

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS FOOD PANTRY REPORT FALL 2022

## 2022 ACTIVITIES

We have now been averaging about 100+ recipients weekly, always welcoming a few new people and we expect with the state of the economy and new people in the area this may continue to climb little by little. As of September 30, we have serviced 3,687 individuals which translates to helping feed 11,094 people considering family household numbers.

It's been 1 year since we began using the Greater Chicago Food Depository's new *Link2Feed* intake registration system via iPads and that has been going well. All recipients need to be registered in this Depository-wide system and we can help newcomers accomplish this any Tuesday (9am-12:30pm) they come to us for food. This system provides cards for a client's use to check-in at our pantry (every other week) or at any other pantry in the area that is affiliated with the GCFD.



We plan to go back to “inside” food distribution in our South Fellowship Hall beginning Tuesday, November 8. This will require some major adjustments (again) to our set-up and we are in the planning stages now for this change – many details to work out but with the pandemic waning and cold winter weather just around the corner (and at the urging of the Depository) we will return inside. Unfortunately, our recipients will now be the ones to “brave” the weather as they park their cars and walk up to our South door and wait in line to be serviced, but we all knew this day would come and our volunteers have valiantly braved the elements outside for over 2½ years! Inside distribution gives recipients more chances to choose what they want and the Depository has always stressed that their Agencies arrange for what they call more “client choice” options which clients will enjoy more and more of as time goes on.

The Pantry's condolences have gone out to its former directors, Walker & Carole Reach. We recently found out their son Dan passed away 4 months ago after battling cancer for a few years. May God bless Dan and please keep the Reach family in your prayers. We would also like to mention that when one of our volunteers, Jack McDonnell, passed last March, the LCC Pantry, as a memorial, made a contribution towards three trees that would be planted in his name and we received notice not too long ago from American Forests, who works in partnership with local organizations, that these trees have now been planted in the state of Oregon in one of their central forests to help with needed reforestation. This particular area was deemed currently of being in great need – they planted 900,000 trees there to replenish after fire damage. God bless Jack!

Also, our Pantry would like to congratulate long-time LCC member & pantry volunteer Katherine Ehlert who has been working as LCC's Minister and was just fully ordained in September—she's now officially Pastor Katherine!

In addition, we'd like to say, the success of LCC Pantry's would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers. We thank them and all the area churches, organizations, and individuals who support us in person and in spirit and with prayers and donations.

Thank you, thank you—God Bless All!



***Sincerely, Debbie Paddack, Julie Malin, Lori Becker, Co-Directors Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry***

***Lutheran Church of the Cross / 2025 S. Goebbert Rd. / Arlington Hts. IL 60005 / 847-437-5141 / [www.sharegodslove.org](http://www.sharegodslove.org)***