

The Twice-Blessed Thrift Shop – Community Caring in Action

Rev. Margery Rossi

In June 2017, the First Presbyterian Church of Wappingers Falls temporarily closed the Thrift Shop and Food Pantry, which had been located at 2578 South Avenue, to make that space available for rent as an apartment, in response to the urgent need for housing after the fire on Main Street.

More than 60 volunteers from Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, Thrivent Financial Services, Wappingers Falls Business & Professional Association and the community came together with members of the congregation to move the entire inventory of the shop in one day, and then came back together two months later to paint almost the entire apartment - also in one day!

This remarkable volunteer effort meant that new tenants were able to move into the refurbished 3-bedroom apartment in October 2017, after a blessing and dedication ceremony that kicked off Building on Faith Week.

The Food Pantry re-opened in July 2017 in its new location in the church building, only missing one week of distribution, and continues to serve families in need ever 2nd and 4th Saturday from 9-11 AM.

After the food pantry was re-opened and the apartment was completed, dedicated volunteers from the congregation then turned their attention to the Thrift Shop and the rooms in the church building which will be its new home. Church members have worked diligently to clean, clear, paint and prepare the space and set up the shop.

It was a long process, but we are ready for customers! Join us as we celebrate on April 7, 2018!