

Loaves & Fish Volunteer Guidelines

Loaves and Fish is a weekly feeding ministry of Peoria First United Methodist Church that provides a food pantry, medical clinic, prayer ministry to those in need each Saturday. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are following the guidance of the Peoria City/County Health Department to ensure the safety of our volunteers and guests. As a result, we are operating with a reduced number of volunteers who will distribute a cold lunch and non-perishable pantry items through the church's door by the overhang in the parking lot.

Hours (9:00 am – 1:30 pm): Arrive no earlier than 9:00 am. Plan to stay until 1:30 pm.

Parking: Please park in the Peoria Public Library parking lot where parking is free at the meters on Saturdays. **Enter the church through the back door in the alleyway across from the Peoria Public Library parking lot. Press button and it will ring to the kitchen to a coordinator who will let you into the building.**

Questions: A mandatory meeting will be conducted to review Health Department guidelines, job assignments, answer questions and address other pertinent information.

Volunteers: Volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Individuals who are registered sex offenders cannot volunteer.

Proper Attire: You should wear comfortable, **closed toe shoes**. Long hair must be pulled back or in a hair net. Clothing must be modest, clean and non-revealing. You must wear a face mask and gloves will be provided.

Food: We begin serving guests at 11:00 am and end at 1:00 pm.

Personal Belongings: Leave purses, coats, cell phones in the trunk of your locked vehicle. Personal items you need to bring can be locked up; however, they can only be retrieved before the end of your volunteer time in case of an emergency. Headphones are not allowed. Use of cell phones in any manner during your volunteer shift is not allowed. Smoking of any kind (cigarettes or e-cigarettes) is not permitted on church property. Volunteers cannot take a smoke break.

Community Service Hours: The L&F Coordinator who gave you your job assignment is the only person who can sign your paperwork. It is your responsibility to make sure the paperwork required is completed according to your needs.

Employee and Volunteer Reporting Agreement: To ensure the safety of our volunteers and guests, we require each employee and volunteer to sign an Employee and Volunteer Reporting Agreement form each time they work or volunteer. The agreement will be kept on file in the church for 90 days.