**Bearing Fruit – August 1, 2021**

**Donations for People’s Resource Center (PRC)**

The People’s Resource Center (PRC) donation box has moved back to Southminster from its outpost at the Freys’ home. From spring of 2020 until the last week in June 2021, the Freys have offered the use of their front porch as our collection site for donations to the People’s Resource Center. For over a year and a half, they have made weekly deliveries of those donations to the PRC on behalf of Southminster.

The need has been great! Here is what PRC reported in April, 2021:

Since last March, People’s Resource Center has distributed over **45,000 grocery carts** of food and necessities with our ongoing modified services approach and provided food and social services assistance to over **4,700 total households.**21% of families are visiting PRC for the first time, 42% include seniors, and over half are households with children. In addition to food, we have seen record numbers of families seeking help for financial assistance to prevent homelessness.**The combined health crisis of the pandemic, along with job instability in many sectors, has resulted in extreme and continued need for many neighbors.**

When the pandemic hit, Southminster invited you to take another step toward bearing the fruit of God’s love by helping neighbors through donations to PRC, and you did!

The collection box is now in the entryway at church. Food, paper products, and personal care items are always welcome! In addition, going back to school is just around the corner. Through this Sunday only, we are collecting items for the PRC’s Back-to-School program. Any school items can also be put in the donation box. Bobbi will collect the donations and deliver them to the PRC on Monday.

As an alternative, you can go to the PRC’s website and click on “Back to School Drive,” where there are links for buying requested school supplies at Amazon, Target, and Walmart. Purchases from those sites will be delivered directly to PRC – you don’t even have to leave home to donate. Find the PRC website at [www.peoplesrc.org](http://www.peoplesrc.org/).

**Items needed:**

**Backpacks, Colored Pencils, Compasses, Ear Bud Headphones, Erasers, Glue (Like Elmer’s), Glue Sticks, Highlighters, Index Cards, Kid’s Markers, Kid’s Scissors, Loose-Leaf Paper, Pencils, Pencil Bags, Pens (Black, Blue & Red), Protractors, Rulers, Scientific Calculators, Spiral Notebooks, 2-Pocket Folders.**

While you’re thinking about back-to-school shopping, maybe sending children or grandchildren back to school or off to college, think ***gift cards***. This Sunday, August 1, is the next opportunity to order Jubilee Bucks gift cards. Order forms are available at church, on the Southminster website, and attached each week to the email that contains the Sunday bulletin. Email your order to bobbifrey@aol.com by Sunday at 9:00 p.m. Remember to put merchant, amount of card, number of cards wanted, and total for your order. Cards will be delivered to you the following Tuesday or Wednesday. So far this year, Southminster has made almost $1,000 in “free” money from the profits of selling Jubilee Bucks.

There are so many ways to bear the fruit of God’s love to neighbor and one another. Here are two: Donating food and supplies to PRC – that’s one. Buying Jubilee Bucks at Southminster – that’s two!