



September 9, 2019

Dear Pastor,

Once again this Thanksgiving, Faith Coalition Edwardsville would like to invite your congregation to join with other churches to provide Thanksgiving baskets to clients of the GlenEd pantry. Each basket will contain all the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner for one family. What a wonderful way to share the love of God with our neighbors!

In years past, the baskets have cost about \$30 apiece. With the combined efforts of as many churches as possible, we hope to raise \$6725 to provide up to 225 baskets, many of which are picked up by clients at the pantry, and others delivered to residents of the May building. To raise the funds, we propose a designated offering to be collected at participating churches. Contributions are also being sought from area merchants, and from individuals who shop at Restore Décor. Any monies collected in excess of the amount needed, would be given as a donation to the pantry, to be used for other needs throughout the year.

There are some great opportunities for your members to participate in this effort besides (or in addition to) financially.

- We will need volunteers to deliver the baskets on Monday, November 25.
- We can include messages of encouragement in the baskets. Perhaps your Sunday School children or others would like to make cards, or your Outreach team would like to include information about your Christmas service times or other programs.
- During the fundraiser, Restore Décor will also accept donations of other items frequently needed at the pantry. We can provide a list, if your members would like to collect these items.

We will finalize our order of baskets the week before Thanksgiving, for delivery the Monday of Thanksgiving week, so we would like all monies to be collected by Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Checks may be made out to "Faith Coalition Edwardsville" and sent to our address below.

With robust participation from GEMA churches, we can live out our call to be disciples by providing for the physical needs of "the least of these."

In Christ,  
Michelle Babb  
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*Uniting area churches in common mission*  
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