



## Mission Statement

Churches United is a nonprofit organization of Bemidji area churches lead by the Spirit of Christ to work together to meet the emergency needs of homeless and low-income people in a prayerful way.

**"Welcoming the Stranger as Jesus"**

Monthly Newsletter  
February 2018

## HIGH POINTS

January was a very busy month with more people than usually requesting food and gas assistance.

As the director, I was privileged to be asked to present on behalf of Churches United to Calvary Lutheran Church at each other their three Sunday services on January 14, and to the Wednesday evening service on January 17.

I shared a story about a homeless woman who was living in her car when she came to Churches United in September 2017. Our member churches helped her with food, gas, personal hygiene products, and a quilt [which she hugged and shed a tear over].

Two weeks later she returned. She was still living

in her car. Our member churches helped her again with food, gas, personal hygiene products. They also gave her a pillow and another quilt, as it was getting colder out.

About a month later she returned again. She was still living in her car, but now she needed help with the deposit on an apartment. Our member churches partnered with Bi-cap to cover the rental deposit and she was no longer homeless.

The Friday before Christmas, she returned to pick-up a Tub of Love and thank the Churches United volunteers for the many blessing that she had received in the past few months.

This story is just one of many that warms the hearts of the dedicated volunteers that serve at Churches United.

To be a part of stories like this one, please contact call 218-444-1380 or stop by during business hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from noon - 4:00 p.m.

Till next month, *Wanda*

## Current Needs

- Snack items to go into sack lunches
- Larger clear plastic bins
- Travel size deodorant
- Size 5 diapers
- Full sized shampoo, conditioner, bar soap

### PASTOR TO PASTOR:

A 5 second reflection on the name: Churches United... it is a blessing that we can cross the aisle, work together, share resources, but most importantly serve the needs of those that Jesus would have reached out to help in the day to day struggles. Thanks to all of the member churches for the donations given so far this year.

Fr. Chuck Huck

## MONTHLY OVERVIEW - JANUARY 2018

<b>Total Intakes</b> .....	109	Bus Tokens .....	169
<b>Total Cash Value</b>		totaling.....	\$253.50
<b>Distributed*</b> .....	\$2,552.5	Other Vouchers.....	0
Requests Accepted .....	82	totaling.....	\$0.00
Requests Denied .....	3	Clothing Vouchers .....	20
Request Pending.....	6	Diapers [bundles of 10] .....	27
Rental Assistance .....	2	Lunchables/Bottled Water .....	33
totaling .....	\$195.00	Quilts/Blankets.....	29
Utility Assistance .....	0	Toiletries .....	43
totaling .....	\$0.00	<b>Total number of individuals</b>	
Food Vouchers .....	46	<b>assisted</b> .....	<b>256</b>
totaling .....	\$1,070.00	Adults .....	142
Gas Vouchers.....	34	Children .....	114
totaling .....	\$755.00	Homeless.....	46
Laundry Vouchers .....	28	Employed .....	20
totaling .....	\$140.00	Unemployed/Disabled .....	89

### Initial intakes included:

Rental assistance.....	8
Electric shut-off notices .....	1
Propane/Natural gas shut-off notices .....	1
Other assistance .....	3

### Revenues:

Member Churches:.....	\$5,321.02
Private Donations:.....	\$18.43
Other:.....	0

### Total Revenues: .....

**\$5,339.45**  
\*Note that cash value distributed does not include diapers, wipes, lunchables, & water.

### PRESENTATIONS:

I am currently scheduling presentations for 2018.

If your church would like me to do a short address to your board or congregation, please contact me at 218-444-1380 or email [cunited@paulbunyan.net](mailto:cunited@paulbunyan.net) to set up a time and venue that works for you.

Thank you, Wanda

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