

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

Hello May

Charm is deceptive, and beauty
is fleeting; but a woman
who fears the Lord
is to be praised.

PROVERBS 31:30 NIV

Wishing you God's unending
favor, kindness and love this

Mother's Day
and always.

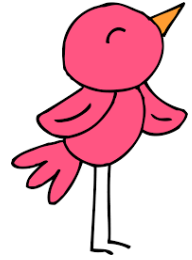


UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

THE UPPER ST. CROIX PARISH



715-463-2624 Parish Office (in Grantsburg)
715-483-9494 St. Croix Falls Church
Email: centralumc2016@gmail.com,
pastor.kookho@gmail.com or pastor.ranyoo@gmail.com
Website: www.upperstcroixparish.org
Facebook: Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Churches



May 2019

*“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God,
to those who are called according to His purpose.” - Romans 8:28*

As you know, on April 7th we had a parish-wide fundraising event, the Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction, to support the Upper St. Croix Parish Youth Group's summer retreat and mission trip. Many of our youth group members will graduate this year, and this is the very first parish-wide fundraising event. Because of this, when I was first planning this event, I was a little bit concerned about whether or not our younger kids could really run this big event.

However, while I was working with our youth and their parents, I was just amazed by all their leadership, hard work, service, dedication, commitment and other various talents. From planning meetings for this event to the day of the event, and even after, they were awesome!! Through them, I witnessed how much of a bright future our churches hold! They are great young leaders of our churches!

The Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction helped us raise \$1,398, with the final total being \$1,271.56 after reimbursements. Although it was a rainy and chilly day, more than 70 people joined in our event. Without your prayers and support, it wouldn't have been possible. Therefore, I am deeply grateful for God who led all of us throughout this event, and for all the people who worked, helped and supported us.

During this summer, our Youth group will be going on a summer retreat to Green Bay and a mission trip to Superior. And now, we dream big again for next year. We can't wait to see what kind of future will lead our youth! Again, I would like to say thank you for all your prayers and supports, and I hope you will continue to pray and support our amazing young leaders for the future of the Upper St. Croix Parish!

Blessings,

Pastor Ran





A Rocky Road to Easter

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered." But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.' Mark 14:26-28

How difficult must it have been for Jesus to face his final hours not knowing whether his followers could carry on the mission that he launched? It is beyond the imagination of most of us to conceive all that Jesus was feeling and facing during this time that we have come to call "Holy Week." Ushered into Jerusalem with the shouts of "Hosanna," and received as a fulfillment to prophecy one day, confronting and challenging political, military, and religious leadership in days following, saying goodbye and being arrested, tried, beaten, and crucified. Few of us can fathom the stress and emotion of this time. And Jesus questioned whether his closest friends and followers ever fully grasped what was to come. Peter's denial. Judas' betrayal. The abandonment of the remaining disciples. The rejection of the crowds. The mockery. The agony. Feeling forsaken.

Only Easter allows this to make any sense. Only the resurrection and all it symbolizes and means provides any redemption to this level of sacrifice and suffering. No wonder we often race to Easter, to celebrate new life in Jesus, to escape the darkness and despair of Good Friday and Black Saturday. Who wants to dwell in uncertainty, doubt, guilt, remorse and shame?

Yet, there is much value and benefit to thinking through our own discipleship and commitment as we prepare to meet the risen Lord. It is easy to judge Peter, to condemn Judas, to shake our heads at James and John and Thomas and the others. But staying together and staying committed is always easier from a distance. There is a good chance that we would not have fared any better than the disciples were we to find ourselves in their places.

Deserting in both big and small ways is a natural and normal defense mechanism. We seek safety and survival. We seek comfort and protection. When the storms are raging all around us, we look for cover and sanctuary. Who intentionally heads into danger and threat?

But we sometimes forget that there is NO Easter without Good Friday and all the events leading up to it. The road to Easter is rocky and rough, but that makes it all the more amazing, all the more miraculous. God prepares the road for us. God walks the road with us. God waits for us at the other end. But only if we stay on the road from start to finish.

Our United Methodist Church is going through some rough times. We are on a rocky road. People are failing. People are betraying. People are being hurt. People are feeling abandoned. People are giving into weakness. People are lashing out – with words if not with swords. People are running away. People are hiding.

Should we condemn them? Should we judge? Are we not among them? Perhaps the best course of action is one of grace and humility and gentleness and kindness. Perhaps we need to understand that we need each other to make it up the road, to get through the darkness, and to emerge – together – into the light of resurrection and new life. In the pain and suffering of loss, betrayal, loneliness, darkness, and despair, we can get distracted. We can begin to feel that what we are experiencing in the moment is the ultimate reality. But we are Easter people. Darkness never defeats the light. Despair never has the last word over hope. And death is an illusion, intended to confuse us and make us forget who we really are. Easter people. Now and forevermore. Thanks be to God.

Grace and Peace,
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

*Be the light
in the dark,
be the calm in
the storm and
be at peace
while at war.*



GIVING

Who Should Know What I Give?

May 2019

^{1b} I exhort the elders among you ²to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight ... as God would have you do it ... ⁴And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:1b-4)

The answer to the question, "Who should know what I give?" is simple and straightforward: **100% of the people who need to know and 0% of the people who do not need to know.**

I have donated to a number of nonprofit organizations and have never wondered who sees my donation. Nevertheless, I would certainly expect that the number who do see it includes those needed to process the gift, and those who would solicit the gift and thank me, including the CEO who is also gift solicitor-in-chief. In addition, there would be auditors who would need to have access to all financial records.

In our churches, it is the same. The financial secretary and counters process gifts. During the week, office staff may process checks that come in and produce reports on giving from the church database. The Stewardship team needs to see giving records in order to make plans for stewardship campaigns, say thanks, and to guide asking for future gifts. Finally, the Pastor needs to know in order to participate in financial Stewardship of the church as well as congregational care.

The 2016 General Conference confirmed what the pastor's role was already by amending the Book of Discipline to read, "*To ensure membership care including compliance with charitable giving documentation requirements and to provide appropriate pastoral care, the pastor ... **shall** have access to and responsibility for professional stewardship of congregational giving records.*" [Emphasis added.]

During the annual church audit, the church may share giving data with the auditors, as well.

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

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

GRANTSBURG: CENTRAL NEWS

Liturgists
 May 5 John Elmgren
 May 12 Steve Briggs
 May 19 _____
 May 26 _____

Ushers
 May 5 Charles Wright
 May 12 Valetta Walton
 May 19 _____
 May 26 Charles Wright

Coffee Fellowship
 May 5 Mary Lou & Charles Wright
 May 12 LuAnne Martell
 May 19 Bevan Branstad & Bob Branstad
 May 26 Mike & Terry Giles

Mowing
 All May Rehbein Family

May Counter _____



Altar Flowers
 May 5 Kayleen Branstad
 May 12 _____
 May 19 Russ & Deb Hammer-Celebrating Mikala's Graduation
 May 26 Valetta Walton

Acolytes
 May 5 _____
 May 12 _____
 May 19 _____
 May 26 _____

Sunday School
 May 5 Carol Drohman
 May 12 LuAnne Martell

Church Doors on Sundays



BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES



Rekha Roelfs 5/1
 Kate Lehne 5/2
 Becca Drohman 5/3
 Hazel Paulson 5/3
 LuAnne Martell 5/3
 Dan & Emily Rahkola 5/3
 Tammy & Daryl Anderson 5/4
 Bevan Branstad 5/9
 Marge Nelson 5/10
 Kathy Wheaton 5/13
 Mary Lou Wright 5/17
 Laura Drohman 5/21
 Jared Bohn 5/22
 Sharon & Dave Huff 5/22
 Link Loomis 5/27
 Annick Johnson 5/28
 Craig Giles 5/28
 Dave Huff 5/30



**Does your spiritual
 house need spring
 cleaning?**

A GLANCE AT CENTRAL'S OFFERING INCOME THROUGH MARCH 2019



Funds	March 2019	Year-to-Date 2019
General Funds Gifts	\$ 7,303.66	\$ 17,816.66
Loose Offering	\$ 172.50	\$ 369.53
Upper Room	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.00
Other		\$ -
Total General Funds	\$ 7,481.16	\$ 18,193.19
Equipment Replacement Fund	\$ 84.00	\$ 252.00
Capital	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00
Missions	\$ 93.00	\$ 1,413.00
Specials	\$ 155.00	\$ 235.00
A/C Fund	\$ -	\$ 20.00
Other-Pastors Youth Fund	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
Central's Youth Fund	\$ -	\$ -
Undesignated Memorials		\$ -
UMM	\$ -	\$ -
UMW	\$ -	\$ -
All Funds	\$ 7,888.16	\$ 20,338.19

GRANTSBURG: MISSIONS & MEETINGS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Next Meeting June 12th at 1pm at Central UMC

Seven women attended the April 10th meeting. We enjoyed listening to Pastor Ran tell us about Butterfly House. If you missed the meeting or just want to learn more about Butterfly House, a place for people recovering from addiction, visit <https://butterflyhousescf.org/>.

In keeping with our study "Living Simply" I asked members to write down and then share some of the things they do to go along with this topic. Below is a summary of the responses:

- Recycle, Recycle, Recycle cans/plastic/paper/etc.
- We all agreed that it is important to check with your trash handler or local recycle center to be sure you know how and what to recycle.
- There are many uses for peroxide, an inexpensive agent that is less toxic than bleach, for disinfecting around the house. You can use peroxide for household cleansers and personal care products that you make at home.
- There are tons of recipes on the Web for inexpensive earth friendly and people/animal friendly products that you can make.
- Shop at thrift stores, second hand stores, rummage sales and craft sales to reduce the waste of earth's resources.
- Whatever time of year you do your "spring" cleaning (I do mine in winter) enjoy less clutter. Donate clothes and items no longer needed to thrift stores and rummage sales. Also, some housing complexes have "free" tables. Be sure not to bring stained or heavily soiled clothed or non repairable items to these places as you will be hampering intended mission or service agendas.
- To avoid food waste try some simple meals, use leftovers and food already on hand before going grocery shopping. Can or freeze excess perishable food. Try a weekly menu.
- Try to lower temperatures a couple of degrees in winter and raise them a couple of degrees in summer to use less utilities. It is often possible to find new "comfort" temperatures.
- Combine trips from home to conserve gas.

We hope that "Living Simply" will ultimately give us more time for devotions, prayer, relaxation with our loved ones and the ability to give more away.

As we examine our treasure, we will find that a relationship with God leads us to give things away, and in giving them away find more than any god or possession could ever promise. From Treasure by Jacob Armstrong, p.54

LuAnne Martell, UMW President

BE A "BACKPACK BACKER"!

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



Can you donate to help support the backpack program?!

Symptoms:



- bounce off the walls chattiness
- a severe lack of focus
- pleas to stay out longer at recess
- longing glares out the window
- belting renditions of Olaf's beloved song "In Summer..."
- teachers feeling like Charlie Brown's teacher "Waa...waa...waa"

Diagnosis:

Spring Fever

MAY POTLUCK

Wednesday, May 1st
6:00 pm at Central UMC



Church Meeting



SPRC MEETING
Tues., May 14th
6:00 pm at
Central UMC

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S MAY MEETING

Saturday May 11th 8:00 AM
Central UMC



Devotions:
Mike Giles

Refreshments:
Mike Giles

MAY



MoM
Happy Mother's Day

MEMORIAL Day



May 5
May 12
May 19
May 26

Liturgists

Wendell Hauble
Toni Koons

Ushers

May 5
May 12
May 19
May 26

Cleaning

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

5/5 & 5/12
5/19 & 5/26

Sunday School

(Older/Middle/Primary)

May 5
May 12

Jamie Steffen/Kristie Olson/Cheryl Olson
Colleen Adams-Schween/_____/

Fellowship

May 12

Graduation Sunday



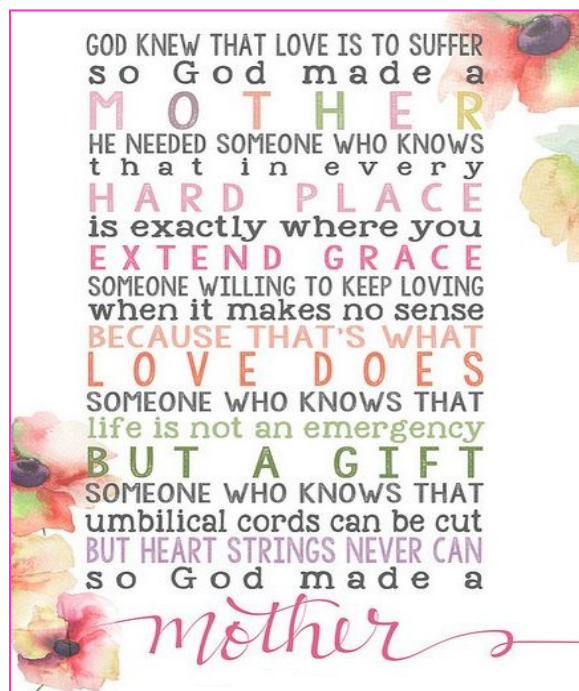
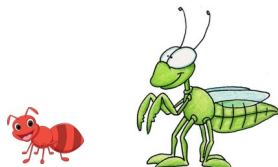
INCOME TOWARD ATLAS' BUDGET

April 7	\$ 795.00
April 14	\$ 445.00
April 19	\$ 217.00
April 21	\$ 457.50
April 28	\$ Unavailable
Total	\$ 1,914.50 (as of 4/21)



\$3278.84 - Needed per Month to cover expenses.
April shortage = \$1364.34

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



Ashleigh Olson 5/4

Colleen Norenberg 5/4

Jason Frenette 5/4



Barry & Colleen
Norenberg
5/31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO YOU!



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!

MAY EVENTS



&



"A mother is your
first friend, your
best friend, your
forever friend."

~Voltaire~



Important Upcoming Dates

- May 1-11 Pastor's on Vacation
Emergency Contact Freddie Kirk
715-327-4436 or
pastorfreddiekirk@gmail.com
- May 5 Native American Ministries Sunday
- May 12 Graduation Sunday Celebration
- May 12 Last Day of Sunday School
- May 15 4:30 Youth Group at Cinema
- June 12-13 Youth Group Retreat in Green Bay
- July 21-26 Youth Group Mission Trip to Superior

LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS OUR ONGOING SUPPORT

On Communion Sunday, May 12th 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.

**May Collection: NON-FOOD
ITEMS: DIAPERS/WIPES,
LAUNDRY DETERGENT,
DEODORANT, TOILET PAPER**

MAY MISSION ~ INGATHERING KITS

We will be collecting items for the Ingathering Kits for the Wisconsin Annual Conference from their URGENT NEEDS list.



Please note that all items need to be new and unwashed.

URGENT NEEDS

- ✚ Receiving Blankets
- ✚ Gowns/Sleepers
- ✚ Onesies
- ✚ Cloth Diapers



Donations can be left in the basket at the front of the church. Thank you!



LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY

Monthly Report ~ March 2019

Households Served	45	Luck School District	27
Adults	83	Unity School District	18
Children	17	Other	1
Total People	100	New Families: Unity 1 Luck 0, Other 0	
USDA Food Received	1451#	NON-USDA (Donations)	1809#
Groceries Purchased	770#	Volunteer Hours	60



Items Needed: Meat product (canned ravioli etc 8 grams protein or higher) Cereal and Personal Products.

MAY

ST. CROIX FALLS NEWS

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...please be sure your items have not expired. Thank you!

Liturgists

All of May Peter Gionis



Ushers

All of May Karen Sciacca

Altar Flowers

All of May Kathy Gionis



Coffee Hour

May 12 Karen Sciacca
May 19 Administrative Council
May 26 Kathy & Peter Gionis

Communion / Paraments

May 12 Steve & LeAnn Sylvester

Money Counter(s)

All of May Sharon Asp

Potluck

Marjorie Broker

Communion Sunday: May 12th

PLEASE give generously

MAY 5th

UNITED METHODIST

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

Sunday

YOUR GIFT

Encourages and empowers aspiring leaders within the Native American Community. Your decision to give educates seminarians and empowers outreach within the Native American culture.

HELPING HANDS

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Naomi McLean 5/6

Charlie & Joan Zeigler 5/7

Nathan Murtaugh 5/11

Peter Gionis 5/15



MAY MISSION

SCF School Store

Donating hygiene items and toiletries for the St. Croix Falls School Store where they provide these items for students in need.



SCF UMC POTLUCK
May 15th - 6:00 pm

what's happening

GO FISH & FRIENDS FUN NIGHT

Wednesday
May 15th
5:00-6:30 pm
Central UMC



MOVIE NIGHT

Wed., May 15th

4:30 pm Cinema

WANNIGAN DAYS RIVER SPIRIT CELEBRATION

July 19, 2019 - July 21, 2019



The 61st Wannigan Days River Spirit Celebration in St Croix Falls/Taylors Falls is the #1 St Croix Valley summer entertainment reunion. Make plans for a weekend of family fun, a large scale food & music festival, fitness 5k & 10k City of Trails Run, Kids games and the area's best arts & crafts fair on Main street. Fun for everyone.

MUSIC ON THE OVERLOOK

Most Friday's ~ Jun 7, 2019 - Aug 23, 2019



Music on The Overlook
2019 St Croix Falls Summer
Fridays Downtown 6:30 pm
Free Family Friendly Concerts
If Rain Go To The Dalles House Stage

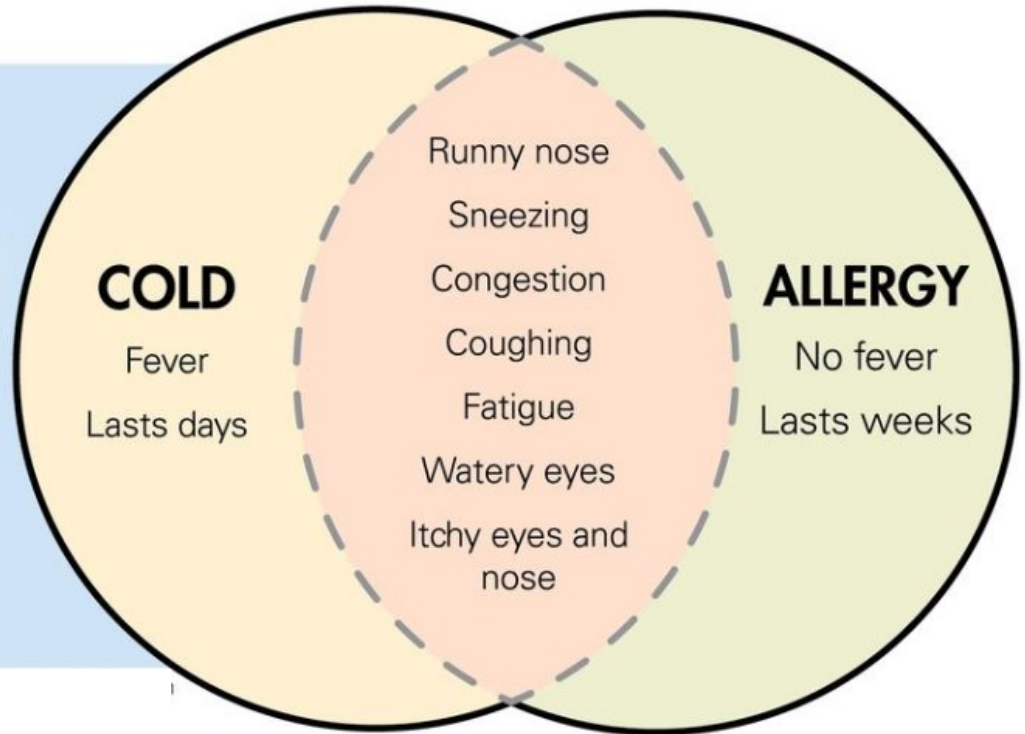


musicontheoverlook.com

Miscellaneous Stuff

Cold or allergy?

The symptoms can be similar, here's what to look for.



Military Holidays Quick Guide

Armed Forces Day: A day for honoring those who are currently serving in all branches of the Armed Forces.

Memorial Day: A day honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country by giving their lives.

Veterans Day: A day for honoring all who served honorably in the Armed Forces, whether in peace or wartime.

GRANTSBURG ALLIANCE OF CHURCHES

Join us for a

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday, May 11

Group 1 starts at 4:00 PM

Group 2 starts at 5:00 PM

@ Grace, Faith & New Hope Churches



Start here!

Group 1 - 4:00 PM

**Advance to
Grace Church**

Group 2 - 5:00 PM

**Enjoy a Crisp Salad
and Appetizers!**

**Participate
in a
Meat
Drawing**
(if you want to)

Tickets are available at
the Grantsburg Library and at any
of these Grantsburg Alliance Churches:
Bethany Lutheran, Central United Methodist,
Faith Lutheran, Grace Baptist, Immaculate
Conception, New Hope Lutheran, Trade
River Free, & Zion Lutheran

Group 1 - 5:00 PM

**Continue on to
Faith Lutheran**

Group 2 - 6:00 PM

**Feast with
your Friends!**

**Silent
Auction!**

Tickets:

Adults - \$15;

Children 6-12 - \$7;

Children 0-5 - Free

Group 1 - 6:00 PM

**Mosey over to
New Hope Lutheran**

Group 2 - 7:00 PM

**Savor Sweets
& Treats!**

Sponsored by the
Grantsburg Alliance of Churches

**ALL
Proceeds
go to the
Salvation
Army's
Backpack
Program**

**(Feeding hungry children
on the weekends
throughout the school year.)**

Thank You!



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