



Staff Photos by Stormi Greener

John Lane, left, and Dean Kleven worked out of a bus as they distributed groceries to needy families Wednesday at the Disciples Ministry Church, 1000 Oliver Av. N. The food had been donated by the public.

## Local food shelves report increased use

By Randy Furst  
Staff Writer

The wind chill was five degrees below zero at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday as the line for food began to form outside the Disciples Ministry Church Mission.

The mission opened at 10 a.m. and the line grew longer, stretching around the corner and continuing nearly two blocks.

About 5,000 bags of groceries were

handed out in four hours yesterday, and the church, at 1000 Oliver Av. N., had to turn away some people who arrived too late, said Jeanine Durand, who works at the mission.

State and local officials say that requests for food by the poor this holiday season are up over last December.

"Last year we helped nearly 20,000 people over the holidays," said

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About 5,000 bags of food were on hand at the church yesterday they were gone in four hours.