



Guide to Good Giving

Your interest in giving is so appreciated and leads to local families having food on the table, clothing to wear, lights and water in homes, and other necessities. God bless you!

Tips for donating food to our pantry:

- Please check expiration dates. We cannot distribute food that has expired or has been opened and be sure to bring food during our hours of operation rather than leaving it outside.
- Be sure to bring food during our hours of operation so that it may be taken inside rather than staying outside in the elements.
 - **Food Donations** are accepted at the **Ministry Building:**
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
9:30am – 4:00pm
- We are unable to subdivide large bags or boxes of food. Extremely large cans of vegetables, for example, may be better for a soup kitchen.
- Consider how practical your donation is. If you were selecting items for a hungry individual or family, what would you include to make sure that they had multiple, nutritious meals for the coming week? Storage space in our pantry is always at a premium; we welcome items that can be widely distributed.
- Many food pantries also give toiletries, cleaning supplies, paper products, and diapers.
- The best strategy is to ask for a wish list from the food pantry and add items to your weekly shopping list rather than cleaning out your home pantry. Multiples of the same item are very welcome!
- Let us know if you need assistance in getting your donations out of your vehicle; we're glad to help and normally have a staff member or volunteer available.

Tips for donating clothing and household items to the thrift store:

- Please check boxes that have been in storage to be sure that the items inside are still in good shape. Our southern heat destroys fabrics quickly, for example, and critters often inhabit stored boxes.
- Consider how sellable your items are. Are they in good enough shape for customers to buy them in a thrift store? We do give away many clothing and household items to clients in need, but the money that we make from thrift store sales also supports the ministry financially.
- If pieces of clothing or linens have stains, holes, or other issues, they can be donated in a bag labeled "recycle" and given to us. Please go through your donations before bringing them to us to determine whether they are usable. Your helping us sort prior to donation will go a long way—thank you!
- Donations left when we are not on duty often get wet, stolen, or strewn about in our parking lot. Unfortunately, they normally end up having to be discarded.

- **Clothing & household items** are accepted in the **Thrift Store Donation Lot:**
Monday – Friday
9:30am – 5:00pm

The entrance to the donation lot is located at 7 Monterey Ave, North Augusta, SC 29841

- Calling ahead to be sure we can accept large or large amounts of donations is always a good strategy.
- Timing is everything; donating Christmas items in late fall works perfectly, and donating clothing that is “in season” (i.e. sweaters during fall and winter) helps tremendously.
- Our space is extremely limited, so we take donations inside a little bit at a time for processing. We sort and price as quickly as possible; sometimes your donation is priced, placed in the store, and sold on the same day! Your donations may be outside in a cart or bin for a short amount of time, but we will get to them as fast as we can.
- If you need assistance in getting your thrift store donations out of your vehicle, please consider bringing a friend with you to help unload. Our hardworking thrift store staff handles a high volume of donations, which means that they are not always available or able to assist with unloading.

Many thanks to our extremely supportive community!

Keep up the good work and let us know if you are interested in joining our team of volunteers by contacting us via email or phone.



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