

BATESVILLE AREA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION FOOD PANTRY  
EIN 27-0950349



February, 2017

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy winter so far. Our second Empty Bowls event is behind us, and it went very well, although not as well attended as the first one. We're considering going back to November (or even October) rather than January, for the next one. Still, it was great seeing all the folks come out to support the Pantry and enjoy a bowl of delicious soup. Thanks to the many local restaurants that contributed them, as well as to Thrive Market for the crackers and chips they provided. It was a lot of fun and the proceeds will help us with our monthly expenses. On the other hand, a very bad event took place a couple of weeks later, with a major fire in downtown Batesville. Our own Sister Marge Wissman was on the spot helping with assistance via her Salvation Army connections, and the Food Pantry was asked to provide some personal care items in the immediate aftermath, even before the fire victims made their way to the Hampton Inn where most of them were temporarily housed. As we all know, the entire community of Batesville pitched in to provide cash, clothing, and many of the normal household items that we all take for granted until something like this tragedy occurs. Our heartfelt condolences go out to those who lost everything. The Ministerial Association will be helping in any and every way we can to help get these folks back on track.

We are now closing in on March, and that is when our clients will be receiving a few extras for their Easter dinners. Easter comes in mid April this year, so we are distributing our "holiday items" in March in order to make sure everyone receives them prior to the holiday. We've been setting aside some special treats as they come in as donations, and between them and what we had left over from Christmas we are in pretty good shape. Our clients will be receiving either a ham or a roasting chicken in addition to side dishes, such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, etc., extra vegetables, and a baking mix (cookies, brownies, cake) of their choice for dessert. Our clients are thrilled to receive these extras and we are proud to be able to offer them. Putting a smile on people's faces is one of life's little highlights!

Sincerely,

*Batesville Area Ministerial Association Food Pantry*