**News Release** 

Contact: Allen F. Bareford 540 845-1888

ABareford@fre.idc.virginia.gov

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Christ Episcopal Church Receives Gift from Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation

Fredericksburg, Va. – Christ Episcopal Church has received a grant of \$2,700 from the Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation just in time to help feed local residents. Christ Church Outreach Coordinator, Allen Bareford, said the church will use the gift to purchase food for distribution during its food pantry operations.

"This grant is a tremendous blessing to our food ministry. We can't thank Food Lion enough for their generosity," said Bareford. "We are a partner organization with the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank. We purchase food from the food bank and redistribute it here to almost 100 families twice each month."

The Christ Church Food Pantry began over ten years ago with the mission to provide lunches for children who qualified for the school lunch program but did not have that program during their summer break. Starting the program in a small closet, the church quickly realized that many families in Spotsylvania lacked the basic human need of food due to poverty, prompting the church to expand its feeding ministry.

The Food Pantry is staffed completely by church members. Expanding from a small closet, the church now designates several education rooms to serve the Food Pantry. In addition, it has also just completed a new building on church grounds to store food between pantries.

The Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation provides financial support for programs and organizations dedicated to feeding the hungry in the communities it serves. Since its inception in 2001, the foundation has awarded more than \$10 million in grants.

## **About Food Lion**

Food Lion, based in Salisbury, N.C., since 1957, has more than 1,000 stores in 10 Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic states and employs more than 63,000 associates. By leveraging its longstanding heritage of low prices and convenient locations, Food Lion is working to own the easiest full shop grocery experience in the Southeast, anchored by a strong commitment to affordability, freshness and the communities it serves. Through Food Lion Feeds, the company has committed to provide 500 million meals to individuals and families in need by the end of 2020. Food Lion is a company of Ahold Delhaize USA, the U.S. division of Zaandambased Royal Ahold Delhaize Group. For more information, visit www.foodlion.com.