



PARSON'S PANTRY, INC.

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“Helping God’s Servants”

**”AS WE HAVE THEREFORE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO GOOD UNTO ALL MEN,
ESPECIALLY UNTO THEM WHO ARE OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH.”**

~ GALATIANS 6:10

October 17, 2023

Dear Parson’s Pantry Friend and Supporter,

Thank you for your ongoing generous support to help God’s servants in need! You are such a blessing from The Lord. Recently, I received a thank-you letter from a married ministerial student that said the following – *“We received your gift and we praise God for you and your ministry! Your gift came at just the right time because we had just come into a time of extreme financial difficulty. It was so tumultuous that my husband even began to question his calling. My husband asked the Lord for a sign that He wanted him to continue in ministry, and your gift arrived the very next day!”* I get these kind of notes regularly as God continues to use His people through Parson’s Pantry to meet His needs in His time. Please take a minute to read a couple of our recent thank-you letters, because your contributions are making such an impact! Just this year we have been able to provide \$72,875.00 to help Pastors, Widows of Pastors, and Married Ministerial Students in times of crisis and extreme need.

The work of Parson’s Pantry is more URGENT than ever. According to the SBC 2023 Ministry report, seminary enrollment numbers are down 21% year over year. In addition, according to Barna Research, the median age of pastors in America has risen from 44 in 1992 to 54 in 2022. Also, the number of pastors over 65 has tripled in that time period. With less pastors preparing for ministry, we cannot afford to see a single one fall out of the process. Moreover, as more pastors carry a heavier load longer than ever, they need our help more than ever as they continue to carry forth the message of the Gospel.

You may be asking – How Can I Help support God’s Servants in Need?

First, you can PRAY! Please be praying for God’s Servants. Pray for those preparing to serve. Pray for those actively serving. Pray for those in times of crisis, and pray for the widows of pastors still serving. Pray for the ministry of Parson’s Pantry. Pray for The Lord to continue to place names of God’s servants we can help. Pray for The Lord to provide the exact funding necessary to accomplish His plan and will! Pray!

Second, you can PARTNER! **November is Parson’s Pantry Month in honor and memory of our Founder Ron Jackson’s birthday. Ron sacrificed incredibly in order to support God’s servants and we have the chance once again to carry on his legacy of faithfulness and generosity.** Please prayerfully consider what The Lord might have you give this month to help God’s Servants in Need. You can give by check or online through our website – www.parsonspantry.org. Checks should be made out to Parson’s Pantry and mailed to the address above. Every dollar that you give will go directly to help needy servants of God. We use zero for administrative or overhead costs, and your gift is 100% tax deductible. Friends, we need your help more than ever for this important work. I love each of you so much, and look forward to seeing what God has in store this year!

Continuing to Help God’s Servants in Need,

Dr. Stephen Cannon, Chairman

Letters of Thanks

Thank you so much for the recent gift. This year has hit us hard – from cancer to cardiac arrest. My husband is unexpectedly having to leave a job that he loves as an army chaplain and we are having to purchase a house for the first time. Our own plans have been changed more than a few times, but we are thankful for the Lord's provision and know that His timing is perfect. This ministry has been such an incredible blessing to our family!

– Pastor and Wife with 3 children

We can't thank you enough for your generous gift. This will enable us to get our adoptive son home from Uganda for Christmas. We are so thrilled and we thank you so much for your love and generosity. What an encouragement!

-Pastor and Wife

Last night, my wife and I prayed over the \$1000 that we lacked for the spring semester. Today, we found that the Lord has prepared all our needs three weeks before (we forgot to check the mailbox). Glory to our God!

-Married Ministerial Students – Gateway Seminary

A thank you note for your gift does not seem to be enough. On December 28 we totaled our family van that we use to transport our daughter who is special needs. These funds will be used to help us get a handicap van. I can't say thank you to your group enough!

-Pastor and Wife

God has used you to bless us more than we had hoped and prayed for. Our student visa status only allows us to work part time and it does not cover all of our needs. We see this grant as reassurance that it was God's will to bring us to Gateway in order to equip us and send us back to Romania or to the Philippines with the Gospel.

-Married Ministerial Students – Gateway Seminary

Words cannot express the depth of our gratitude for the love offering sent to our family during this trying time. Above all, thank you for your love and prayers for us. May the Lord reward you a hundred-fold.

-Pastor and Wife

Daughter battling aggressive cancer and forced to resign church for her care

Thank you so much for your generous gift! We appreciate your prayers and thoughtfulness as we face the days ahead. With God all things are possible! With your gift, we can focus on my healing!

-Pastor's Wife – Battling Breast Cancer

Thank you so much for your generous gift. God has used you to meet many financial needs. We are both out of work due to my husband's accident so this gift has been used to meet our many needs. With Grateful hearts!

-Pastor and Wife

Husband in a head-on collision and facing a long road to recovery

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