



Food Donations

We often receive inquiries about the types of food donations we accept, and one common question we often come across is, "Can I donate expired food?" We want to address this concern to prioritize the safety and well-being of those we serve.

The answer is a clear no - we do not accept expired food.

Here's why we have this policy:

<u>Safety First:</u> Ensuring the health and safety of our community members is our utmost priority. Consuming expired food can pose potential health risks, and we are dedicated to providing safe and nutritious options to those in need. <u>Quality Assurance:</u> We strive to offer the highest quality of food assistance. By accepting and distributing fresh, non-expired food items, we are able to maintain the standards of quality and nutrition that our community deserves.

How You Can Make a Difference: When donating food items, please take a moment to check the expiration dates. We warmly welcome non-perishable food items that are within their best-by or use-by dates.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us provide the best support to our community. Together, we can make a significant impact in ensuring everyone has access to safe and nourishing meals.



Good Friday Food Drive

As we continue to make progress in the year, we are reminded that this year's Good Friday will be celebrated earlier than in previous years. We are thrilled to announce our 3rd annual Good Friday Food Drive for an extraordinary Good Friday Food Box Giveaway on March 29, 2024. Just like in previous years, we will be providing one Food Box per vehicle to the first 100 vehicles to include ingredients to make 4 different meals with recipes included. We kindly request your valuable support in this meaningful endeavor by considering a food donation. These items should be donated by March 1st.

Items needed are:

Boxed or Pouches of Instant Potatoes, Gravy Mix, Egg Noodles, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Creamed Style Corn, Boxed Jello, Cool Whip, French Fried Onions, Jiffy Muffin Mix, Barbecue Sauce, Brownie or Cake Mix, Butter, and Canned Fruit.



Why Agape Chose Good Friday For Our Annual Distribution Box

During the Easter season, we come together to pay tribute and rejoice in the Resurrection of Christ, a powerful testament to Jesus' triumph over sin and death, providing salvation to those who have faith. The miraculous resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead serves as a fundamental affirmation of the Christian belief, embodying the core principles of Agape Ministries, Inc.

According to biblical records, Jesus willingly made the ultimate sacrifice on the cross on a significant day known as Good Friday. He rested for three days, and then, in a remarkable twist of fate, emerged victoriously from the grips of death on the joyous occasion of Easter Sunday.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



Do You Have The Luck of The Irish?

We celebrate St. Patrick's Day as a joyous occasion that not only honors the great Saint Patrick and the introduction of Christianity to Ireland but also because it serves as a vibrant celebration of the rich heritage and captivating culture of the Irish people. Please help our clients celebrate this occasion by helping us stock our food pantry with St. Patrick's Day food such as corned beef & cabbage or beef stew..

We kindly ask you to consider grabbing a few extra items to support our cause. We will begin distributing these items during the first week of March. Your generosity will make a significant impact on those in our community who are facing hardships.



Introducing Kris, our dedicated Program Manager, who has been an invaluable member of the Agape Ministries team for the past 2 1/2 years. Kris plays a vital role in overseeing the Client Programs and Food Pantry at the Client Services Building.

When she's not hard at work, Kris finds joy in cherishing quality moments with her loved ones and indulging her three adorable granddaughters.



Agape Thrift Store News

Our dedicated Santa's Helpers, also known as our college student employees, who generously return during their Holiday Break to assist us at the Thrift Store, have now headed back to college. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for their unwavering commitment to Agape and lending a helping hand when we need it the most.

As the Christmas clearance sales wind down, we eagerly turn our attention to the year ahead. Our store has been fortunate to receive a plethora of incredible donations in recent months, and we can't wait to showcase them on our sales floor.

Make sure to swing by and grab your winter essentials, as we have driveway salt, snow shovels, and windshield scrapers and covers readily available for those upcoming snowy days.



Get ready for Valentine's Day because we have some incredible treasures waiting for you in our Thrift Store. Discover a treasure trove of Valentine's Day delights in our Thrift Store. From enchanting themed outfits to adorable kids' cards, we have everything you need to make this Valentine's Day truly special. Don't miss out on finding the perfect gift for that special someone in your life. And that's not all - we're constantly adding new jewelry and other items every day, so keep your eyes peeled for even more surprises!

And mark your calendars for St. Patrick's Day on March 17th because we will soon be unveiling a fantastic selection of goodies. Make sure to swing by and check them out.

Watch our <u>Facebook page</u> for updates and featured items!

January Shout Outs

- We extend our heartfelt gratitude to St. Paul UCC of St. Marys for their incredibly generous donation of toilet paper this month. This often overlooked necessity is something that our clients deeply appreciate receiving in our Food Pantry on a monthly basis.
- Thank you Tony Wright for your generous donations of potato chips to our food pantry. Our clients appreciate the treat for their families.
- We express our deepest gratitude to the St. Isador Farmers for their incredible generosity of their time in providing us with the finest butchered, processed, and delivered meat. Not only does this benefit our food pantry, but it also extends its impact to many other food pantries in the surrounding area.
- We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Holy Redeemer for generously providing us with over 100 lbs of food this month. Your contribution has made a significant impact on the lives of our clients, far greater than you may realize.
- We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the compassionate individuals who have generously contributed to our food pantry and thrift store. By working together, we can ensure consistent access to essential programs and provide nourishing meals to those who are in desperate need. Let us unite and build a community that radiates not only brightness but also an abundance of compassion.



January Stats

- Agape Food Pantry served **391** people in **149** households.
- Agape Weekend Power Pack Bags were disbursed to **485** students.
- Senior Boxes were delivered to 15 people.
- Clothing vouchers were issued to **8** people.
- Household vouchers were issued to **3** people.
- Financial Aid was disbursed for **3** people.