

Feeding all who enter.

Stewpot Newsletter

December, 2019

For Information, contact chfrith@mac.com

Merry Christmas from
the Stewpot Board





The Church at Rock Creek decorated the Stewpot dining room for Christmas.

Our Mission

The primary mission of the Stewpot is to Feed the Hungry - "Feed whoever walks through our doors". The Stewpot is open from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday of each week providing a hot meal to the homeless, jobless, elderly, physically or mentally disabled and displaced families in the Greater Little Rock area. The Little Rock Stewpot has served over 1.5 million meals in the last 47 years.

Annual Appreciation Luncheon at the Arkansas Foodbank



Annual Appreciation Luncheon at the Arkansas Foodbank

Kay Shurgar and Nancy Howell attended the annual Appreciation Luncheon at the AR Foodbank Friday, October 11, 2019.

It was an information packed morning followed by a great southern luncheon out in the warehouse. Rhonda Sanders, CEO, gave a video talk thanking everyone for their support and use of AR Foodbank. Agencies that received grants were announced, and yes, Stewpot did receive a grant, which allows us to purchase more food for our diners.

Stewpot has purchased over 37,000 pounds of food, including meat and fresh produce from the AR Foodbank this year alone at an average cost of .26 per pound. It's an incredible deal which benefits everyone from diners to donors.

AR Foodbank creates new and innovative programming focused on serving hungry Arkansans with healthy and nutritious food. Programs like Food for Kids, Food for Families, and Food for seniors provide food and other resources. They help food pantries, soup kitchens, schools, colleges, shelters, senior centers and other agencies that provide aid directly to our state.

AR Foodbank is the largest hunger relief organization in the state serving 33 counties in central and southern Arkansas. They fed

257,000 Arkansans last year. AR Foodbank distributed 27.2 million pounds of food last year including 4 million pounds of produce. They provide 420 local partners with food, resources and education to reach those in need.

Sock It to Undie Sunday at Trinity Presbyterian



Undie Sunday was actually "Undie October" at Trinity Presbyterian Church. The collection point grew and grew each week overflowing the original containers. The youth got involved and raised well over \$100 to go towards extra purchases. An unexpected grant from Thrivent Financial Services Organization of \$250 really pushed up the total contribution. We are so thankful to the churches who participated in the Undie Sunday clothing drive and especially to Trinity who went above and beyond this year.

Sock It to Undie Sunday at Westover Hills



Westover Hills collected socks and underwear for the whole month of November. Church members brought underwear and socks to church on Sunday mornings and dropped it off in large collection bins in the Narthex of the church. Charlie picked it up and delivered it to Barbara at the Stewpot Clothes Closet.

THERE'S A NEW KID IN TOWN

Trader Joe's opened recently in Little Rock and wow are we grateful to their community spirit. Their management actually sought out Potluck Food Rescue in North Little Rock and is donating several times a week. Potluck has lots of great refrigerated space to store donated food safely. It is open to non-profits for pick up. The food they are giving us is absolutely fantastic as the pictures show. It is enabling Stewpot to offer more fresh fruit and produce to our diners while helping keep food costs down.

If you are out shopping at Trader Joe's, 11500 Financial Centre Pkwy, Little Rock, AR 72211 (where old Toys R Us



Store was located), please thank their manager for helping Stewpot and Little Rock.



Staff from Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Serves at Stewpot

The 1st Thursday Stewpot serve team got a break on Thursday, November 7, They were relieved by staff from the church administration office of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. See the photo below of all of the staff.



Students from Central Arkansas Christian School Bring Socks to Stewpot

Each year the sixth graders at Central Arkansas Christian School lead the charge to raise awareness and money from our campus to provide new, warm socks for the homeless. This year, the students raised \$830 and donated 855 pairs of socks (*455 to the Stewpot and 400 to River City*).

This is all part of our school's Mustang Missions effort. We want kids to serve in a way that God is glorified. We strive through these different missions to foster empathy and compassion in our students' hearts and lives. Part of the socks were donated to River City Ministries while the others were donated to The Stewpot. Students were blessed to pass out socks and help serve lunch at the Stewpot on Friday, November 15th. May God get all the glory!



ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET



CHOOSE GIFTS THAT GIVE **TWICE**

Westover Hills Helps Collect Money for the Stewpot

Westover Hills held its annual Alternate Christmas Market on Saturday and Sunday November 16th and 17th. A variety of Vendors sold their wares and donated their proceeds to a charity.

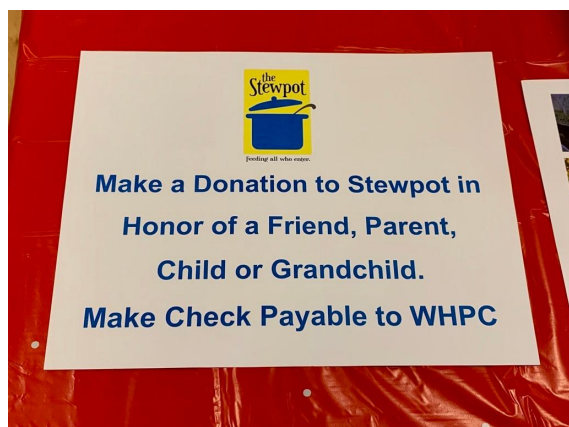
Charlie Frith, a member of Westover Hills and also a board member of the Stewpot, asked individuals to make a donation to the Stewpot in honor of an individual. He collected \$252.

Charlotte Frith and Kay McCollum, members of Westover Hills and owners of FMK sold coasters and notecards and donated half of their proceeds to the Stewpot. They collected \$573 – half for the Stewpot was \$286.50.

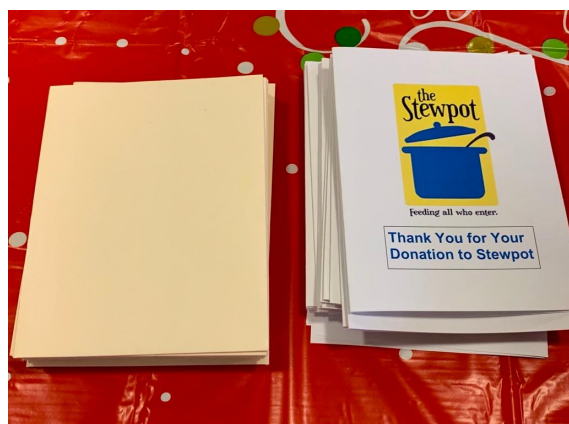
David Austin, music director of Westover Hills, and members of the Westover Hills choir cooked and sold gourmet hotdogs to the attendees of the



Charlie Frith collects donations for Stewpot



Make a donation to Stewpot



market. They asked for a donation of \$5.00 for each hotdog.

They collected a total of \$575 from the sale of the hotdogs, and an individual matched the total sale of the hotdogs for a donation of \$575 for the Stewpot.

The three different entities collected a total of \$1,733. for the Stewpot.

Thanks Westover Hills.



All of this for \$5.00



Gourmet Hotdogs for Sale



Kay McCollum and Charlotte Frith sell stone coasters to benefit Stewpot



Coasters for Sale



David Austin, Music Director of Westover serves a gourmet hotdog.

Stewpot Receives Grant from the Arkansas Community Health and Education Foundation

The Stewpot was recently notified that they had received a

grant from the Arkansas Community Health and Education Foundation for \$4,290 to purchase all new tables and chairs for the Stewpot dining room. Tables and chairs will be ordered in January.

Save the Date!

Baptist Health Community Outreach
offers FREE Blood Pressure and Blood
Sugar Screenings and its' Winter
Giveaways

Friday, December 13, 2019

First Presbyterian Church - Stewpot
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.



Baptist Health Community Outreach

Baptist Health Community Outreach handed out backpacks to Stewpot Patrons containing a sweatshirt, socks, hat and a bag of toiletries





Stewpot Gets New Lift for Conveying Supplies Upstairs

For many years Ed and Ced have been forced to hand carry tons of food up multiple flights of stairs to our pantry. Thanks to Werner Schwarz's design and fabrication skills and the generosity of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, we now have a power lift that can move the food directly from the trucks to the pantry. On the first use, two full trucks with over 2,000 pounds of food were unloaded and into the pantry in under an hour. Plus we saved Ed and Cedric's backs. Many thanks to Werner and Trinity's Matthew 25 Ministry.



To see the conveyor system in operation, click on the photo at the right.

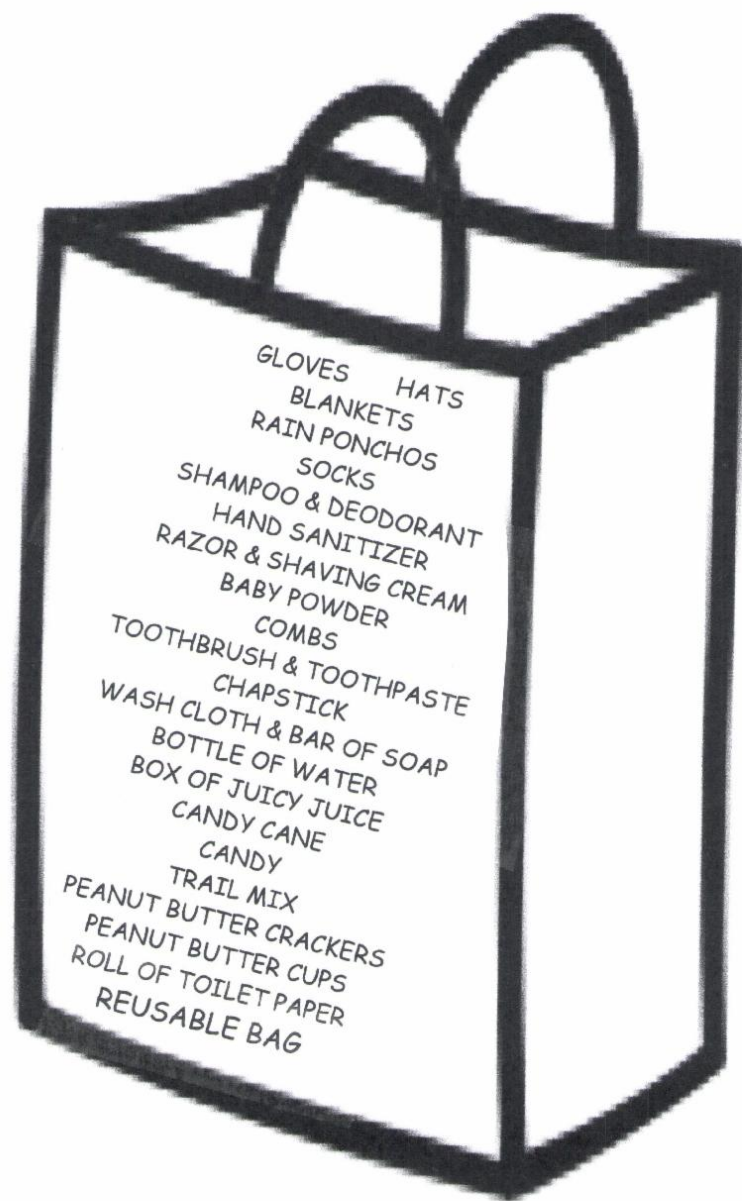


Stewpot Christmas Gift Bags

This year Trinity Presbyterian Church stepped up and collected many items for the Stewpot Christmas Bags. All Sunday School classes, the choir and many other individuals contributed either items or money toward this special project. The women's Wednesday morning group collected blankets and assembled personal hygiene items into 150 bags. Thanks to Natural Grocers on Rodney Parham for their donation of 100 colorful bags used for the gifts.

Any extra items or donations go into a special fund to help purchase items needed in the clothing room. Each week at Stewpot 80-100 people receive clothing room items. That's 4,000 - 5,000 people a year! A huge thank you to all the groups and individuals who generously donated to the Christmas Bags. You have made Christmas merry, bright and special for our diners.

STEW POT CHRISTMAS BAGS 2019



Contents of Gift Bags



150 Gift Bags



Gift Bag Assemblers



Giving Out the Gift Bags

Clothes Closet

*"I needed clothes and
you clothed me."*

Matthew 25:38

Season's Greetings from the Clothes Closet!!! We are having a bustling time currently! Donations have picked back up (which is wonderful). Our third annual "Undies Sunday" went well, and we are currently well stocked on panties and socks (which is also wonderful). However, shoes (especially men's) are in short supply. So, after

Santa delivers all those great gifts, including new shoes, please look around and see if perhaps you have used shoes that could be put to use downtown.

We want to thank everyone for their generosity this year and wish one and all a very happy holiday season!!! See you next year!!!

Barbara

Stewpot Video

To see a short video about the Stewpot, click on the Stewpot below.

[Stewpot](#)

Stewpot Holidays

New Year's Day

Martin Luther King Day

Good Friday

Memorial Day

Independence Day (4th of July)

Labor Day

Thanksgiving

Friday after Thanksgiving

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

**Change in Stewpot
Holidays Serving**

**During Christmas week the
Stewpot will be opened only
on Monday and Friday,
December 23rd and 27th.**

**In January The Stewpot will
be closed on Wednesday,
January 1st.**

**Interested in joining us to support this great cause?
Click o Volunteers below to volunteer and click on
Donation to make a donation to Stewpot.**



**[800 Scott Street, Little Rock, AR 72201]
[501) 372-1804] [chfrith@mac.com]
[<http://www.stewpot-littlerock.org/>]**