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**July 2022 Update**

**Over the last 2½ years, the following ministries have been provided through the Family2Family Ministry:**

* Christmas gifts for Bell Elementary students
* Poundings for Bell Elementary staff (supplies)
* Clothing & shoes for Bell students
* School supplies for Bell students
* Food Pantry for East Asheville families
* B.E.A.R. Closet (baby equipment & resources) available via phone requests
* Welcome Table free meals for homeless
* Reading Buddies program for Bell students
* Outreach to middle and high school students
* MANNA backpack deliveries to the schools

**School Support – Current Opportunities**

* Collecting supplies for the students; delivery requested to schools by Aug. 22.
	+ See [List of School Supplies](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Ffiles.stablerack.com%2FWebFiles%2F83807%2FFamily2FamilySchoolSupplieslist.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)
* Ingles gift cards – churches providing funds for $25 gift cards for Bell staff to have on hand for student families needing food or gas.
* Superintendent Tony Baldwin retired in June; please pray the new superintendent will be receptive to continuing the F2F ministry relationship with Bell Elementary.

**Food Pantry Update – June 2022**

* 73 families served/139 individuals (10 were children)
* Asheville Terrace Apts makes 2 trips for residents; they are very appreciative
* MANNA has difficulty getting some food; Pantry purchased meat in May and June.
* With lack of food sources and volunteers, some area pantries may be forced to close. BHBC food pantry shared some unused emergency food boxes with “the Place” at a church in Fairview, and welcomed their clients to our pantry if needed.

**Welcome Table Update**

During the pandemic, they were able to take meals to the homeless, but have now reopened for a free meal on Thursdays for anyone. Located at Groce UMC, 5:00-6:30 pm. Meals are free; donations accepted.

**Reading Buddies Program**

To learn more about this opportunity or get involved, contact Rev. Gerald Davis at Groce UMC, 298-7647.