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



Ministry & More, Inc. Newsletter/Winter 2021

Alan McLaughlin Director



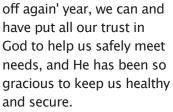
We have been distributing food with drive thru and under our new pergola in the warmer months up to the present. This has given our clients a sense of



security during the Covid/flu season. Now that colder weather is moving into the area, are moving back inside for food distribution, using our protective gear, shields, masks and distancing, to



keep our clients and volunteers as safe as possible. Even though the year has seemed like an 'on again,



Food drives have been steady and abundant - and our trips to Aldi have totaled only "1" during 2021! Praise the Lord for the food and many other needs that have been met by so many donors this year.



Alan McLaughlin, director.

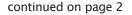
We have had donors from 4H provide us with hundreds of pounds of hog and steer, and our faithful



hunters plan to provide us again with deer meat! Thanks to all of you who are a very important part of what God has done all year long. Thank you so much for all you do for us and our clients each week! I have had opportunities this year to share with churches and schools

about our work at Ministry and More, and how we rely on them to keep our shelves full. I enjoy the question/answer time at the end the most of these opportunities. At a recent talk at a school In Pontiac, a young girl about 8 or 9 asked how long I had been at the pantry. I told her 11 years. She then asked how old I was when I started, and I told

> her 64. Then she said, so you are 75 now! I attempted to come up with a positive about my age when she finished her sentence with "but you don't look 75". I wished I







continued from page 1

had had a piece of candy for her about that time!

"Alice" is a client who also gives rides to the pantry for people who have no transportation. Alice recently told me about someone who was destitute that now sleeps on the floor of a friend. Alice asked if she could take groceries to her friend who is providing the food and a place to stay. Of course, we loaded her up. Then Alice asked if I was aware of where she could get additional help concerning housing, etc. I went into my office and got a brochure and application from a great not for profit organization that has helped

us with many thousands of dollars over the years for our clients and this ministry as well. When she saw the name on the brochure she was stunned, as the individual who heads up this foundation attends her church, and she knew him and his wife! Later she sent me a message and said "its amazing to see how God works in other peoples lives!" We see this each day here, and it's due to so many prayers, gifts of food, and donations that keep our doors open even when the enemy attempts to close them! God bless you! Alan

## **Coat Giveaway**

Once again we will be giving away much needed coats to our clients. At the end of last winter one of my wife's coworkers went shopping at the clearance rack at Walmart and purchased a number of new children's

coats and pajamas for the pantry. These won't last long, so if you or your group would like to donate new, or clean, gently used coats, please call to arrange a drop off – Thank you in advance!



## **New Volunteers!**

We have two new volunteers who have started since our last newsletter. Linda began with us just recently, working with our drive through clients. She is kept pretty busy on Tuesdays helping to unload our regular load from Midwest Food Bank and fill in to see clients too.



Another new volunteer is Bob, seen here working inside preparing bags for our clients and continuously loading our shelves and getting items out to the pergola for our volunteers to hand out.

Linda and Bob have been a good fit for our ministry. Both know Christ as Savior and are ready to

perform new responsibilities whenever we are short of help. If you have an interest in being a parttime volunteer, go to our website and complete the application on line, or call to request one by mail.



## **Shoot and Share**

For the past several years Mike Wehrenberg, a faithful friend of the pantry, organized a huge day of fellowship and door prizes for clay shooters from all over Illinois. Shooters paid to register to be a part of this big event which raised several thousand dollars towards Thanksgiving meals for our client families. Several months ago Mike was diagnosed with cancer and has now been through many procedures to battle this illness. Needless to say there be no Shoot and Share event this year to help us provide for Thanksgiving meals. Unknowing of this situation, someone made a financial donation that will cover the entire expense for Thanksgiving! God knows our needs before we do!! Please do pray for Mike, and his wife Marilee, who is a volunteer and board member. Many are already praying for Mike and now you, our loval readers and donors can join in praying for Mike and Marilee.



In order to save money in postage, please let us know if you could receive the newsletter by email!

Let us know at: minandmore@yahoo.com

Include your email address.
Thank you.

## 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.

- Health during upcoming fall and winter months for clients and volunteers
- Client's daughter for God's plan for her life and that she comes to know God intimately
- Son Josh healing from recent surgery
- To be salt and light to others and have gracious speech
- Pray for Mike and Marilee (see Shoot and Share story and photo on page 2)
- Upcoming holidays and more family member time may our Lord be honored

2 Winter 2020 2020 Winter 3