

## Stewpot December 2023 Newsletter

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**In Memory of Barbara Polite**  
**This Newsletter is dedicated to the**  
**memory of Barbara Polite. Barbara was**

**a member of First Presbyterian Church and was on the Stewpot Board. She was in charge of the Stewpot Clothes Closet for the last ten years. Barbara will be sadly missed by all of the Stewpot Board Members, volunteers and the diners. Barbara died on November 20 from complications following several weeks of illness.**

**The memorial service for Barbara Polite will be 2:00pm January 7, 2024 at First Presbyterian Church, 800 Scott St, Little Rock, AR.**



**We will miss you!**





## **Merry Christmas from the Stewpot Board**

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### **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**

Wednesday, October 11 our diners enjoyed a served-up



meal. The temperature drop was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Lynn Walton for photographing the event.

Trinity Presbyterian Team II assisted in making the day special for everyone by serving BBQ chicken sandwiches, 50 pounds of homemade potato salad, coleslaw & BBQ chips The lunch was finished with multiple flavors of chocolate truffle candies. We were unable to serve the candy before due to the extreme heat.

Our numbers continue to be about 137 daily. That's lots of food consumed every day! We are so thankful to have the AR Hunger Relief Alliance grant for produce and protein again this year, allowing us to provide our diners with nutritious meals.



## Little Rock Chinese Community Donates Food to the Stewpot

A generous lady from the Little Rock Chinese Community called Jason and said her group would like to donate some food to the Stewpot **and** asked what we needed.

Jason told her we could always use **lunch** meat and chips. They delivered two large boxes of assorted potato chips and 20 pounds of sliced ham. Jason said the ham should be enough to make sandwiches for three days. **Thank you Little Rock Chinese Community.**







## Thanksgiving Boxes from Stewpot

A small group of Christians from the Maumelle area who worship at the Pleasant Valley Church of Christ have been trying to do as the early Christians did as found in the Book of Acts 2:42 – “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” This group is asking God to

challenge it with opportunities to serve outside of its typical community.

Last week, they were able to contribute 5 boxes of traditional Thanksgiving food so that individuals might have less stress and food worries and feel that they have been blessed by others who were thinking of them during this holiday time. Likewise, the Maumelle group feels blessed to partner with The Stewpot to find 5 families that seemed they would benefit from such a gift of love.

The 5 boxes were delivered last week and included a complete meal (still required “fixing”). The boxes included the following items: \$15 gift card to Walmart for choice of meat, 2 14 oz. Cans of Green Beans, 1 14 oz can of Cranberry sauce, 2 cans whole kernel corn, 2 14 oz cans of Yams, a bag puffed small marshmallows, 2 boxes of Stove Top Stuffing mix, 2 boxes of mac n’ cheese, 1 box cake mix and 1 can of frosting to match the cake mix.

God is good....all the time.















# Thanksgiving Feast







**“Go ahead and make my day.”**

And so, we did make approximately 150 diners' day by serving a big Thanksgiving feast Tuesday, November 21, 2023. The serving crew was from Pulaski Heights

Presbyterian Church plus a few new volunteers. The weather was cloudy with just a nip of cool in the air..

Turkey and dressing, fruit salad, yams, green beans & potatoes, plus rolls, butter and pumpkin pie was on the menu. All the food was eaten because the diners were able to go back for seconds.

To say the meal was appreciated would be an understatement. So many folks thanked us as they went down the line, choosing just what they wanted. For many this is the only Thanksgiving fare they will have.

We always take time to help those in a wheelchair or on a walker get their plates and drinks. We also know which diners need an extra plate for someone sick at home.

It is a privilege and honor to serve a special Thanksgiving meal to the Stewpot diners..

The Stewpot was closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23-24 for Thanksgiving Holiday.



















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## The Stewpot Board Prepares Christmas Gift Bags



The Stewpot Board met on Monday, December 11th. Following the **board** meeting, five of the board members stayed after the meeting was over and assembled 144 Christmas Gift Bags for Stewpot diners. The bags contained a poncho, gloves, hat, socks , blanket, wash cloth and a bar of **soap**, water bottle, jar of hand cream and some crackers and candy.,

The Christmas bags were distributed during the lunch hour on Monday, December 18.



# Thanks to Trader Joes for their donation of the gift bags.









## Stewpot Hands Out Christmas Bags to Diners

On Monday, December, 19, Stewpot volunteers handed out 144 Christmas Bags. The bags were handed out during the normal lunch hour from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. The bags were gone by 12:35 p.m.













# Stephens, Inc. Donates to Stewpot

Stephens, Inc. recently gave their employees either a ham or turkey for Christmas. They had a few left over and delivered two turkeys and 3 hams to the Stewpot on





Wednesday afternoon, December 13.

**Thanks, Stephens, Inc.**

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## **Stewpot Christmas Feast**

The Stewpot served a Christmas Feast to the Stewpot diners on Wednesday December 21st. While Christmas music played in the background, Stewpot volunteers served a Christmas Feast consisting of rolls and butter, dressing mixed with turkey breast, sweet potatoes, peas and carrots, fruit salad and homemade cherry pie for dessert.









# Baptist Health Bags

On Thursday, December 21st, three nurses from Baptist Heath brought 100 snack bags and 100 bags containing a sweatshirt and a pack containing variety of health related items including a covid test, masks, soap, hand sanitizer, etc. The snack bags contained a variety of food items. The bags were handed out during the normal lunch hour from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and were almost gone by 12:30 p.m. **Thanks Baptist Health!!**





## Special Announcement

**The Stewpot will be closed for the holidays from December 25 through January 1st and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.**

# Volunteers Needed!



Volunteers are always needed at the Stewpot. Volunteers typically help prepare sack lunches one day a month, i.e., a certain day of the month and usually work only once a month. There is nothing to preclude working more than once a month. Normal working times each day are from



9:00 am - 11:00 am. Volunteers help make sandwiches and whatever else is being served that day. Something hot, such as soup, stew, or wraps are served once or twice a week. Also, the items must be placed in paper bags which Jason and Yolanda carry down to the serving area. For special occasions, a hot meal is prepared and served downstairs rather than sack lunches. For these occasions, the regular team prepares the food and a special team serves the food to the diners. The teams have fun and interact with each other as they volunteer at the Stewpot.

**Rather than volunteering for a single day or two, consider volunteering a specific day of each month (I,e,. the first Monday of each month, the second Tuesday of each month or the 4th Wednesday of each month, etc.**

**Please consider volunteering**

**For more information or to  
volunteer, contact the  
Stewpot at:**

**stewpotlr@gmail.com**

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**Clothes Closet**

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

Matthew 25:38

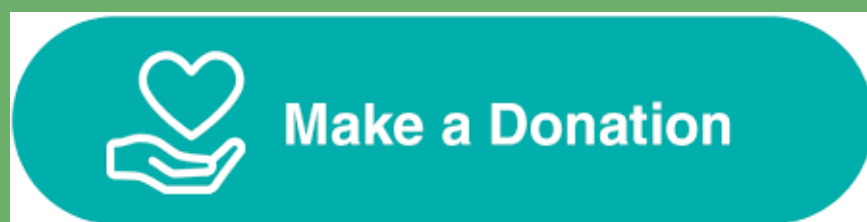


# Clothes Closet Update



Barbara has been heading up the Stewpot Clothes Closet for many years. She recently had some extreme serious health issues and died from complications on November 20th. As a result, the Stewpot Board voted to close the Stewpot Clothes Closet permanently as of December 21, 2024. Barbara will be missed by all.

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## Make a Donation to Stewpot

Stewpot's financial support comes from donations from churches and individuals. With food costs rising and our numbers increasing each month, we really need your

financial support. Please help support the Stewpot. Make an online donation by clicking on Make a Donation below. When you click on Make a Donation, you will have the option of making an online donation with either PayPal or a credit card.

[Make a Donation](#)

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