

HISTORY OF THE AUBURN INTERFAITH FOOD CLOSET

Prior to 1998, St. Luke's Episcopal Church operated a food closet from their church. When the person in charge could no longer volunteer, it was suggested that other Auburn churches join together to operate the food closet. Representatives of the First Congregational, Pioneer United Methodist, Auburn Presbyterian, and Bethlehem Lutheran churches purchased the food closet from St. Luke's for one dollar total. Working together, these five churches submitted the required documents to become a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization with the Internal Revenue Service and to incorporate. The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws were approved in November 1998 by the Secretary of State. The current building was leased from Placer County. In January 1999, an invitation was extended to other churches to become sponsoring churches. There are currently 18 sponsoring churches.

The Auburn Interfaith Food Closet, Inc. originally had one employee, the Operations Manager. When the Board of Directors decided to focus on food only and not provide clothing, the Operations Manager resigned. Since then, the Food Closet has operated with 100% volunteers, including the Operations Manager. There are currently about 150 volunteers.