



December 11, 2024
A Note from Erin West
Executive Director, Hilliard Food Pantry Plus

Dear HUMC,

As we enter this season of giving and gratitude, I'm thrilled to share exciting updates about the work happening at Hilliard Food Pantry Plus (HFP+) (<https://www.hilliardfoodpantry.org/>) and how your generous support is making an impact in our community. This year, your partnership is helping us expand our services and provide essential resources to neighbors in need.



Opening the Share Closet

We are delighted to announce the opening of our new Share Closet! (<https://www.hilliardfoodpantry.org/share-closet.html>) This initiative offers pantry members access to clothing and essential household items at no cost, creating an additional layer of support for families who may be struggling.

Your involvement can make a real difference — whether it's through donating gently-used items, volunteering to organize and run the closet, or spreading the word to those in need. **Together, we can ensure that everyone in our community feels cared for and supported.**

We are accepting donations starting Saturday, December 21, 9am-12pm, and every Saturday thereafter in our new location at 4410 Cemetery Road (where the pantry used to be). If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to Brenda Martinez Nieves at bmartinez@hilliardfoodpantry.org.

How Your Christmas Offering Helps



This year, half of Hilliard UMC's Christmas offerings will support HFP+ programs such as utilities assistance, which provides crucial relief to families struggling with unpaid bills. For many, this support is the difference between warmth and cold, light and darkness.

Due to rising needs, we've already spent 37% more than budgeted this year, making your contributions more vital than ever in keeping homes safe and families secure. Click or tap here to make your special Christmas offering now, or bring cash or check to church on Sunday. (<https://hilliardumc.org/giving/>)

Join Us in Spreading Holiday Joy

On December 13 and 14, we'll host our annual Holiday Store, where pantry members can select gifts for their children, bringing joy and dignity to their celebrations. We anticipate serving 800 children this year.

Your generosity makes this event possible, and we're grateful for your commitment to spreading holiday cheer. If you'd like to volunteer for the event, you can sign up here. (<https://hilliardumc.org/pages/make-a-difference/>)



Together, we are building a community where everyone has the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

Wishing you peace and joy this holiday season,

Erin



Erin West
Hilliard Food Pantry Plus
Executive Director
ewest@hilliardfoodpantry.org

