

# PANTRY PICKIN'S



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## Upcoming Events

*Pastor's Pot May 4, 2013*

## Financial Assistance:

First, Third and Fifth Friday of each month.

## THIRD ANNUAL PASTOR'S POT RUNNETH OVER

The Third Annual Pastor's Pot Runneth Over is coming on May 4, 2013. The event will take place from 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Jasper United Methodist Church.

For those of you that are not familiar with the Pastor's Pot, it is fashioned in a similar vein as A Taste of Pickens. Patrons will buy tickets in order to have a "taste". However, instead of the area restaurants providing that "taste", the churches of Pickens County have brought out their best cooks from each congregation to showcase their talents.

Participating area churches include: Jasper United Methodist Church, Episcopal Church of the Holy Family, New Lebanon Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church of Jasper, King of Kings, Mount Zion, Our Lady of the Mountains, Timothy House, Trinity Church, Trinity Tabernacle, CARES Cooks and Mountain View Alliance Church. This not the entire list, we are still adding others as you read this.

Pastor's Pot is a fundraiser to benefit CARES. Each ticket costs \$10 and can be purchased at Bank of North Georgia and Jasper Drugs. We look forward to seeing you there to see which Pastor will take home the coveted



## CARES VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Kathy Bostick is a kind, loving giving person who is willing to go the extra mile to help anyone she sees in need.

She came to CARES five years ago as a client but she eventually came to the decision that she would like to be a volunteer here as well. "As a Christian, I wanted to be a part of a Christian organization. One that was not only a God believer, but one who also puts their time into helping His children. If I had to refer someone to God's service, it would definitely be at CARES," she says.

Kathy has risen to the top as the Section Leader on Wednesdays and Fridays. She is an effective leader, never asking anyone to do something she would not first do herself. She is always efficient in her efforts and goes out of her way to make sure CARES is thrifty when purchasing supplies that are used.

She has also recruited her family to help including her husband Tommy and daughter Sharron and even the grandkids are a big part of CARES. We would like to thank Kathy for her unselfish devotion to our organization and hope she is able to continue to do God's work with us for many years.



Kathy Bostick

*"As a Christian, I wanted to be part of a Christian organization."*

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## FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

We are all rolling right along into the full swing of 2013. For some reason we are seeing about 20 families per week less for the food so far this year over the average for the last two years. Hopefully, things are better for some folks. We are continuing our TCC program at full levels despite losing the state grant through Thrive to Five. Some exciting things are going on in food counseling as we strive to improve and help deeper with clients.

Financial Assistance is doing quite well under the leadership of Fran Bishop. CARES is very blessed in 2013 involved in a new weekend snack program for needy school kids. (170+ kids are involved now). We finished renovating our truck recently. With a new refrigeration unit installed we spent \$19,700 on this project and 94% of it was paid for by a foundation.

Our Pastor's Pot Runneth Over fundraiser on May 4th should go again real well. We have a big first fundraising dinner (paid for by Paul Kiker) on tap for May 21st. And we have had several new great volunteers come our way already this year.



*Larry*

*"CARES is truly blessed in 2013 and I give God the Glory."*

## FROM THE FRONT LINES

This article is often used as a means of keeping everyone up-to-date about what is happening at CARES. Such as a recent description of the Photo ID system that we use with our clients. Many times we talk about our volunteers in a particular area and the clients they encounter during their time at CARES.

This time we would like to highlight a few of our clients and how they have helped each other and themselves.

Recently we had a client come in during a particularly cold day (and there has been a few of those). This gentleman was in need of a coat, some better shoes and other warm

items. There were two ladies here waiting to get their food when they found out that the gentleman was in need. They offered to take him over to the Thrift Store and help him get the items he needed in order to stay warm.

Another gentleman came in one day on a day we were not open to the public. He gave us a very generous cash donation and explained that at one time we had helped him in his time of need and now he was in a much better place financially so he wanted to give back to us so that we could continue to help others in need. He was most appreciative of all we had done for him.

There are many, many more stories out there

that we are not aware of. We just wanted to give you a glimpse into the lives of a few of our clients so that you could also enjoy the good things that come out of a sometimes bad situation.



*“We would like to highlight a few of our clients. . .”*

### 10 Statistics About the Working Poor That Will Blow Your Mind\*

The following are 10 statistics about the working poor in America that will blow your mind...

**#1** According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **more than 146 million Americans** are either "poor" or "low income".

**#2** The U.S. economy continues to trade **good paying jobs** for low paying jobs. **60 percent** of the jobs lost during the last recession were mid-wage jobs, but **58 percent** of the jobs created since then have been low wage jobs.

**#3** Back in 1980, **less than 30%** of all jobs in the United States were low income jobs. Today, **more**

**than 40%** of all jobs in the United States are low income jobs.

**#4** Low income families spend about **8.6 percent** of their incomes on gasoline. Other families spend about **2.1 percent**.

**#5** According to one survey, **77 percent** of all Americans are now living paycheck to paycheck at least part of the time.

**#6** In 1989, the debt to income ratio of the average American family was about **58 percent**. Today it is up to **154 percent**.

**#7** According to Forbes, the 400 wealthiest Americans have more wealth than the bottom 150 million Americans **combined**

**#8** The six heirs of Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton have a net worth that is roughly equal to the **bottom 30 percent** of all Americans combined.

**#9** The number of Americans on food stamps has grown from **17 million** in the year 2000 to more than **47 million** today.

**#10** If you can believe it, the federal government hands out money to **128 million Americans** every single month.

\* From "35 Statistics About the Working Poor in America That Will Blow Your Mind." - theeconomiccollapseblog.com

*“The number of Americans on food stamps has grown. . .to more than 47 million today.”*

# WE GOT A "NEW" TRUCK!!

We received a blessing from the Waterfall Foundation in Atlanta when they gave us a \$18,000 grant to help us refurbish our CARES truck and make it a refrigerated truck. After many trips to many locations, the box of the truck was made into a refrigerated box that can maintain a temperature of 41 degrees and the truck has also been repainted and re-stenciled. By refrigerating the truck, we are now able to get more inventory from our local Kroger including fruits and vegetables and meats and such. This is also advantageous when going for pickups at the Atlanta Community Food Bank and to Wal-Mart. We truly appreciate the grant from the Waterfall Foundation.

89 Cares Drive  
P. O. Box 1342  
Jasper, GA 30143

706-253-4777  
Food Ministry/Director

706-253-4778  
Financial Assistance

### Hours of Operation

*Monday*  
1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.  
(food only)

*Wednesday*  
10 a.m.—Noon  
(emergency food only)  
(new clients)

*Friday*  
8:30 a.m.—Noon  
(food)

*Financial Assistance is provided the first, third & fifth Friday of each month. The first 10 financial clients are assisted.*

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*If you know someone who would like to volunteer, please have them call Larry Starr at 706-253-4777*

