

AROUND THE

# Circle Newsletter

Circle of Concern  
Food Pantry



## Trivia Teams Wanted!

You—our friends in the community—make the work of Circle of Concern possible. We can stock our shelves, distribute food and administer each of our other programs only because you generously contribute to our work. Sometimes, though, it's time to play.

And that time is almost here. We are inviting you to join us at Circle of Concern's returning Harvest Moon Trivia Night on Friday, September 23. Our return to Andre's West in Fenton means we'll have plenty of room to spread out after two years. We're anxious to see you in person!

It will be a great night. We're hosting an open bar and ten rounds of challenging trivia led by Trivia Riot. Games, a raffle and an expansive silent auction—featuring sports tickets, décor, jewelry, activities and much more—round out an evening sure to entertain. All you'll need to bring is your nine smartest friends and your favorite trivia table eats.

Sponsorships are still available, including round and games sponsors.

We hope you'll come play with us on September 23! Visit [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org) and click to register!

## Current Needs:

- Dinner "Helpers"
- Baking Items
- Jelly
- Body Wash
- Baby Wipes
- Size 6 Diapers

<b>What:</b>	<b>Harvest Moon Trivia Night</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>Friday, September 23</b>
<b>Where:</b>	<b>Andre's West (211 S. Old Hwy 131, Fenton)</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6 p.m. Open, 7 p.m. Start</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$300 per table of 10, \$30 per person</b>
<b>Register:</b>	<b><a href="http://circleofconcern.org">circleofconcern.org</a></b>



*Feeding Families is  
Just the Beginning*



## Tax Credit Update

We have learned that, for only the second time in the history of the Food

Pantry Tax Credit, claims of the credit exceeded the \$1.75 million in credits held by the state of Missouri. As a result, donors who submitted an application for this credit are approved for an apportionment of approximately 71 percent of the total credits earned. That is, for example, a donor who gave \$200 to Circle and expected a tax credit of \$100 will, instead, receive a tax credit of approximately \$71.

The balance of approximately \$29 is still accessible by submitting an amended tax return; that balance will be distributed from *this year's* pool of credits after July 1, 2023.

We want to stress that the Food Pantry Tax Credit is still a valuable program, for both our donors and for the clients we serve. Your support of Circle will still ensure that our neighbors who struggle will have food on their tables and will receive assistance to move from chaos and fear to stability and relief.

For more information about your own tax credits, the best next step is to call the Missouri Department of Revenue at 573.751.3220.

Thank you; we appreciate you!



## Holiday Adoption Assures a Warm Season

Steamy St. Louis summer days naturally lead to thoughts of holiday cheer!

For the past two years, thanks to your generous support, every Circle client received a gift card by early December to celebrate the holiday season, instead of receiving gifts at a large, crowded event. This year, as we've inched toward more normal times, we asked our clients which they preferred from the Holiday Adoption program. Overwhelmingly, our clients reported that the gift cards gave them the most flexibility in giving their loved ones the most fulfilling holiday.

As a result, although we all miss the holiday fun of shopping for our adopted families, we have decided to continue with the \$50 gift card distribution. One card per family member will be given out at monthly pantry appointments, starting in November.

The cost to give a warm holiday to each person we serve is approximately \$120,000. Will you please help us reach this goal and provide a warm and bright holiday season for families who rely on Circle? Just let us know how many people you'd like to adopt, at \$50 per person, and note "Holiday Adoption" on the memo line of your gift or click the Holiday Adoption button at [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org).

Thank you for being the best of the season for Circle families!

## Garden Gains



Volunteer Jean poses with one day's 49 pound harvest.



Young Naomi bringing a bushel of fun to the garden!

## Register for Harvest Moon Trivia today!



**OUR MISSION:**  
Circle of Concern feeds the hungry and provides assistance to low-income families living in our community.

**OUR VISION:**  
Improving every life in our community by reducing hunger and poverty.

# In Honor and Memory

(June 1 -  
July 31, 2022)

We appreciate your gifts to Circle given in Memory and in Honor of people, efforts and events that matter to you. With them, you join us in letting our clients know that *they* matter to us all. On their behalf, thank you.

## HONOR

Circle Board, Staff  
& Volunteers  
Bill & Sarah Crocker's  
50th Wedding Anniversary  
Mary Ann Cutelli's Birthday  
John L. Dulle  
George's Retirement  
Joyce Harrell  
Noel Hon  
Barbara & Boyd Jones  
Nancy and Bill Parker's  
50th Wedding Anniversary  
Mary Ann Pfeiffer's Friendship  
Dolores Rodenberg  
Alva & Cliff Rozar  
Dana Stilwell's Birthday  
and Beginning Retirement  
Jim Talley, for Father's Day  
The Universe  
Al & Chris Trimbur  
Derek Trovato for Giving  
Chris Wiley's Birthday

## MEMORY

Clint Aslin  
Donald Bardon  
Randy Barron  
Don and Elaine Baumbach  
Art and Betty Beckman  
Marilyn Bockius  
John and Connie Conrad  
Peter Patrick Cox  
Patricia Devoti  
Joan Duffy  
Mary Ann Enlow  
Perry Fairfax  
Doug Faust  
Barbara Kay Folsom  
Tillie Gruen

Cheryl Haviluk  
Irene Hecker  
Marlene Hedrick  
Dorothy Hewitt  
Clifford Hoopaw  
Chris Joyce  
Jerry Kehlenbrink  
Jane Knobbe  
Haran Kumar  
Tricia and Christopher  
LeMay  
Ken Lemp  
Patrick Livingston  
Jean Luedde  
William Luedde  
Hazel Mabrey  
Alice Marron  
Julie McKinney  
Dominic Mikal  
Marlene Muir  
Don Muse  
Helen Newberry  
Oner Onergil  
Bob Pavelka  
Wayne Peters  
Melvin Pfeifer  
Betty Rakestraw  
Jerome "Jerry" Range  
Beth Rohn  
Marianne Schenck  
Doc Schuckman  
Judy Simon's Brother  
Stephanie Smith  
Maryilyn Stewart  
Dave Strathern  
Larry Wexelman  
Connor Joseph Williams  
Amy Marie Woods  
Phyllis Yardley  
Robert Yore

# Scholarships

We love our scholarship program which, this year, is awarding 12 renewal scholarships to students already in post-high school education and nine scholarships to new students fresh out of high school. Here are just a few reasons why we love this program so much -



- Several students are entering medical fields, including a future nurse, physician's assistant and neurosurgeon.
- Two awardees are the first members of their families to attend college; their entire families are rallied behind them and their success.
- One student opted to finish the last two years of high school remotely to save money and, more importantly, to keep chronically ill family members safe. She graduated with honors and plans for a vibrant future.
- Another awardee is attending a local private university, living at home and carefully stewarding every available dollar for school; this student remarked on his commitment to be frugal with dollars and work hard to succeed.
- Our students are entering diverse fields. In addition to those aiming for the medical world, we have those preparing for careers in animal sciences, automotive technology, architectural engineering, business and more.

Congratulations to all our 2023 scholarship awardees!



## Run Circles Around Hunger 5K

On Saturday, October 8, our friends at Living Word UMC are hosting a 5K for all skill levels, benefitting Circle of Concern. The first 200 registrants get a free tee shirt!

A unique feature of this event is the route, itself. The pleasant grass and forest trails are the same used by cross country runners at the popular Parkway West High School Invitational. The event also offers a non-competitive option and a one-mile fun walk.

The cost is \$30 per person or \$25 per person on teams of 10 or more. Visit [livingwordumc.org/circle5k](http://livingwordumc.org/circle5k) to register today!



Scan me



# Circle of Concern FOOD PANTRY

112 St. Louis Ave.  
Valley Park, MO 63088  
Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT  
AUTO  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ST LOUIS, MO  
PERMIT NO. 3252

## Trivia Matters!

### Board of Directors:

**Dolores Rodenberg**  
*PRESIDENT*

**Allison Love**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*

**Cindy Wolk**  
*SECRETARY*

**Bernie Hillermann**  
*TREASURER*

Mark Barbee  
Mayank Chaudhary  
Thomas Chibnall  
Aaron Froehlich  
Brandi Hamm  
Virginia Pearson  
Edie Quick

### We share many donations with our clients:

- Food, Canned and Packaged
- Fresh Garden Produce
- Dry Pet Food, Litter
- New Blankets, Hats, Gloves

### Donations are accepted:

Mon, Tues, Fri ..... 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Wed ..... 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Thurs ..... 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Important Dates:

September 23	Harvest Moon Trivia is Back! Andre's West in Fenton
September 26	Board Meeting at Circle, 5:30pm
October 8	Run Circles 5K Hosted by Living Word UMC in Wildwood
November 23, 12 noon through November 26	Circle closed for Thanksgiving



### ~ Remember ~

Your monetary gift or food donation can qualify for MO Food Pantry Tax Credits.  
Contact [juliet@circleofconcern.org](mailto:juliet@circleofconcern.org) to find out more.



**"LIKE US"** on Facebook and visit us online at [www.circleofconcern.org](http://www.circleofconcern.org).

### STAFF DIRECTORY

	636.861.2623
<b>Cyndi Miller</b> , Executive Director .....	<a href="mailto:cyndi@circleofconcern.org">cyndi@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>117</b>
<b>Juliet Holden</b> , Senior Director .....	<a href="mailto:juliet@circleofconcern.org">juliet@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>106</b>
<b>Michelle Lepak</b> , Pantry Director .....	<a href="mailto:michelle@circleofconcern.org">michelle@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>107</b>
<b>Nancy Bauer</b> , Volunteer/Special Events Director .....	<a href="mailto:nancy@circleofconcern.org">nancy@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>113</b>
<b>Jenny Lawrence</b> , Program Director .....	<a href="mailto:jenny@circleofconcern.org">jenny@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>108</b>
<b>Beth Niezing</b> , Donor Relations Administrator .....	<a href="mailto:beth@circleofconcern.org">beth@circleofconcern.org</a> ..... ext. <b>112</b>