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Greetings from your sisters and brothers in Christ at Faith Presbyterian Church!

Blessings to you during this Advent season. We sincerely hope that you have been doing well throughout 2020 during this challenging time. While our congregation is not worshipping together in person, we have been able to worship virtually and continue to remain in contact through Zoom calls, mailings and telephone calls.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Faith has worked diligently to keep our food cupboard doors open, even increasing the frequency of which we hold our distribution days each month. We have seen a steady increase, especially in recent months, in the number of individuals and families needing our assistance.

Prior to the pandemic, our food cupboard fed 200-300 people in a year. This year, during the month of October alone we fed 310 patrons and fed 289 patrons in November. While we feel spiritually fulfilled and thankful that we have been able to help so many in need, the costs have been both financially and physically straining. We've been blessed to have the support of our members and local community to help sustain us with the financial, food, and volunteer resources to operate – but that is becoming more and more difficult. Our food cupboard leadership has been devising plans for long-term sustainability, including partnering with other local organizations in order to keep our shelves stocked.

However, we strive to operate as independently as possible – with independence allowing us to feed as many mouths as we possibly can without contractual constraints placed on our abilities to serve. Thus, we are reaching out to ask for your help. There are two things of which we are in great need at this time:

1. Food/financial resources to keep our shelves stocked. Would you or your church/organization consider holding a food drive to support the Faith Food Pantry? Or would you be willing to encourage your members/organization to donate financially to our food cupboard online at our church website?
2. Volunteers. The saying “many hands make light work” rings so true. We are a small congregation with a big heart – but our size means that we are limited in the number of human resources we have in order to keep our pantry running. Our pantry is open three days each month, for two hours each of those days. Would you answer our call for volunteers? Included is a schedule of our 2021 food cupboard distribution dates & times, which is also available on our website.

If you or anyone you know is willing to assist in any of the ways mentioned above, we ask that you contact us via our website: www.franklinfpc.org/contact-us.

Thank you for your consideration and may God continue to bless your congregation in 2021.

Brandon Ward - Ruling Elder and Moderator – Mission & Outreach Committee

Jan Litscher - Ruling Elder & Food Cupboard Lead