

WHY I PLEDGE TO THE CHURCH OF THE MEDIATOR

by Linda Anderson

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In the last year I have been involved in the outreach programs of the Mediator. This involves working with Feeding America and the Mobile Food Pantries of Berrien County and in particular Chikaming Township. Feeding America works mainly with established organizations, churches, companies or nonprofits. The Mediator is known as a leader in the county because of our skilled and caring members who step up to help the community. The Neighbor by Neighbor program was organized by Mother Paula and Linnea Berg here at the Mediator. It is more important than ever in this time of pandemic and is helping more people directly who are at risk.

We have fifteen years of leadership in funding programs, organizing volunteers with other churches, helping other organizations to host food pantries and fostering programs that help our community. As a community of believers the Church of the Mediator helps more people than if we worked as individuals. We are now sponsoring or working with 12 pantries in conjunction with four other organizations which serve 65-85 families, 150 people per pantry.

The actual physical presence of our church is also an asset to our community. This beautiful building and lawns has hosted concerts, blessings of the animals and French markets. The planned Labyrinth and Meditation garden will offer a place of solace to the public. It should also make it easier for us to hold outdoor services during this time of pandemic.

While the mission of a church is to offer spiritual guidance, the physical presence of a church is also comforting to the surrounding community where it exists. These are the reasons I pledge to the Mediator, to support its existence as it supports me.