

Our Community Food Pantry recognizes that visiting a food pantry can sometimes be confusing or intimidating for children. To make this experience easier and more welcoming, we drew on our experience serving families and developed helpful ideas and resources.

In our effort to reach and support even more children, we partnered with author Robert Thompson. He helped us convey our message in a meaningful and accessible way for kids. By providing this resource, Our Community Food Pantry aims to foster a positive, welcoming environment for children. Our approach helps to reduce feelings of embarrassment or uncertainty, promotes understanding, and teaches kids that food pantries are supportive places where communities come together to assist one another.

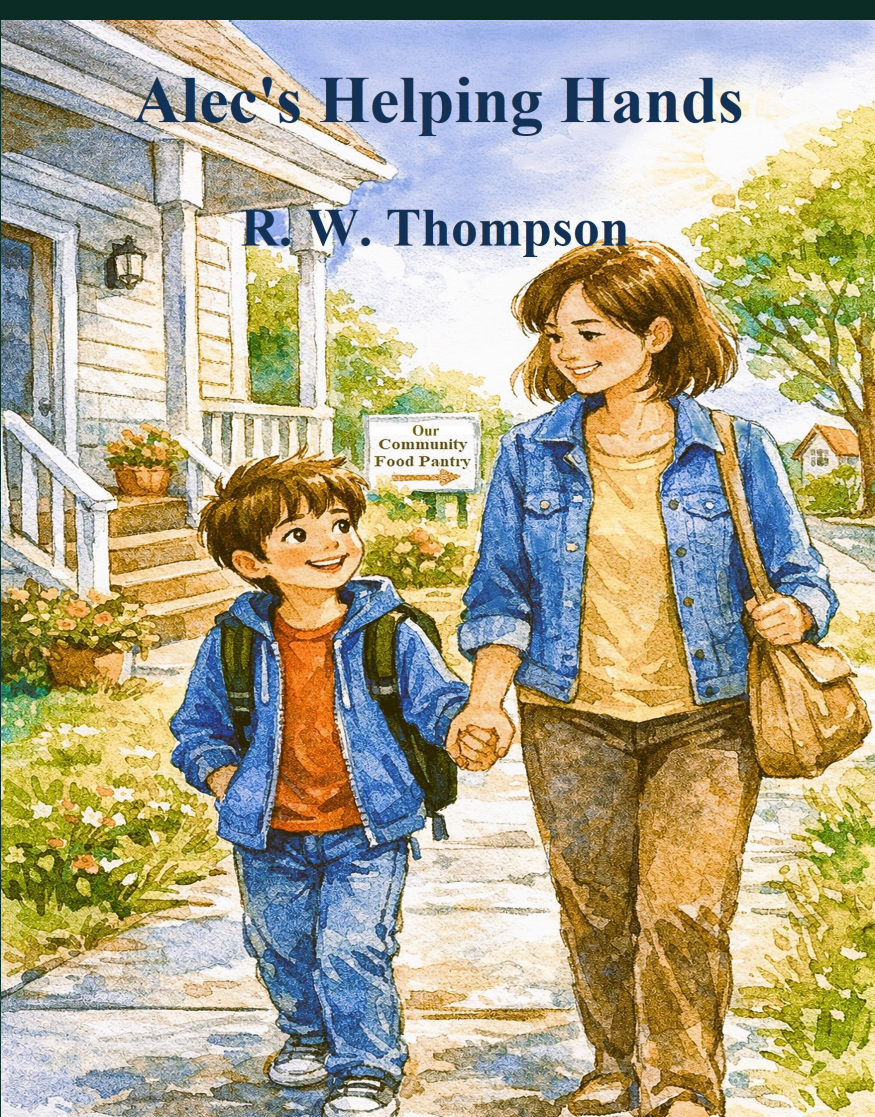
Our Community Food Pantry is deeply grateful to Robert for creating "Alec's Helping Hands," a children's picture book that thoughtfully addresses the experience of visiting a food pantry. This book serves as an excellent tool for teaching children about food pantries in a positive light. Through relatable stories and engaging illustrations, it emphasizes the importance of community support and highlights the essential role food pantries play in helping those in need.

"Alec's Helping Hands" encourages children to view food pantries not with shame, but as valuable resources in their communities. By educating children about food accessibility and kindness, we strive to nurture a generation that values compassion and mutual support. Our approach fosters empathy and encourages children to become understanding and supportive members of their communities.

We are excited about "Alec's Helping Hands," which we anticipate will be released in August.

Alec's Helping Hands

R. W. Thompson



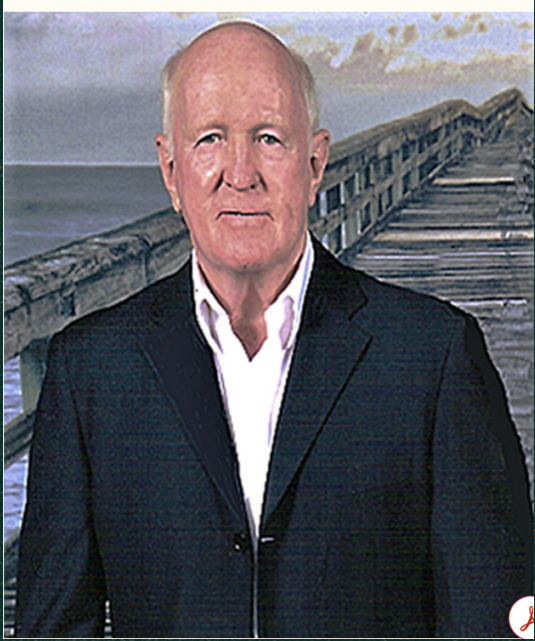
Synopsis:

Alec's Helping Hands is a heartwarming children's story that follows Alec, a thoughtful and courageous young boy who discovers the power of kindness and leadership in his everyday life, as he grows, physically and emotionally.

As his ninth birthday approaches, Alec notices whispers at school about "poor kids." But this year, something felt different. At school, kids whispered about "poor families"; his mom and he use the services from Our Community Food Pantry. Alec does not want to be associated with them.

As Alec's story unfolds, readers witness how empathy and initiative can transform a person and a community. Through watercolor illustrations and emotionally resonant scenes, the book celebrates the dignity of helping others and the quiet strength of a child who chooses to lead with heart.

Meet



the Author

I'm R. W. Thompson, an author of books for young readers and adults. I am a retired history teacher and elementary school principal who can now take the time to write and publish the stories that I used to make up for my children and students. My children's books and novels are listed under available books, and if you wish to purchase them, you may find them at [Barnes&Noble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com); go to the site, type in the title or ISBN number of the book, and follow their directions, or order them directly from me at robert.thompson58@verizon.net

There is also a poetry section where you will find poems about life, a special section entitled Anam Cara, poems for the soul, and a section for short stories.

Feel free to come on in and stay as long as you like, and if you get the urge to eat chocolate while you read, please be my guest. If you like something on any of the pages, please leave a message and your e-mail so I may respond to you!

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