OPEN DOORS

Of Washington Township

A Food and Clothing Pantry

Fall 2026

Serving the Westfield Community Since 1990

Open Doors Food and Clothing Pantry
PO Box 196
19360 Tomlinson Rd.,
Westfield IN 46074
(317) 867-8670

www.opendoorswestfield.org
Facebook

Hours of Pantry:
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
8:30 am – 12:00 pm
Monday
3:30 – 7:00 pm

"For I was hungry
and you gave me
something to eat,
I was thirsty
and you gave me
something to drink.
I was a stranger
and you invited me in,
I needed clothes
and you clothed me."
Matthew 25:35

OPEN DOORS OFFICERS

Jen Goldberg
President

Kurt Wanninger
VP of Operations

Carrie Larrison
VP of Special Programs

Jerry Rosenberger
Treasurer

Kathy Patterson
Secretary

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Autumn is a season of thankfulness, and we appreciate the caring hearts that make Open Doors a warm and welcoming place for everyone. Thank you to every volunteer who gives their time, energy, and compassion to serve our pantry. Whether you are greeting families or helping behind the scenes, your kindness makes a meaningful difference in Westfield. Because of you, families can put food on their tables, neighbors feel supported, and our community grows stronger.

Open Doors has always felt the incredible support from the Westfield community, and this past quarter was no exception! We are grateful to the local organizations that contributed hours and financial support, including Abbott Laboratories, Community Health Network, and the City of Westfield. We love seeing local employees come together in service, and we feel so fortunate that Open Doors benefits from their generosity.



We are delighted to partner once again with the Westfield Meijer store for its Simply Give Program. This season's campaign benefitting Open Doors began on September 27 and runs through December 26. Through this wonderful initiative, Meijer will match every $10 donation made through the Simply Give donation cards at checkout, helping your generous gift go even further. Mark your calendars for Double Match Day on December 12, when Meijer will contribute $20 for every $10 donated! Please help spread the word by sharing this information with your family and friends. Your support will help Open Doors stock our pantry with essential food items and provide nourishment to local families throughout the winter months.

As we head into the holiday season, we are reminded of God's many blessings and the gift of our faithful volunteers and Member Churches who make Open Doors so special. Thank you for sharing your time and love with everyone who walks through our doors. May God bless you and your loved ones with a joyful Christmas season filled with peace, hope, and family.

Jen Goldberg, President

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Clothing – *Karen Sutcliffe*

We're seeing the most clothing items distributed lately with 11,686 pieces chosen by clients in the 3rd quarter. Donations are high, but only about 20% is usable for offering to clients. We can use clean, like new clothing for all ages.

Church Relations

Bill Black will be stepping away through January 2027. In the meantime, reach out to Jen Goldberg to coordinate food drives at your church. With inventory levels low, we could really use these food drives.

If anyone is interested in assisting Bill with these duties, please contact Jen to discuss.

Warehouse Operations – *Tom Clark*

We're trying to save the "double bagging" job for the special needs students that come in on Tuesday mornings. If you need something to do, just ask.

A new computer is now on the weigh-in desk in the warehouse. Thanks Scott Pratt for setting it up. It will be used to record the incoming grocery store donations. This is currently done on paper sheets that need to be entered later and reported monthly to Gleaners. Thanks to Hugh and Jan McDonald, who have been doing this for years, and Melissa Griffin, who has been filling in recently and recommended the computer addition.

We are exploring the use of a tablet to record the information for the "Meat Sheet." Gary Hinshaw has proposed and prototyped a system that would send the information to the Front Room which would then be updated and printed for the Advocates throughout the day. An additional feature is the ability to translate automatically to any language for better communication with our clients.

The newly acquired Toshiba printer in the front office was donated by the local Toshiba representative based on a request by Scott Pratt. This allows us to do high-quality prints in-house and gives us the flexibility to customize our event materials to the specific group we are interacting with.

Warehouse Operations – *Continued*

Thanks to Bruce Houtman and Kurt Wanninger for scheduling and coordinating the drivers and helpers for food rescue pickups and weekend food bag deliveries to the schools as well as the warehouse workers.

Thanks to Bob Peterson for coordinating volunteer groups for work projects as well as prep for the Postal Worker food drive.

Thanks to Christine Mills and Bruce Houtman for working on a display to help clarify how things are grouped for inventory. This will be coming soon.

Building Expansion – *Jerry Rosenberger*

After meetings with the builder and Westfield Fire Department, a preliminary drawing was presented. It was decided to proceed with more detailed drawings that work within the limitations laid out. Discussions regarding layout and use of the new space will take place as those plans will require additional work estimates.



OpenDoorsWestfield.org has a new look!

Launched on September 23, we hope you find it easier to use and the information updated. For convenience, a current list of most needed items can be found right on the home page.

Thank you to all who provided input, reviewed drafts, and helped set up the site.

COORDINATOR REPORTS *continued*

Pantry Operations – *Margie Smith / Patti Franz*

We've added a new food rescue source – Family Express on 191st. They have a large assortment of "grab and go" items, which the clients are loving. This is a Wednesday pick up and fits right in with the Carey Road Kroger run.

The Society of St. Andrew provided us with 300 pounds of potatoes mid-September which we pick up from St. Marks Church in Carmel. They also delivered 100 bags of apples gleaned from Stuckey Farm.

The contract with Gleaners has been renewed. Just need to make sure that drinks going into the volunteer refrigerator are not from a Gleaners source.

Volunteers – *Sarah Clark*

Volunteer training is offered most every month to introduce potential volunteers to the opportunities at Open Doors. There are still needs for specific training in the front room positions. We hope to continue training individuals for the reception area and advocate positions.

The volunteer section on the new website is working well, allowing inquiries to be seen quicker by the appropriate people.

Thanks to all the generous volunteers who give their support to the ministry of Open Doors.



Thank you Tom Wood Ford for the donations!

Special Projects – ***Carrie Larrison***

Back-To-School
The project went well in August. 121 families with 267 kids signed up. We'll move the event a week earlier next year and need to work on donations earlier in the year.

Holiday Assistance
We have about 50 families signed up, but communications went out this week – so more will be signing up soon. We're once again joining with the schools to provide 4 gifts per child. Thank you to Ellie Schupra for coordinating the Christmas gifts this year.

We have started collecting food for the food baskets and would love the churches to also help in this endeavor. You can either sign up the church or ask members to sign up individually using the Sign Up Genius link: tinyurl.com/2v87dvms.

Weekend Food Bags
With the addition of 2 elementaries, we are now making two trips with deliveries. There are over 250 students signed up.

Some grades are now allowing snacks breaks. Many teachers expressed concern for the kids who can't afford to bring in a snack each day. We have started assisting and provide snacks for the teachers to have on hand.

Every school has signed up to do a food drive at some point throughout the year. This provides a significant amount of food for us. Thanks, WWS!

Food Drives, Donations, and Grants – Oh my!
We're looking forward to food drives from Community Health and Abbott Labs in the coming months – our pantry shelves need stocked! Anthem Health recently came in and packed food bags for October, after donating $2500 to the program through Lions Club International. Open Doors was awarded a $5000 grant from Chatham Hills and their Eagles for Children Grant. And, another $2500 grant to Open Doors was awarded by the Mayor's Grand Gala and the Advancing Westfield Foundation.

WELCOME our newest member church **Community Bible Fellowship Church** and thank you for the work you did on the mulch and cleaning!

2026 Calendar of Events

Board of Directors Meeting Dates
January 8
April 9
July 9
October 8

Annual Meeting
October 8

Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
May 9

Pack the Cruiser
May 30

Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway
August 15

Thanksgiving Food Giveaway
November 21

Christmas Toy & Food Giveaway
December 12

Pantry Closed
January 1
May 25
July 4
November 21
November 26
December 12
December 25

2027 Calendar of Events

Board of Directors Meeting Dates
January 14
April 8
July 8
October 14

Annual Meeting
October 14

Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
May 8

Pack the Cruiser
TBA

Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway
July 31

Thanksgiving Food Giveaway
November 20

Christmas Toy & Food Giveaway
December 11

Pantry Closed
January 1
May 31
November 20
November 25
December 11
December 25

Nomination of 2027 Board of Directors

President ..... Jennifer Goldberg

Vice President of Operations..... Kurt Wanninger

Vice President of Special Projects..... Carrie Larrison

Treasurer ..... Jerry Rosenberger

Secretary..... Kathy Patterson

MEMBER CHURCHES

Christ United Methodist Church
318 N. Union Street
Westfield, IN

Community Bible Fellowship Church
231 E. 161st Street
Westfield, IN 46074

Crossroads Church at Westfield (PCUSA)
19201 Grassy Branch Road
Westfield, IN

Eagle Creek Evangelical Friends Church
18235 Eagletown Rd.
Westfield, IN

Hortonville United Methodist
3080 W. SR 38
Sheridan, IN

Lifepointe Church
3233 W. 166th Street
Westfield, IN

Mts. Runn Baptist Church
250 S. 775 E., Zionville, IN

New Joy Lutheran Church, ELCA
316 156th Street, Westfield, IN

North Circle Church
20101 Grassy Branch Rd
Westfield, IN

Northview Church Westfield Campus
17171 Ditch Road
Westfield, IN

Radiant Christian Life
16162 Carey Road
Westfield, IN

The Journey Church
17716 Eagletown Road
Westfield, IN

Thrive Christian Church
15091 Towne Rd., Westfield, IN

Trinity Baptist Church
1415 E. 191st Street
Westfield IN

Westfield Bible Methodist Church
219 W. 161st Street
Westfield, IN

Westfield Friends Church
324 South Union Street
Westfield, IN

SHOP *and* CONTRIBUTE



KROGER…
Register with your Kroger PLUS CARD (free at the store service counter) on the **CommunityRewards Website.** Select number **WY292** for Open Doors. Every time you swipe your card, KROGER will donate a percentage of your purchase to Open Doors.

AMAZON WISH LIST…
QR CODE and LINK CREATED for OPEN DOORS AMAZON WISH LIST. Scan code with camera and be taken to our Wish List. Please do not ship directly to Open Doors as the building is not always open and deliveries sit outside.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LWM3RXR49QKR?ref_=wl_fv_le

If you would like to make a financial donation to Open Doors, please go to our website **OpenDoorsWestfield.org** and look for the yellow Donate button at the top. A current list of most needed items can also be found on our website.

Donate

OPEN DOORS LINKS

Pantry Needs, News, General Information
www.opendoorswestfield.org

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for Website and Newsletter
OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook
Open Doors of Washington Township

Suggestions, Ideas, Photos for FACEBOOK
Kurt.Wanninger@hotmail.com

Volunteering:
Individuals, Groups (school, church, community)
OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

Receive newsletter via email.
Email "subscribe" in the subject line to
OpenDoorsWestfield@gmail.com

OPEN DOORS COORDINATORS

Warehouse
Tom Clark

Advocate
Lorna Mills

Clothing
Karen Sutcliffe

Church Relations
Bill Black

Pantry/Front Room Volunteers
Sarah Clark

Food Pantry
Margie Smith / Patti Franz

Kroger Food Rescue
Bruce Houtman