

Our Mission: Serve this community † Revitalize the Church † Celebrate Christian Unity



Thanksgiving in July Puts Food on Shelves

Cupboards in low income households are frequently near empty during the summer months when the children are out of school.

Churches United's 24 neighborhood food pantries struggle to meet the increased demand without cutting back on services. We depend on the community to help fill the shelves so that we can feed the hungry all summer long and into the fall!

The items most frequently requested by food pantry clients are: baby food, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, rice and pasta, boxed instant potatoes, canned meat (tuna, chicken, and Spam), canned fruit and vegetables, non-perishable boxed meals, and diapers.

Contributions will be collected from **July 1-31** in containers at Fareway stores in Moline, Davenport and Bettendorf; K&K Hardware, Caddy's Sports Bar and Grill, QC Core Chiropractic, and Dewey's at the Bettendorf Library, all in Bettendorf; and at our very own Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop in Davenport. Cash donations



Fill the Boxes, Fill the Shelves! - Donations for Churches United's 24 food pantries will be collected in containers like this one at K&K Hardware in Bettendorf.

and checks made payable to Churches United Thanksgiving in July may be dropped off or mailed to: Churches United of the Quad City Area, 2535 Tech Drive Suite 205, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

THANK YOU!

Help Out *and* Have Fun, Too!

Are you a fan of the Bettendorf Park Band? Listen to the music at the Bill Bove Bandshell in Veteran's Memorial Park and help Churches United serve up sweet snacks at the **Ice Cream Social on Friday, June 15**. Volunteers are needed from 6:30-8 p.m.

Do you love a parade? Walk with Churches United in Bettendorf's annual 4th of July parade. Line up at 8 a.m. at the Alter Building parking lot on

State Street. Prefer festivals? Take a shift at our Festival booth along Spruce Hills Drive. We'll be there from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Call for info (563) 332-5002.

Do you wait all year for the Mississippi Valley Blues Festival? Churches United is the non-profit sponsor of this year's event on **Friday, July 6 and Saturday, July 7** at the LeClaire Park Bandshell along the Davenport riverfront.

Volunteers are needed to take shifts both days. Free event admission and a t-shirt! Then, it's on to **Street Fest, Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28!** We'll be at Beverage Tent #3 on Main Street from 3-9 p.m. on Friday and at Beverage Tent #1 on Harrison Street from 3-6 p.m. on Saturday. **Sign up to help out! Call (563) 332-5002.**

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Churches United Management Staff

- Executive Director
Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes
- Associate Director
Betsy Vanausdell
- Marketing and Grants
Director Teresa LaBella
- Office Manager
Nichole Collins Payney
- Winnie's Wishes Shop
Manager RuthAnn Murphy
- Winnie's Place Supervisor
Pauline Gordon

Ministry on a Grander Scale Caps a Lifetime of Service

Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes transitioned from one-on-one ministry as pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Moline, where he continues to serve with distinction, to embrace a broader congregation as the newly-appointed Executive Director of Churches United.



Rev. Dr. Grimes has been active in the ministries of Churches United for much of his adult life. The past president and treasurer of the board of directors stepped in as Interim Executive Director when former Executive Director Anne Wachal stepped down last December.

“During my time as interim, I have had the opportunity to develop new relationships in the Quad Cities area as well as rekindle and reaffirm ongoing comraderies,” Rev. Dr. Grimes said. “We’re looking at how to reposition ourselves to collaborate with other groups in the Quad Cities that are in the same hunger and shelter ministries as we are. As a ministry, Churches United will continue to evolve into a more efficient and effective provider of services to those who are in need.”

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*Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes
Executive Director*

The Quad City native’s future was shaped from a young age by his father, the late Rev. William Grimes, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Rock Island where Dr. Grimes was licensed and ordained in 1975. “My father poured into me an obligation for leadership and community involvement. From age 8, I was the tag-a-long. If you saw one of us, you’d see the other.”

Dr. Grimes received his Masters of Divinity and Doctorate of Divinity from Grace Valley Theological Seminary in Edinburg, Texas. He served as the Assistant Pastor to Second Baptist, pastor at Corinthian Baptist Church in Waterloo, Iowa, and pastor at the historic Washington Avenue Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri. In November 1989, Dr. Grimes accepted the call to return home and pastor Tabernacle Baptist Church.

A member on numerous boards and committees in the Quad-Cities area, Dr. Grimes is a commissioner and Chairman of the Board for the Moline Housing Authority, serves on the State of Illinois Council on Aging, and is President of

the Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging.

Serving others brings the most reward for the pastoral minister and executive director. “Being out among the people, seeing lives transformed and changed on my trips through the (Winnie’s Wishes) resale shop, getting groceries in for the food pantries, and learning to listen,” Dr. Grimes said while reflecting on the hungry who are fed and the homeless sheltered by Churches United. “We need to get our story out there, told one-on-one, and remind our member churches why they are important to us.”

Transitional housing for the shelter ministry and a return to social justice and jail ministries in Scott and Rock Island counties are among the goals the new executive director has in mind for Churches United in the next 2 to 5 years.

“I’d like Churches United to move from being a two-dimensional, hunger and shelter only ministry,” Dr. Grimes said. “I’m looking forward to holding a community-wide ecumenical sunrise worship service.”

Winnie’s Place Emergency Shelter Wish List

From 17 new twin mattresses and mattress covers, to wall clocks and kitchen trash cans, Winnie’s Place needs what every home does to offer the comfort a temporary place of safety provides for homeless women and children who may be fleeing life-threatening situations.

Other shelter donation needs include: store gift cards to

HyVee, Walmart and Lowes, heavy duty trash bags, 2 gallon size zip lock baggies, dishwasher detergent and dryer sheets; sliced and shredded cheese, macaroni and cheese, stewed and diced canned tomatoes, creamed soups, canned fruit and potatoes, instant potatoes, saltine and snack crackers, spices, butter, margarine and sour cream, ketchup and salad

dressings, frozen pizza and meals, and lunch meats.

The women at Winnie’s Place **desperately need** Illinois bus tickets to assist in providing transportation to appointments and job interviews. Items and cash donations are accepted at Winnie’s Wishes Resale Shop and Churches United’s office. Call (563) 332-5002 to GIVE!



Volunteer Spotlight: Helping Hands Lift Us Up

Rescue food. Stock food pantry shelves. Serve a hot meal. Help out the staff at Winnie's Place. Take a 3-hour shift at Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop, where all sales benefit Winnie's Place.

Volunteers for Churches United's hunger ministry keep the doors open at our 24 food pantries and rescue donated food from restaurants and businesses in the region. Groups from member churches and other faith traditions purchase, prepare and serve dinner to guests seven days a week at one of 3 hot meal sites. Call Betsy at (563) 332-

5002 for opportunities to serve at a food pantry or meal site. Volunteer tasks at Winnie's Place range from sorting and storing donated items to clerical tasks, painting a wall or repairing a leak! Contact Winnie's Place at (309) 764-9466 to offer your time and talent. Our cheerful team at Winnie's Wishes accepts donations and keeps our resale shop looking tidy and attractive for the customers they greet. Helping hands are most appreciated on Friday afternoons. If you have time to give call RuthAnn at (563) 323-5007.



THANK YOU Mike and Pat Tyler, volunteer coordinators at the Watertown Ecumenical Food Pantry in East Moline, IL.

Winnie's Wishes June Deals

- **Fridays:** 10% off for Seniors age 60+
- **HALF PRICE!**
Glassware June 6-9
Women's and Kid's shoes June 11-16
Dishes June 18-23
Ladies tops June 25-30



Resale Shop
1605 N. Harrison St.
Davenport, IA

THANK YOU to Two Men and a Truck for another fabulous Movers for Moms event. The truckload of donated items collected May 9th at WQAD News 8 made Mother's Day great for Moms sheltered at Winnie's Place.



Donor Spotlight

Gifts from caring donors make our ministries possible. **THANK YOU** to **Scott County Regional Authority** for helping us feed the hungry with a most generous \$18,000 grant for our 12 food pantries in Scott County.

THANK YOU to the **Junior Board of Rock Island** for continuing to support Winnie's Place through a \$500 grant award. **THANK YOU** to the **Mary Iva Gittens Knouse Charitable Trust** for \$2,000 in grant funds for our Hunger and Shelter ministries.

Member Church Announcements & Events

Job Opportunities
Office Administrator: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Davenport. This is a 15 hour per week positions with clerical responsibilities. E-mail resume to office@stmatthewqc.org or call (563) 391-2802 for more information.
ACT ONE: program for singles in a Christian context will meet Tuesday, June 12 at 5:30

p.m., First Lutheran Church, Moline. Dinner at 6, Program at 7, "Remember When" oldies and goodies music and dancing. Call (309) 764-3517 for more information. There will be no ACT ONE in July or August.
Women's Retreat: "Listen Carefully, My Daughter", Friday, June 22, at St. Mary Monastery, Benet House Retreat

Center, Rock Island. Arrival at 5:30 p.m., soup supper at 6. Retreat begins at 7 p.m. and continues through 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 24. For more information, call (309) 283-2108 or 283-2300 or email retreats@smmsisters.org.
Summer Fun Fest, Sunday, June 24 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. in the St. Ambrose Parish House, 312 First Street West,

Family meal, ice cream, children's games, cake walk, Bingo, raffle and auction.
Community Talks by lecturer Mary Alice Rose, Friday, June 29; 11:30 a.m. at Bettendorf Library and 3 p.m. at Moline Library. Sponsored by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Davenport and Moline.



Churches United of the Quad City Area

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Bettendorf, IA 52722

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United in Faith Helping People in Need



On the Web

www.cuqca.org

Who We Are † What We Do

Churches United serves those most in need in Scott County, Iowa and Rock Island County, Illinois. Over 1,300 volunteers donate 45,000+ hours annually to help staff *Feed the Hungry* and *Shelter* homeless women and children.

In 2017:

- **24 Food Pantries** distributed free food to over 125,000 individuals and families.
- **3 Hot Meal Sites** welcomed over 28,000 guests.
- **Winnie's Place** – the only emergency shelter in the Illinois Quad Cities for survivors of domestic violence – aided 124 women and 131 children.

*Reach Out! Be a Blessing!
Give TODAY to Churches United*

Online at www.cuqca.org † Call us at (563) 332-5002

Mail or drop off your gift
Churches United of the Quad City Area
2535 Tech Drive Suite 205
Bettendorf, IA 52722

THANK YOU!

Stay Connected with Churches United

We've changed the name of our newsletter, the look and method of delivering all the News and Updates on Churches United of the Quad City Area ministries, upcoming events, and Member Church happenings in our community.

“Faith Connections” will arrive in your e-mail box the first Monday of every month!

Member Church announcements of job opportunities and events that are open to the general public must be submitted to newsletter@cuqca.org by the 15th day of every month.

If you prefer to receive a copy of our newsletter at your home or business address, please call the Churches United office at (563) 332-5002 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. or email newsletter@cuqca.org.

If you wish to remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

We pray that you'll stay and continue to support the ministries and mission of Churches United.

Thank you for connecting with us!

**CHIP IN NOW for People in Need!
A 5% Bonus is GUARANTEED!
PLEDGE BIRDIE #572 BEFORE JULY 9!**

Pick up pledge cards at our Bettendorf office, 2535 Tech Drive Suite 205 or Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop, 1605 N. Harrison Street in Davenport.

