ 94.9 FM** This local not for profit minority owned radio station will be interviewing me about Ministry and More on October 2. Check out our website or on face book for when this will be aired.

#### New air conditioner installed in garage!

This summer several young men from a young married couples class at a supporting church installed a much needed air conditioner in the garage at Ministry and More, Inc. – This helps keep food products at more stable temperature year around plus gave volunteers a more bearable environment in which to work in the summer's heat. A big thank you to the Legacy class!

### Holly Chromy CEF Summer Missionary report

Thank you all so much for your support!

Your generous donation made it possible for an impactful mission trip to the beautiful country of

Trinidad and Tobago. This summer has been extraordinary and life changing. God changed me in many ways, from the way I look at life, to the way I view others.

I arrived in Trinidad on the 13th of July and stayed until the 31st. We taught Vacation Bible Schools for two weeks, each day teaching two classes. Amazing things happened at each place we taught at; over all we had about 80 kids receive Christ as their savior!

Many lives were touched through the first week. One girl, whom I led to Christ, told me that she wanted to receive Jesus as her savior so she could see her mother in heaven. The girl was 14 years old and her mother had died when she was only 8. Sadly, many of the children also shared similar, tragic stories. Three of the kids were in a home for abused children. It was so amazing to see the excitement in their eyes as we told them about Jesus' love for them!

We had so much fun on the first week and it passed by very quickly. At the end of the week when it was time to leave, the kids would not let me go! They kept on giving me hugs and telling me stories. When I got into the van, they all waved goodbye. One little girl started crying and screaming my name. Before we knew it, everyone was a big crying mess!

At the other VBS we had a graduating ceremony for the children. Two of the kids gave moving speeches about what they had learned that week. After that, the team gave testimonies on how we came to know the Lord as our savior, and we asked if anyone would like to receive Jesus as their savior. Two women came back and talked to one of the other team members to learn more about Christ. The powerful testimonies moved the hearts of the women and they accepted Christ as their savior.

On the second week, many of us became sick! God gave us energy to get through the hard but fun week. One of the most moving things I experienced was on this week. There was a little girl whom we found out had been abused sexually and physically by her father. She had been taken away from her father and now lives with another family. This six year old had endured more hardship than what most people face in a lifetime. When we were watching the Jesus film, she looked up at me and told me, "They can't kill Jesus! He protects me from the evil man!" I asked her, "Who is the evil man?" Expecting her to say Satan, instead she said "the man who used to hurt me ...but they took me away from him." I realized this was her father. Then she exclaimed, "It's ok! lesus comes back to life! And He is with me! I love Jesus with all my heart!" This helped me to realize that God will help me through everything and that He is always there.

Thank you so much for making it possible for me to be able to go to Trinidad and Tobago. I was sitting in my office the other day when someone tapped me on my shoulder. Expecting to see the face of a volunteer, I turned and was



face to face with this little guy! His grandmother had brought him to the pantry so we could see the answer to the prayers of our volunteers for his safe delivery. This little guy's young mom carried him 42 weeks before bringing him into the world, yet here he is – perfectly healthy! We so often see God do wondrous things in our midst at Ministry and More, Inc. We share this little one's story to give you hope and so you may rejoice with us. Pray as we continue to minister to this family, for his mother as she adjusts to being a mom, that he grows up to know Christ – and that he is an answer to prayer! *Alan* 



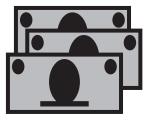
## Volunteer Spotlight

Mike Mounce first became associated with Ministry and More, Inc. as our insurance agent. Enjoying the contacts he had with the ministry and believing in what we are

doing, Mike's interest in volunteering grew as his church, Our Redeemer Lutheran, began having food and coat drives for us. In 2011 Mike retired and began volunteering weekly at Ministry and More, Inc. He is a big help to me personally as we visit churches together and present the vision of Ministry and More, Inc. Mike says he especially values the prayer time before the pantry opens and the fellowship with cheerful servants. Mike is a blessing to Ministry and More, Inc. and one more example of how God brings willing servants to be a part of this ministry. If you are interested in volunteering at Ministry and More, Inc. go to our website and fill out the volunteer information form and I will get back to you.







In May and June, a total of **10,078** pounds of food were received. The **difference** between what comes in and what goes out is what we have

to purchase each month - this money comes from your financial gifts and support - Thank you to all who support this ministry!



# 855

Households served in May, June and July



**32** First-time households

After two consecutive months of more outgo than coming in as far as food, we put out a plea for food and received overwhelming support – a record for amount of food received in one month, the month of July – 8296 pounds. **Thank you** for your faithfulness!