

# OUTREACH AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

## **Carty Cupboard Food Pantry**

Carty Cupboard Food Pantry provides a three-day food supplement for hungry individuals and families who find themselves in need, regardless of age, gender, race, nationality, religious affiliation or personal circumstance. Cupboard visitors are kept confidential in a computer database, and are allowed to pick up food once each month. *Open to any resident of Worcester County*

**Mondays 6:00 – 7:00 pm**  
**Wednesdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm**  
**Fridays 10:00 am – noon**

Non-perishable food donations are collected at Epworth in the fellowship hall. Item of the month for December: *meal-in-a-can (chili, pasta, stew, beans, etc)*. Thank You to everyone who helped make this year's Thanksgiving distribution happen. Whether you donated food, money, or time you helped provide **260 families** in need with the makings for a very Happy Thanksgiving!

## **Spaghetti Supper Saturday January 14, 4-6 p.m.**

Our free community spaghetti supper is held each month on the second Saturday, 4-6 p.m. Everyone is welcome and volunteers are needed to help distribute flyers, setup, prepare/cook, serve, host, and cleanup. Contact Ariel or Lily Dungca at 508-892-3018. *Groups are encouraged to adopt a month in 2012.*

## **Veterans Inc. wish list**

Vets, Inc. requests white dress shirts, red ties and pocket squares (which will all be matched with Veterans Inc. navy blazers) so that all of the veterans can look uniform when they are participating in color guard for events/ceremonies that the organization might put on or requests from other organizations in need of a color guard.

## **Elm Park Community School "Walking Club"**

Our neighborhood school is partnering with the Worcester Art Museum for a special learning opportunity. The school is seeking to create a "Walking Club" that would walk kids to the museum around 11:30 a.m. and back around 1:45, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All walkers will submit information for a background check before being approved (this takes time). Please contact the church office if you are available to walk. *The principal is having trouble finding enough walkers and would like to have as many as are able to submit their information for CORI and then be on the list to schedule...you don't have to do it every day or week, but they need a good pool of volunteers.*

## **Elm Park Community School and Elm Park Ministries partner for change**

We have been meeting with members of the Elm Park School community, neighbors, parents, and administration to find ways to help this struggling school. The "walking club" (See above) is one way that you can directly help. Another is saving children's books in new/excellent condition for the new library in the works. The school does not currently have a library, but with the help of these neighborhood partners, we hope that there will soon be a place for these students to enhance their love for reading.

## **Many Gifts For 30 Needy Families at Norrback School**

Over 39 sets of pajamas, toys and books were collected, in addition to 22 books, 26 games, and 9 pajamas, were sent to Norrback School by our generous members in December. These gifts were distributed this week to very grateful parents. Thanks to everyone who included these families in your Christmas giving.

## **Announcing EARLY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING**

2011 brought several disasters to New England, especially in Vermont. The New England Conference currently has about 100 ERTs with UMCOR badges. We are in urgent need several more ERTs to help survivors of future flood/winter storm damage in New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont. Emphasis will be put on Mud-out and debris removal tasks during this training.

Two Sessions of Early Response Training (the UMCOR Basic ERT course) are scheduled to take place in 2012. One session is offered from 8:30 am – 5 pm on January 07, 2012 at the Milford UMC, 327 N. River Rd., Milford, NH. An alternate date and location is February 4, 2012 at the Cornerstone UMC, 20 Jenkins Rd., Saco, ME. There is a \$25 registration fee to cover the cost of Basic ERT manual, ERT T-shirt, morning refreshments, and lunch. The Rev. John Blackadar and David Stackpole, UMCOR certified trainers, will conduct this UMCOR training. Reply to this email for registration information.