

Results of February Matching Challenge

Last month's Matching Challenge was a success! We were able to raise \$7,000 of the \$7,500 limit promised by the donor. She was generous enough to give us the remaining \$500, which brings the total to \$14,500. Thank you to everyone who donated. Your money will serve this community well.

January and February Volunteer Groups to Thank:

Mahomet United Methodist Church Youth Group

Theta Chi

Sigma Psi Zeta

Phi Sigma Rho

Sigma Nu

C-U Sunrise Rotary

Phi Gamma Delta



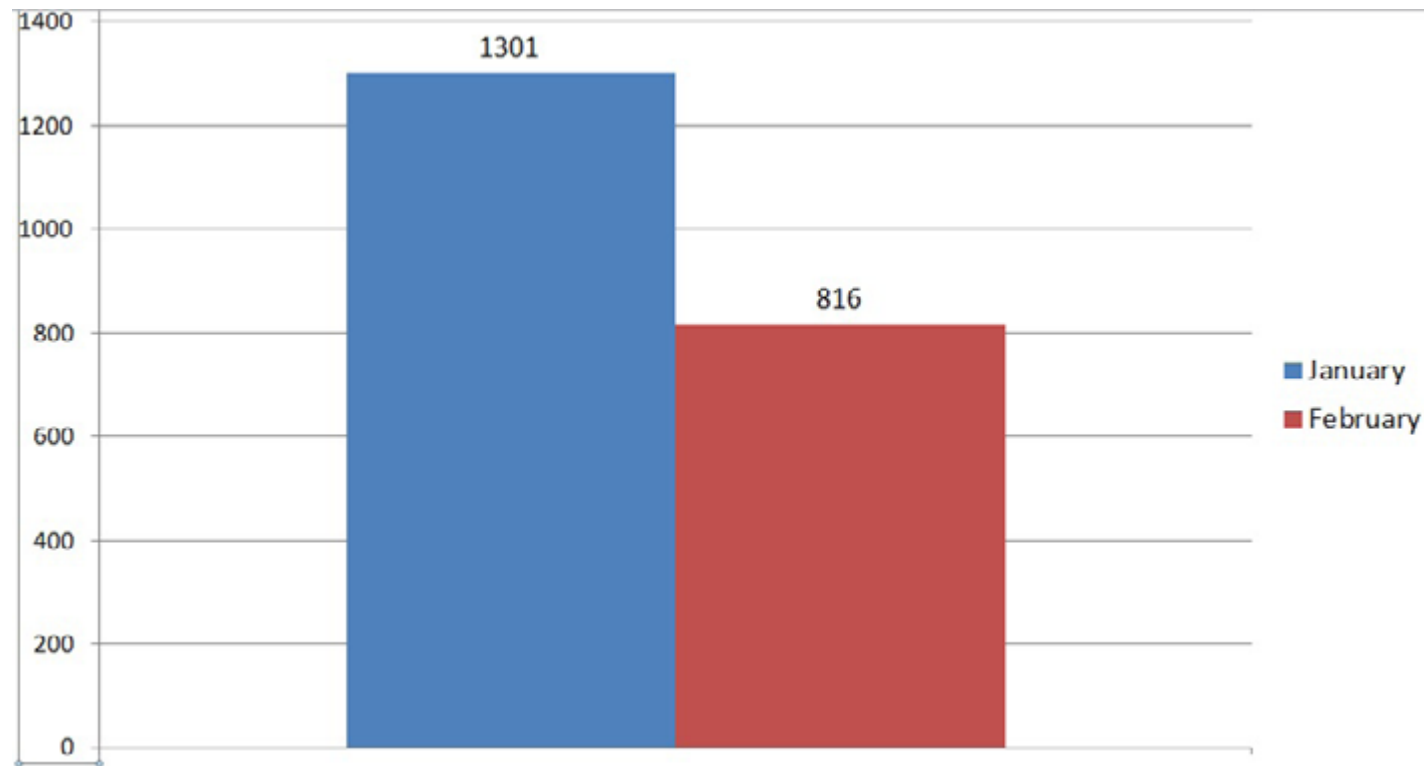
“What Happens If We Can’t Unload the Truck?”

Please come and volunteer with us in March! For the first time in a very long time the pantry falls over the University of Illinois' Spring Break.



That means we are very short handed as most students and faculty members will be on vacation. Invite friends, family, coworkers, etc. to sign up for a shift (or shifts) to volunteer with us and feel great about helping a neighbor in need!

Number of People Served in 2013



Upcoming Volunteer Events

New volunteer orientation	March 20th 7:30pm
New volunteer orientation	March 21st 2:00pm
Orange Krush Service Project	(April TBD)
New volunteer orientation	April 17th 7:30pm
New volunteer orientation	April 18th 2:00pm
Campus-Community Day of Service	April 20th
New volunteer orientation	May 15th 7:30pm
New volunteer orientation	May 16th 2:00pm

Thank You to the Following Businesses and Groups Who Have Provided Money For Groceries Since January 1st:

- * Wesley Scriptural Foundation Class
- * CU UMC Clergy Retirees
- * Etc. Coffeehouse
- * Star Karaoke
- * Community Shares of Illinois
- * Wesley UMW - Jan. treats
- * Volunteer Room, FP Night
- * Wesley United Methodist Women
- * Twin Springs Farm
- * Wal-Mart
- * Chifan Cheng DDS PC
- * College of Vet Med, U of I
- * U of I, Illini Rowing Erg-a-thon
- * U of I, Busey Evans Hall Council



Calling All (Wannabe?) Gardeners!

Vegetable Seed Packets are still needed for the March & April food pantry nights. Be on the lookout for good buys of vegetable seed packets, e.g. sometimes 5 packets for \$1.00. No need to plant them! Just leave the packets on the Sharing Shelves in the Center Office.

Tomato Starts - The Wesley Evening Food Pantry will again be giving out tomato starts at our April 18 pantry night. John Scott will again be our super tomato planter, but we'd like to have as many tomato seedlings to share as possible. In past years, families have been delighted to take home a couple tomato starts, in addition to their grocery bags, which they can plant themselves and enjoy in their homes. We may see 250-300 families in April, so that calls for a lot of tomato plants!

The U of I Extension has excellent information on how to start vegetables from seeds indoors. It takes 4-5 weeks for tomato seeds planted indoors at the end of March to be ready for planting outdoors in early May.

So check the Web for more growing info, read the tomato seed packet, put on your gardening gloves, and plant some tomatoes to contribute to the mission of our food pantry. Please let Judith Unger know how many plants you can provide at junger08@comcast.net.

Diaper Drive Continues

So far we have received 530 diapers! The diaper drive will continue until April 1st and we hope to receive as many diapers as possible. Donation boxes are stationed outside the pantry and in the Etc. Coffeehouse. Thank you for your contributions!





March Schedule of Community Services

The following resource information centers will be available for families at the March 21st food pantry. Members and friends of Wesley are also welcome to visit these centers in Watseka Lounge from 4:00-6:30 pm for additional information.

- * Information & Referral
- * Children's Center
- * Health Information
- * SNAP – Food Stamps
- * Tax Assistance
- * Education - Parkland College
- * Home Gardening - UI Horticulture
- * Shopping Coupons, Magazines, Puzzles
- * Community Services Bulletin Board
- * Seed Giveaway

FOOD PANTRY DATES TO **REMEMBER**

(Every Third Thursday of the Month)

March 21

April 18

May 16

June 20

July 18

August 15

September 19

October 17

November 21

December 19