



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MORE THAN TWELVE HUNDRED EXPECTED TO BENEFIT FROM FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER AT COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(ROCKFORD, IL, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025) THANKSGIVING dinner will be celebrated by more than 1,000 local residents during the annual, free Thanksgiving Dinner at Court Street United Methodist Church. The dinner, which is one of Rockford's largest, will begin at 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27th and continue until 1 p.m.

"This is a wonderful tradition of caring and love that has been going on since 1981 at Court Street United Methodist Church," pointed out Sue Cram, Thanksgiving Chair. "Everyone is welcome to attend, but we especially want the homeless and those who find themselves alone to know they are welcome to take part." We will again be handing out carryout and drive-through meals to our guests (limit 2 per person). Approximately 125 volunteers will help prepare the turkey breast needed, along with mashed potatoes, vegetables, dressing, cranberry sauce, and 175 pies. In addition to meals, we will distribute winter clothing items such as scarves, gloves, hats, warm socks, sweatpants, and sweatshirts and small personal care items like lotion and lip balm.

Court Street United Methodist Church is located at 215 North Court Street in downtown Rockford. All are welcome to attend, and the media is encouraged to cover the event. "This wonderful dinner wouldn't be possible without the help of our loyal and caring volunteers," added Cram. Volunteer opportunities are still available, and donations of new or gently-used winter clothing items, personal care items, and bottles of water are appreciated; drop-offs are accepted on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until 12 noon or by appointment. Contact the church office at 815-962-6061 during business hours (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) for additional information.