

Upper St. Croix Parish  
Grantsburg, St. Croix Falls, Atlas  
P.O. Box 128  
Grantsburg, WI 54840

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HAPPY  
New Year

May he give you the desire of your heart  
and make all your plans succeed.

PSALM 20:4

# UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

## THE UPPER ST. CROIX PARISH

715-463-2624 Parish Office (in Grantsburg)

715-483-9494 St. Croix Falls Church

Email: [centralumc2016@gmail.com](mailto:centralumc2016@gmail.com),

[pastor.kookho@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.kookho@gmail.com) or [pastor.ranyoo@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.ranyoo@gmail.com)

Website: [www.upperstcroixparish.org](http://www.upperstcroixparish.org)

Facebook: Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Churches

January 2019



### ***"The best of all is, God is with us!"***

- The Journal of John Wesley, ed., Percy Livingstone Parker, (Chicago, IL: Moody Press), 419

During this winter season, what is your favorite thing to do? Mine is having a cup of "Peppermint Mocha." You can easily find it as a seasonal drink at any café. The reason why I really like Peppermint Mocha is that it is not only delicious, but it also reminds me of the one who is my center of life – Jesus Christ.

Let's think about the main ingredients of a Peppermint Mocha. Espresso, chocolate, milk, peppermint. First of all, like Espresso, Jesus always wakes me up. When my Spirit is sleeping and I'm not able to find God's presence or his love around me, Jesus always wakes my Spirit up. Also when I struggle with some problems, he always wakes me up. Then I can come back to the right path on which God leads me.

Secondly, like Chocolate, his love is so sweet. Since Jesus Christ loved us so much, he came to us. And his love has already prevailed in our midst. Also, we need to remember that as we spread his love by sharing what we have, serving others, and caring for one another, the sweetness of his love spreads out more and more to every corner of the world. Indeed, Jesus is love itself. So, once you taste his love, no one can make you stop.

Thirdly, like milk, Jesus nourishes us. As a mom feeds her baby, through his love, wisdom, guidance, teaching and words, Jesus nourishes us. We grow by his love in his grace and we grow up through faith in him.

Lastly, like peppermint, Jesus refreshes us. God created human beings from the dust of the ground, and he breathed life into each one of us, so we started breathing. Because of Jesus, you can be who you really are. When you have become weary, tired, or thirsty, his love makes you feel renewed or more energetic.

Likewise, Jesus reveals himself through every situation you encounter, every person you meet, and through everything that you can't even imagine. I hope and pray this new year, you will find and experience Jesus in your midst in new and different ways. Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Pastor Ran



## Fear Not! *(Please note this was from the Bishop on Dec. 18th)*



So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today. - Matthew 6:34

Let me share with you what I want more than anything else for Christmas: I would like faith to displace fear as the driving motivational value in our global culture, community, and church. Today's church and world is being torn apart by fear, worry, anxiety, and angst. Fear, in a multitude of disguises – anger, violence, prejudice, exclusion, judgmentalism, caustic rhetoric, suspicion, security systems and weapons, insult comedy, racism, sexism, classism, on and on – makes belief in a redeeming, saving, life-affirming, and generative faith seem irrational, unreasonable, gullible, and immature. Who in their right mind would feel good about our world in its present condition?

Well, God for one. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." In a world of turmoil, conflict, and rampant fear, we have a Messiah, a Savior, a counter-cultural reality that has the power to transform and make all things new.

But fear is a pathology in our society. It has taken root in our very DNA, and it causes us to act and react in some of the most toxic, unhelpful, self-defeating, and destructive ways possible. It seems easier to break things than to fix them; to split apart instead of working together for unity and peace; sacrificing the common good and a universal peace and security for personal, private, and individual short-term, inadequate solutions. Who can we trust? The "other" is strange, foreign, unsettling, dangerous. With this mindset, does the Gospel even stand a chance?

Two phrases in Greek, *me phobou* and *me phobeisthe*, occur frequently throughout the Christian scriptures. The first simply means, "be not afraid," while the second, more specifically and pointedly, means "YOU be not afraid," and it is both plural and indicative. If a person has faith, fear ceases to be an issue. Faith and fear cannot occupy the same space. Doubt or skepticism are not the opposites of faith; fear is. Where God is present, fear flies out the window. Jesus and Paul share the simple and clear admonition, "do not be afraid." Don't make it harder than it needs to be: Jesus Christ, Savior of the World, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Immanuel, Messiah, Lord of All, reigns in us – not fear. If God is for us, who can stand against us?

What will happen to us in February after the special session of General Conference? What happens if our borders allow too many foreigners into our country? What if peace talks break down in Korea? What if China gains too much power? What happens if we allow gay and lesbian leadership in the church? What happens if the other political party gains power? What happens if the other political party stays in power? What about gun violence, disease, computer hackers and identity thieves? Well, what about them? God is greater than any and all of our fears, anxieties, doubts, and delusions.

What I want most for Christmas is that we regain our center, and we reorient ourselves to God. I want to see God's people of faith to rise above our divisions to be a witness to the power and strength of God's love and grace. I want the world to look at the church and see a better way of being in the world and responding to the causes of so much fear and dread. In short, I want us who have received the miracle of God's love called Christmas, to live as Christmas people every day of the years to come. People of faith, not fear; people of love and grace, not anxiety; people of hope and trust, not suspicion and distrust.

My prayer for all of you, beautiful people of the Wisconsin Conference, is that the peace of Christ may reign and rule in your hearts and minds, and may the Messiah be born again in your life this Christmas.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung





# GIVING INVITATION January 2019

*"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)*

Henri Nouwen has said, "Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of the Kingdom."

If God wants us to build the Kingdom of God, then he wants us to invite others to support it. This is evangelism because the good news is that God has faith in us to build the Kingdom.

There are a number of steps in the asking process and asking is a later step, not the first:

**Ask God First!** We must first trust in God that we can succeed in soliciting support for the missions and ministries we seek to support. We come to God in prayer to ask God for support before asking anyone else.

**Love the person you are asking.** We must also love the person we are asking for support, giving them the means to become a brother or sister in Christ through their support of the Kingdom. We must trust that the Spirit of Christ that is guiding us is also guiding them.

**Ask on behalf of the Kingdom of God.** We are asking potential donors to invest in the work of God. Whether their ability to give is great or small, what matters is that they are making their gift available to God.

**Be grateful for the answer.** Whether the answer is yes or no or maybe or some-day, we must be grateful that the person listened and gave us an honest answer. We have offered something of great value and that is what is important to us.

*Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at  
[www.wumf.org](http://www.wumf.org) or [Facebook/wumf.org](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org)  
Or call 1-888-903-9863

# GRANTSBURG: CENTRAL NEWS

**Liturgists**  
 Jan. 6 John Elmgren  
 Jan. 13 Steve Briggs  
 Jan. 20 Kim Wheeler  
 Jan. 27 Carol Drohman



**Coffee Fellowship**  
 Jan. 6 Charles & Mary Lou Wright  
 Jan. 13 Mark & Marivel Harmon  
 Jan. 20 Kayleen Branstad  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

**Ushers**  
 Jan. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 13 Valetta Walson  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

**Altar Flowers**  
 Jan. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 20 Kayleen Branstad  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

**Church Doors on Sundays**  
 Open \_\_\_\_\_  
 Close \_\_\_\_\_

**Acolytes**  
 Jan. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

**Snow Removal**  
 All Jan. Brad Rehbein



**Jan. Counter** Dan Harmon

**Sunday School**  
 Jan. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

all that's missing is U!  
**VOLUNTEER**

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**



Dan Harmon 1/2  
 Lenora Bengé Briggs 1/2  
*Mike & Terry Giles* 1/6  
 Jim Loomis 1/14  
 Pauline Bistram 1/15  
 Aruya Paulson 1/22  
 Max Dauer 1/27  
 Russ Hammer 1/29



## A GLANCE AT CENTRAL'S OFFERING INCOME THROUGH NOVEMBER 2018



Funds	November 2018	Year-to-Date 2018
<b>General Funds Gifts</b>	\$ 5,042.50	\$ 60,032.86
<b>Loose Offering</b>	\$ 128.74	\$ 1,859.77
<b>Upper Room</b>		\$ 36.00
<b>Sunday School</b>	\$ -	\$ 100.00
<b>Pie &amp; Ice Cream Social</b>	\$ -	\$ 448.00
<b>Harvest Supper</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,829.00
<b>Thanksgiving Offering</b>	\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00
<b>Other</b>	\$ 600.00	\$ 775.00
<b>Total General Funds</b>	\$ 5,836.24	\$ 65,145.63
<b>Equipment Replacement Fund</b>	\$ 584.00	\$ 2,763.82
<b>Capital</b>	\$ 50.00	\$ 550.00
<b>Missions</b>	\$ 145.00	\$ 2,118.99
<b>Specials</b>	\$ 20.00	\$ 562.00
<b>A/C Fund</b>	\$ 20.00	\$ 120.00
<b>Other-Pastors Youth Fund</b>	\$ 25.00	\$ 625.00
<b>Central's Youth Fund</b>	\$ -	\$ 85.00
<b>Undesignated Memorials</b>		\$ 32,727.45
<b>UMM</b>	\$ -	\$ 518.00
<b>All Funds</b>	\$ 6,680.24	\$ 105,215.89

# GRANTSBURG: MISSIONS & MEETINGS



**JANUARY MISSION**  
Collecting donations  
for the food shelf.

MISSION UPDATES... Thank you to those who rang the bells for the Salvation Army at the Burnett Dairy in both November and December.



Thank you to those who helped Central UMC fill and deliver 25 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.



## 10 Biblical New Year's Resolutions

- 1 Pray Every Morning
- 2 Study a Book of the Bible
- 3 Memorize weekly Bible verse
- 4 Exercise Regularly
- 5 Eat healthier
- 6 Read a book on prayer
- 7 Save money
- 8 Do something nice for someone
- 9 Give rather than receive
- 10 Pray for wisdom



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S

### Upcoming Events

- † There are no UMW activities planned for January. Relax and enjoy the New Year!
- † Our next general meeting will be on February 13th at 1pm following kitchen cleaning (10am-noon) and bag lunches.

## BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!

REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY!



## UNITED METHODIST MEN

### JANUARY MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 12 at 8:00 AM  
Central UMC

**Devotions** - John Elmgren  
**Refreshments** - Charles Wright



## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

## JAN. MEETING

Jan. 15 ~ 6:30 pm

Grantsburg UMC

# ATLAS NEWS

# January

## Liturgists

Jan. 6 Toni Koons  
 Jan. 13 Sue Olsn  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_



## Ushers

Jan. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_



## Cleaning

*(Note the date starts with the Sunday to be cleaned and the rest of that week is your responsibility also.)*



12/30 & 1/6 Maxine Hauble  
 1/13 & 1/20 Sue Olson  
 1/27 & 2/3 \_\_\_\_\_



## Sunday School

*(Older/Middle/Primary)*



Jan. 6 Colleen Adams-Schween/Kristie Olson/  
 Cheryl Olson  
 Jan. 13 \_\_\_\_\_/Mariah Gaffey  
 Jan. 20 \_\_\_\_\_/  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_/Kristie Olson/Mariah Gaffey



### INCOME TOWARD ATLAS' BUDGET

Offerings:		
Dec. 2	\$	810.00
Dec. 9	\$	365.00
Dec. 16	\$	308.00
Dec. 23	\$	341.00
Dec. 30	\$	Unavailable
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1842.00 (as of 12/16)</b>

\$3278.84 - Needed per Month to cover expenses. **Dec. shortage = \$1454.84**

*Thank you for your faithful financial support of the ministry of Atlas church!*



### JANUARY 8TH MEETINGS AT ATLAS

SPRC Meeting ~ 6:00 pm  
 Parish Ad Council Meeting ~ 7:15 pm




### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, January 20  
 12:00 pm



**Resolutions for 2019**  
 Read my Bible  
 Do what it says!

### Plant Green Ink Jet Recycling Program

Do you have used ink jet cartridges or old cell phones? Every one that you donate to the church provides extra money to fund Atlas Church's Ministry and outreach.

Thank you for your continued support of this program!





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## JANUARY MISSION

We will collect donations for the food shelf...



## THE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS COFFEE, CRAFT & BAKE SALE RESULTS ARE IN!

We are grateful that so many of you shared your many talents at this yearly church fundraiser! Thanks to you we raised over \$1856! This yearly event helps raise much needed funds to support the church, its ministries and its expenses throughout the year. We couldn't do it without the dedication and support of so many of our members and friends of the church. We are truly blessed.



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD**  
Collecting Soup and/or \$1.00 to support  
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry



**JANUARY**

**BIRTHDAYS**

Josie Grimes 1/1

Kenneth Olson 1/13

Aryanna Mattson 1/20

Renee Tooze 1/26



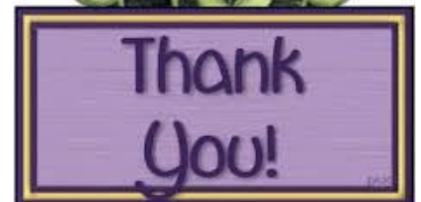
## LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS OUR ONGOING SUPPORT

On Communion Sunday, January 6th you are invited to bring food for the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry in Luck . We do keep a basket out for donations brought at any time as well.

## LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY Monthly Report ~ November 2018

Households Served	60	Luck School District	32
Adults	103	Unity School District	28
Children	<u>25</u>	Other	0
Total People	128	New Families: Unity 0 Luck 0, Other 0	
USDA Food Received	640#	NON-USDA (Donations)	1003#
Groceries Purchased	45#	Volunteer Hours	64

**Items Needed:** Soup, Meat product (canned ravioli etc 8 grams protien or higher)  
Personal products.



# ST. CROIX FALLS NEWS

## JAN



HELPING HANDS

### Liturgists

All of Jan. Jim Andrews

### Ushers

All of Jan. Marge Broker

### Altar Flowers

All of Jan. Karen Sciacca

### Coffee Hour

Jan. 13 Jim & Fay Andrews  
 Jan. 20 Administrative Council  
 Jan. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

### Communion / Paraments

Jan. 6 Karen Sciacca

### Money Counter(s)

All of Jan. Karen Sciacca

### Potluck

Marge Broker

## REMEMBER THE FOOD SHELF

On Communion Sundays, you are invited to bring in donations for the SCF Food Pantry. Canned vegetables, fruit or meat, fruit juice, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, kid-friendly soups, personal hygiene items ... just be sure your food items have not expired. **COMMUNION SUNDAY: January 6th**



## CHURCH COUNCIL



### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, January 6th  
 11:00 am, Following Service

## Happy New Year

A new year is about to unfold  
 With new opportunities to explore  
 Doors will open for new experiences,  
 New adventures with the Lord

Remember not the former things,  
 The things of this past year,  
 The Lord will do new things in us,  
 Much more than we are aware.

-M.S. Lowndes



## DECEMBER MISSION RESULTS

SCF UMC made 11 Christmas bags for 11 families in the SCF School District.

Thank you to all Who supported this mission whether it was through donation, coordination or prayer, we appreciate the support of this Christmas mission.



## JANUARY MISSION

Donations are being collected for the St. Croix Falls Food Shelf.

# what's happening

## GO FISH & FRIENDS FUN NIGHT

Wednesday, January 16th  
5:00-6:30 pm  
Central UMC



## PARISH YOUTH GROUP & PARENTS MEETING

JANUARY 13TH  
4-6 PM

CENTRAL UMC  
GRANTSBURG

## KIDS FUN SUNDAY

Atlas UMC  
Sunday, January 27 ~ 12:00 pm

All children  
are  
welcome!



## SPECIAL SUNDAYS IN 2019

**S**pecial Sundays in The United Methodist Church are intended to illustrate the nature and calling of the church and are celebrated annually. Special Sundays are placed on the calendar in the context of the Christian year, which is designed to make clear the calling of the church as the people of God, and to give persons the opportunity to contribute offerings to special programs. Your support is critical to the survival of these important ministries (listed below) and for sharing God's gifts around the world.

Six General Conference-approved Special Sundays with offerings are listed in **boldface type**. Special Sundays, or time periods, with Virginia Conference-approved offerings are marked with an asterisk (\*). Other times of special recognition approved by the General Conference and/or Virginia Conference are also listed.

Men's Ministry Sunday  
(any Sunday in the year)  
United Methodist Volunteers In  
Mission (UMVIM) Awareness Sunday  
(any Sunday in the year)

**January 20**  
**Human Relations Day**  
(Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr.'s  
birthday observance)

**The month of February**  
Heart Havens, Inc., Month\*

**February 3**  
Disability Awareness Sunday  
(First Sunday in February)

**March 31**  
**UMCOR Sunday**  
(Fourth Sunday of Lent)

**May 5**  
**Native American Ministries Sunday**  
(Third Sunday of Easter)

**May 5**  
Older Adult Recognition Sunday  
(First Sunday in May)

**May 5**  
Rural Life Sunday  
(First Sunday in May)

**May 12-June 16, 2019**  
Mother's Day/Father's Day  
Samaritan Program Offering\*  
(Pinnacle Living)

**May 19**  
Heritage Sunday  
(Sunday on or preceding Aldersgate  
Day, May 24)

**The month of June**  
Virginia Annual Conference Offering\*  
National Hunger Awareness Day  
recognition during Worship  
(Any Sunday in June)

**June 16**  
**Peace with Justice Sunday**  
(First Sunday after Pentecost)

**The month of September**  
Christian Education Sunday  
(Any Sunday in September)

**October 6**  
**World Communion Sunday**  
(First Sunday in October)

**October 13**  
Children's Sabbath  
(Second Sunday in October or any time  
during the year)

**October 20**  
Laitry Sunday  
(Third Sunday in October)

**November 10**  
Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday  
(Second Sunday in November)

**November 24**  
**United Methodist Student Day**  
(Last Sunday in November)

**The month of December**  
UMFS of Virginia Month\*



# Polk County Food Shelves

## Amery

**Amery Food Shelf—230 Deronda Street, Amery**

Food Shelf is located in the old Amery Regional Medical Center Building.  
Call (715) 268- 5999 before 12:00 noon on Wednesday. Leave name and number on voice mail. Open Thursday 2-6 pm.

Area of service: Amery school district only

**The Congregational Church—201 Harriman Ave. North, Amery**

Food distribution: 9-10:30 am every 2nd Saturday of the month . Registration is 7 am to 9:30 am. **715-268-7390 Special note:** No economic restrictions; however, a \$20.00 donation is asked to help cover the cost of the truck.

**Ruby's Pantry –www.amery.ucc.org or office.ameryucc@gmail.com**

Area of service: County wide

## Dresser

**People Loving People --- 103 E. Main Street, Dresser**

Monday and Saturday 11 am – 1 pm Wednesday 2 pm – 5 pm

Phone: 715-501-4657

## Frederic

**Family Pathways Food Shelf—1100 Wisconsin Ave South, Frederic**

Phone **715-327-4425**

Open Tuesday 9 am—6 pm, Thursday 9 am—6 pm, Saturday 9 am—12pm

**For best service please call for appointment.**

## Luck

**Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry—300 North 1st Street, Luck**

Pantry is located in the back of the DBS Hall

Open Tuesday & Thursday 11 am—1 pm

Phone (715) 472-2003

Area of service: Luck & Unity School Districts

## Osceola

**The Open Cupboard Food Shelf—402 2nd Avenue, Osceola**

Call for appointment: **715-294-4357**

Open Monday-Friday 8 am – 5 pm

(The Open Cupboard also has used furniture & clothing)

Area of service: Osceola & Dresser school district

## St. Croix Falls

**St Croix Falls Food Shelf—809 Pine Street, St Croix Falls**

Phone: **715-483-9138**

Open Monday 9 am—11 am Wednesday 3 pm—6 pm Friday 9 am – 10 am

Area of service: SCF school district, Dresser elementary, Centuria, Cushing & portions of Balsam Lake & Taylors Falls

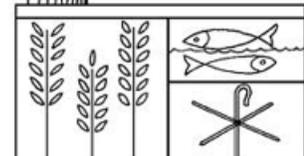
**Family Pathways Food Shelf—2000 US Hwy 8, St Croix Falls**

Phone: **715-483-2920**

Open Monday 9–5 pm, Tuesday 9-5 pm, Wednesday 12 pm– 6 pm, Thursday 9-5 pm, Friday 9–5 pm, & Saturday 9-Noon



**YOU give them something to eat. Mt 14:16**



# Burnett County Emergency Food Shelves and Distributions

## Grantsburg Area Food Shelf *No cost*

Serving residents of the Grantsburg School District  
Open Thursday 9:30am-11:30am;  
**EMERGENCIES ONLY** on Tuesday 9:30am-11:30am  
Allowed to come 2 times a month  
Located between the Library and the Village Hall Office,  
320 South Brad St., Grantsburg, WI



## Indianhead Community Action Agency- "Connections" *No cost*

Serving all Burnett County residents  
Open 10am-3pm Monday, Tuesday & Friday  
Located in Webster next to the Holiday Gas Station  
(715) 866-8151

## Ruby`s Food Shelf- Siren *No cost*

Serving residents of the Siren & Webster School Districts  
Open 10:00am-2pm Monday & Friday  
10:00am-4pm Wednesday  
Closed Thursday

\*\*You`re asked to be there at least 30 minutes before close  
Located at 24534 State Hwy 35/70 (Ruby`s Secondhand)  
(715)349-RUBY (7829)



## Ruby`s Monthly Food Distributions *Bring own boxes or baskets Donation: \$20*

For dates, times, and locations (no location restrictions at this time), visit <http://www.rubyspantry.org/distribution/distschedule.htm>

## Second Harvest Food Distribution *No cost*

First and Third Thursday of every month  
Starts at 11:00am until food is gone  
Located at Connections in Webster  
(next to the Holiday Gas Station)  
This distribution is offered to anyone in need of food; please help get the word out

## St. Croix Chippewa Commodities Distribution

24663 Angeline Ave., Webster  
349-2195, Becky Reynolds  
Food distribution: Monday to Thursday 7:30am-4:30pm  
(Native American Income Eligible Only)

Closed first week of each month for inventory. Can only receive one time per month. A variety of items are available each month and may include canned meats; juice; canned foods; dry goods; frozen meats; cheese; rice and pasta; fresh produce.

*"If you love me, feed my sheep."*

John 21:15-19