



INTERCHURCH
FOOD PANTRY
OF JOHNSON COUNTY

2023 in Review

1983 **40 years** 2023

of *imagining* a world without hunger

A Note from our Executive Director

As I reflect on the year that has passed, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support and dedication that donors and volunteers have shown to our food pantry throughout 2023. Their unwavering commitment and generosity have made a profound difference in the lives of those we serve, ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry. With heartfelt gratitude, thank you. – Carol Phipps



◀◀◀ To see those churches, community organizations and businesses that support the pantry, scan here.

2023 another record-setting year for the pantry

Interchurch Food Pantry Celebrates 40th Anniversary

From our beginnings in the church basement closet of Franklin Baptist Church in 1983, the pantry has served Johnson County residents for 40 years through the support and involvement of individuals, churches, businesses, and local organizations who actively serve as volunteers, provide financial donations and coordinate food drives. A culture of faith, respect, kindness, and compassion contributes to the pantry's longevity and ability to continually serve our Johnson County neighbors in need. We strive to make the pantry a welcoming and inclusive space, where everyone feels comfortable seeking assistance. Thank you, Mayors Steve Barnett and Mark Myers, for speaking at our celebration.



Recognition by Franklin College and the City of Franklin

Franklin College hosted the program Come to the Table: Interfaith Understanding through the Culinary Arts as a part of the Spirit and Place Festival. At the event, the pantry was recognized by the college and the City of Franklin for its 40 years of service to the community with a proclamation to honor the pantry's mobilization of nutrition resources to serve those in need.



Launching the Legacy Society

Celebrating the 40th anniversary in 2023 motivated us to look at how we can create even more financial sustainability for the pantry in the future. To facilitate that, we have established a Legacy Society, designed to grow our endowment fund. For more information about how to become a member of the Legacy Society, scan the QR code to access our online flyer.



40 year milestones

- 1983**
- Started in First Baptist Church, Franklin
 - Served 183 families

- 1993**
- Moved to Franklin Printers Storage Building
 - Served 821 families

- 2008**
- Moved to Farm Bureau Building
 - Served as disaster relief center providing flood assistance
 - Served 7,048 families

- 2012**
- Carol Phipps and Shelia Morton are co-pantry managers
 - Named Pantry Partner for Johnson County by Gleaners Food Bank
 - Served 8,848 families

- 2014**
- Increased visits to twice a month
 - Added weekend hours
 - Purchased a box truck





Food Donations Continually Increase

Over two years from 2021 to 2023 our food donations increased by nearly 350,000 pounds. The greatest growth has come from Gleaners Food Bank, Midwest Food Bank, Costco and local food rescue donations. We remain grateful for the consistent and heartwarming food drives hosted by organizations, individuals, and churches.



The pantry is proudly operated with **100% volunteers** – no paid staff.



Our New Look: The Canopy

To continue client preference for drive-through service, the pantry had a canopy constructed to replace the temporary tent. The canopy provides more protection for clients and volunteers during inclement weather conditions. The construction of the canopy was funded through grant and individual donations.



Resources matter ... partnership updates

We continue to welcome our nutrition partners, Purdue Extension, WIC, and Windrose Health Network, to join us weekly under the canopy to provide practical advice and tips for our clients. We also have other community partners, such as Johnson County Public Library and Central Nine Career Center, along with various health insurance organizations, that set up a booth under our canopy offering information about their resources. A listing of county-wide resources is posted to our website and a list is always handy for anyone with questions or needs.



FOLLOW US!

40 year milestones continued...

2015

- Moved to current location
- Karol Dougherty and Carol Phipps are co-managers

2016

- CROP Walk becomes Harvest Walk
- Started food rescue program

2020

- Carol Phipps named executive director
- Bonnie Woessner and Susan Klutts named managers
- Shift to drive-through service in response to the pandemic
- Increased visits to once a week
- Served 25,107 households

2022

- Continued drive-through service
- Began nutrition program partnership
- Served 34,157 households

2023

- 40th anniversary!