

Ministry & More, Inc.
1107 West Empire Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

Client prayer requests and praise:

Will you PRAY—will you GIVE?

This is the most important part of what we do and of this newsletter – please take a few moments to pray for these requests, for those we serve and those who serve!
Thank you

Daughter has court for order of protection
Stress and health problems
My Kids
My son needs to find a job and a place to live
My family
Need roof on home
Job – the one God wants me to have
Continued blessings from the Lord
Daughter has pneumonia
Mom's breast cancer has returned
My brother who is traveling
Leg pain/no job
Unemployed and need a job
Marriages of multiple friends

Daughter is having breast surgery
Friend's son attempted suicide
My disability
Brother has pancreatic cancer
Health and finances
Neighbor has leg problems
Need part time job
Need a vehicle
Health and money to pay bills
Health, wisdom
To stay focused on the positive and find a job
My best friend needs prayer
Death in my family

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.

I Timothy 2:1 – 4

Alan McLaughlin
Director

A big 'thank you!'

Hello from Ministry and More, Inc! and thank you for making reading about our ministry a priority. We have had a mild winter to say the least, and we are now anticipating spring and all the opportunities to serve our community. We are already getting requests from various church groups, schools, and people interested in serving for a few hours, or as a regular volunteer. Thanks to all of you who fit in this description of what God is doing in our midst. You will see many pictures and blessings shared in this Spring Newsletter, so allow me to share what is foremost on our heart as we share what God has been doing.

As many of you are aware, many companies are either closing down, or moving away from Bloomington/Normal area. This effects Ministry and More, Inc. and many other not-for-profits greatly. We have seen our funds drop much more than in past years. Some of our churches who support us have been led to cut funding to our ministry due to lack of income due to loss of jobs of members in their church. Pray for these churches as they struggle at this time. To further cause hardships, our client numbers have continued to climb due to

what I mentioned earlier. When you combine loss of funds, and increase in client needs, we qhave to stop and ask you our readers to consider becoming donors to Ministry and More, Inc. If you already donate, thank you! If you are able to increase your monthly gifts, it would be greatly appreciated. We do not have peace about lessoning our hours of operation, or being open less days to make our food last longer.



Alan McLaughlin,
director.

That would mean helping fewer families who depend us for help. We don't feel this is acceptable. We serve a Wonderful God who knows our needs, and we count on Him to generate all we need to fulfill our daily needs. Please pray for us at the pantry as we wait on Him to do this. God bless you, and please pray about what you can do on our behalf, depending on God to supply.
Love, Alan and Wilma

Thanks to our volunteers!

In December we had our Christmas volunteer luncheon at which two persons were honored for their years of service at Ministry and More, Inc. Mary Kerfoot has volunteered at Ministry and More, Inc. since it's inception in 2003. Mary works filling sacks for clients and in multiple ways organizing and stocking shelves, as well as in assisting with programs for our client children. Mary also volunteered at Home Sweet Home when Alan was a Director there. Mary's husband, Tom, has contributed many 'man' hours remodeling the pantry over the years.

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Mary Kerfoot and Terry Huff.

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Terry Huff was honored for his years of volunteer service as president of the board of directors of Ministry and More, Inc. We are thankful that although Terry stepped down as president this year, he faithfully remains on the board.

Roger Coleman was also honored as he retired from being on the board after many years at Ministry and More, Inc. Roger was honored with a plaque with his life verse, Judges 6:12 'when the Angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said "the Lord is with you Mighty Warrior"'.

In January our lady volunteers enjoyed a presentation by volunteer Abby Ruffcorn on Sharing the Gospel.

It takes 28 volunteers each week to keep this food pantry running smoothly. A big thank you to volunteers that have worked 'behind the scenes' – Harlan and Diane Fels and Christine Adcock, who faithfully kept the pantry 'spic and span' for the past year. They demonstrated one of our core beliefs, namely, that we honor the value of every person that enters our pantry seeking assistance.

One of the volunteer roles at Ministry and More, Inc. is meeting with those who come in requesting food. With warm smiles these volunteers welcome clients and offer to pray with them. Since our volunteers typically work the same days each week, clients feel comfortable with someone they have come to know and by whom they feel valued.

Betty Tripp

"I enjoy helping and praying with those who come in for help."

Janis Hoxie

"It's a blessing to be able to help people. I enjoy talking with them."

Yvonne Huber

"What I enjoy most is praying with the people."



Roger Coleman.



January volunteers.



Harlan and Diane Fels.



Betty Tripp.



Janis Hoxie.



Yvonne Huber.

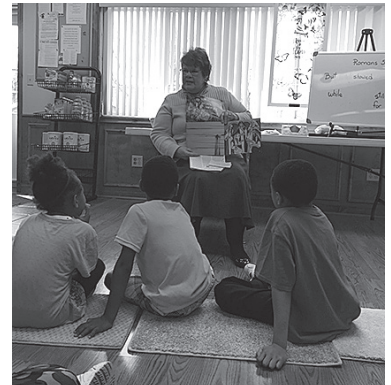
Children's Easter program coming soon

Saturday, April 1, will be an Easter party/program for children at the pantry from 9:30 to 11am. Margaret Archibald and Penny McLain will once again present Christ through story and song at Ministry and More, Inc.

The party is open to children ages 5 to 15!



Penny McLain.



Margaret Archibald.

Thankful for food drives

In March, volunteers from Lexington Community Church brought over 1,000 pounds of food from a month long food drive. This group of volunteers unloaded their vehicles, worked in the garage, and stocked the pantry shelves – what a great group of adults and teens from such a giving church. Thank you to Randy McKain, our newest board member, who headed this up!



Lexington Community Church

East White Oak Bible Church has had food drives for Ministry and More, Inc. in January and March already this year. It's always a blessing to see our friends, and family, at the food drives at East White Oak. East White Oak has been a faithful partner since the pantry's beginning. We are thankful for their commitment to Ministry and More, Inc.



Al, and grandson, Drew, at East White Oak Bible Church.

Calvary Christian Academy had a great food drive in January. Senior high school students unloaded food and stocked shelves along with their high school sponsor, Peter Duran. These students are learning first hand how to minister to others by ministering together! Calvary Baptist Church faithfully has a food drive on the first Sunday of each month, and has done so since the beginning of Ministry and More, Inc. We are thankful for their continued support and friendship from the beginnings of this ministry.



Senior students from Calvary Christian Academy.



Month long food drive by Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

In April we will see the results of an enthusiastic food drive by Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Church members will be dropping off the results of a month long food drive! Thank you to all who support Ministry and More, Inc. and our vision, to provide nourishment for the physical and spiritual needs of those whom we serve.

Ministry and More, Inc. is a food pantry located on the Westside of Bloomington, serving Bloomington/Normal and surrounding communities; solely supported by the generosity of individuals and organizations, and receive no assistance from government funding. Ministry and More, Inc. is staffed and run by those who seek to follow Christ, ministering to others by ministering together.