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



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A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Your Ministry Story ~ July 2021

Ephesians 3:20 "Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to God's power that is at work within us."

I took my kids fishing for the first-time last month. You can imagine the excitement of 5-year-olds with a fishing rod! Besides fishing, they had fun throwing things into the lake. They enjoyed seeing how far they could throw sticks and rocks and see the ripples they create. That was a great teaching moment. "Do you know your words and actions are like these sticks? You do one thing, but it has a reaction much larger."

There is a church in our conference that received an estate gift in the mid-1990s for youth. The gift was \$5,000 and was invested here at the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation. That gift has grown and continued to be used for ministry. In the last 25 years, over \$6,500 has been used for youth ministry! There is still almost \$7,000 in that fund today!

Isn't it wonderful what a modest gift can do for the ministry of a church even after we have died! Isn't it wonderful how one gift can affect youth for years! Isn't it wonderful that one gift is a much larger action than the original giver could have ever known?

How are you giving to the church with your time, talents, and treasures? What ripple affect will it have now and in the future?

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or Facebook/wumf.org
Or call 1-888-903-9863

United Methodist Messenger

THE UPPER ST. CROIX PARISH



715-463-2624 Parish Office (in Grantsburg) 715-483-9494 St. Croix Falls Church Church Email: centralumc2016@gmail.com,

Pastor Jenny Lee: JENNLEE1732@GMAIL.COM Website: www.upperstcroixparish.org

Facebook: Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Churches

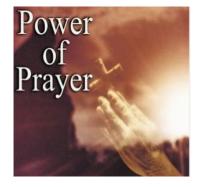
July 2021

Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.



While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying, they laid their hands on them and sent them off. (Acts 13:2-3)

Last week, we had the 2021 Wisconsin Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. It was a hybrid of pre-recorded and live-webinars due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared to last year, it is getting closer to normal. While we only had a one-day webinar for the Conference last year, the Conference this year was held over a couple of weeks, including the pre-recorded and live webinars. I was busy participating in both webinars as a provisional elder of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. I was so pleased to be a part of it. It took such a long time for me to become a provisional elder of the United Methodist Church.



With my mother's last wish and my response to God's call, I studied theology for ten years since I came to the United States. There are many reasons it took me so long to be a provisional elder. One of the reasons is that I couldn't identify my calling to God, whether teaching in a seminary or ministry in a church, going back to my home country Korea, or staying in the United States. God of patience waited for me to identify my calling and decision to minister in a church in the United States. I believe that God waits until we notice God's calling and respond to him because God gives us freedom (free will) to accept God's grace or not. God's grace and love are given to everyone who accepts God. However, the final decision is our duty, and the responsibility of the decision is also our choice.

I went to Sun Prairie the day before the service and stayed in a hotel. My friend also reserved a hotel room because she was coming from Chicago. For the pre-recorded sessions, each candidate of ordination and commissioning was allowed only two guests. I invited my friend and her husband. However, on my way to Sun Prairie, I got a phone call from my friend that she couldn't make it because her husband had a minor heart attack and went to the emergency room. I felt God wanted me to pray every moment. My friend worried about me being alone, and she couldn't make it because she was worried about her husband. I stopped driving and pulled into the rest area off the highway and prayed for my friend and husband. As I was about to drive again toward Sun Prairie, one of my colleagues called me, wondering how I was doing and asked whom I invited. I told her the whole story about my friend whose husband had a minor heart attack. When I arrived at the hotel, I got many texts from my colleagues and friends, sending their prayers for my friend and her husband. And, I heard that her husband's surgery went well, and he was recovering comfortably. While I went down to Sun Prairie, it took many hours, and I had many stories to think about like my life story. One of my colleagues, who called me on my way, and asked many to pray together, came to the service to support me. She said, "I want you to know you are not alone. Remember, someone always prays for you." I said, "Yes, I know. I never think I am alone since I believe in God." I experienced once again that prayers have power, especially when we pray together in Jesus' name, it's very powerful.

FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED...

After pre-recording the ordination and commissioning service, I sent my family members in Korea a short video clip, where I was receiving my commissioning. I could talk with my family members via video phone. We were happy to talk about my life journey and my mother and father. I appreciate all who supported and prayed for my long journey. Last week, our parish's Wisconsin annual members-Barb Loomis, Sue Olson, and Karen Sciacca, gathered together in Grantsburg to participate in the Webinar of the 2021 Annual Conference. It took two days. We had such a nice time together. The last session was the service of ordination and commissioning, which was pre-recorded in Sun Prairie. After all sessions were done, they said to me, "Congratulations, Pastor Jenny." And Sue said, "Pastor Jenny, I have a question for you. So, what's your status now?" I said, "Well, I'm a provisional elder." To be an official elder of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church, it may take me about three more years. However, I trust that God, who lead me this far, will guide me to be there. I am growing and evolving every day. Thank you all for your support and prayers.

Blessings,

Pastor Jenny Lee



Thank you for praying!

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The money we receive will be used to support our parish's next generation. Thank you to those who are using the link below when shopping through Amazon. Please feel free to share this link with anyone you know who shops through Amazon. You receive the same products at the same price yet you can make a big difference in supporting our youth!

Copy and past the address below (or click on the link if you're seeing it electronically) into your browser and then bookmark the page for future use. Once you log into your account you can bookmark that and it will save your information if you make that selection! Thank you for your support!



https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7429002

"The Joy of Annual Conference"



"Am I hearing you right, Bishop Jung? The **joy** of Annual Conference?"

Yes, my beloved siblings in Christ, Annual Conference is a time for joy. Certainly, we must deal with the business of the Conference, and there are various limitations and concessions we make in the virtual format, but at the deepest level, Annual Conference is the gathering of a beloved covenant community of laity and clergy who love God, love the church, and work together to honor and glorify God through vital mission and ministry. We do not always agree on everything, and we may have conflicted feelings about the future of the church, but we are a body of baptized Christian stewards who are excited about "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

For decades, Annual Conference began with the singing of "And Are We Yet Alive," and the response on the part of all the leaders of our church was a resounding "yes." By God's grace, we are the witness to the world of God's unconditional love and enduring hope. Annual Conference has always been intended as prayerful and worshipful work, holy Christian Conference, and celebration of the manifold blessings of God. This is still the joy of Annual Conference I wish to lift up.

Our worship is the centerpiece of our time together. From opening worship through our Memorial Service – honoring the laity and clergy who have passed away since our last time together – to our Service of Ordination and Commissioning – which confers God's blessing on the specialized ministries of those responding to God's call, we are raising our hearts and voices in praise and thanksgiving. We recognize our retirees and the incredible service they have given to keep our churches strong and our witness great. We recognize and celebrate with various awards, those who make special contributions to ministry in and through our Wisconsin Conference. We have preachers, teachers, and Bible study leaders who shift our focus to the future and to improving our ministry in significant ways.

And we have fellowship. Perhaps the greatest challenge and the most significant sense of loss is that we cannot gather in person, greeting one another face-to-face and sit around tables catching up and sharing our stories. We miss the laughter and the joy that comes when old and new friends spend time in the hallways and at mealtimes and in the free time each evening. But the fact that we cannot have this level of engagement this year simply makes us more aware how precious our covenant community really is. We are a source of joy for one another.

SOUL FOOD CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

SOUL FOOD CONTINUED...

We have a special opportunity and celebration this year. Due to difficult scheduling, we are meeting together on Juneteenth. This is a significant historic memorial for the ending of slavery in the United States, and it stands symbolically for the sacred worth of each person. From our national shame comes resurrection and a deep commitment to radical inclusion and racial justice. For all who are not attending Annual Conference, I heartily recommend attending a Juneteenth celebration. For those of us leading our Wisconsin Conference, our day together of worshipful work is dedicated to the meaning and spirit of Juneteenth. Another reason for joy and celebration.

Meetings are meetings. They can be good and productive, they can be long and waste time, they can be confusing and complex, but they can also be a party. I am inviting you all to a party, celebrating the church of Jesus Christ called United Methodist. I am inviting you to enter into delight and thanksgiving for all the blessings of our ministry and mission together. I invite you to worship and singing, learning and listening, recognitions and remembrance, I am inviting you to the joy of Annual Conference, reminded of the words from scripture,



Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches. (Psalm 149:1-5)

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung has served as resident bishop of the Wisconsin Annual Conference since September of 2012. Prior to leading the Wisconsin Conference UMC, Bishop Jung served eight years as bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference (Chicago area).



GRANTSBURG: CENTRAL NEWS

Central UMC is holding church services at 8:30 am on Sundays.



Most all of us are vaccinated, but we respect everyone whether masks are on or off. As we are still living with the Coronavirus we are encouraging people to avoid hugging or shaking hands with each other.



We welcome everyone to join us for Coffee Fellowship after service each Sunday. Please be safe.





Sharon Huff 7/3
Maggie Wright 7/8
Andy & Monica Loomis 7/14
Adam Dahl 7/18
Mark Harmon 7/20
Cody Johnson 7/25
Logan Smestad 7/26



A GLANCE AT CENTRAL'S OFFERING INCOME THROUGH APRIL 2021



Funds	Мау 2021		Year-to-Date 2021	
General Funds Gifts	\$	5,760.00	\$	18,480.00
Loose Offering	\$	42.00	\$	92.00
Upper Room	\$	-	\$	20.00
Rummage Sale			\$	85.00
Easter Offering			\$	90.00
Total General Funds	\$	5,802.00	\$	18,767.00
Missions	\$	20.00	\$	20.00
Specials	\$	-	\$	235.00
Other			\$	-
All Funds	\$	5,822.00	\$	19,022.00

GRANTSBURG: MISSIONS & MEETINGS & MISC.



Our June Meeting was held at Terry Giles home on June 14 at 1:00 pm.

After a short meeting we helped Terry set up and price items for our church sale and also her moving sale. Some of us worked the sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Thank you to Terry and Mike for giving us the opportunity to sell some items as a fundraiser for our church.

There will be a Birthday Party for all UMW members on July 14th in the fellowship room at the church at 1:00 pm. Bring a \$5.00 exchange gift and come and celebrate each one of us with cake and ice cream.

Hope to see you there.

~ Mary McNally







Admin Meeting July 20th

6:30 pm Central UMC

UNITED METHODIST



JULY 10TH MEETING

8:00 am Central UMC

The United Methodist Men will meet the 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am. No masks are required.

JULY MISSION SCHOOL SUPPLIES

This month Central will be collecting school supplies that will be distributed to school children in Grantsburg. Please see the mission board for a list of requested supplies. Thank you ~ Deb





ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

July 23rd 10:30 am







Beginning July 4th, we will begin in-person (indoor) worship services
Sundays at 9:45 am.

We will be needing volunteers so please check the sign up sheets if you are able to help.

Thank you!

ZOOM VIDEO WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am Sunday's

There will be a parish-wide ZOOM video service at 8:30 am every Sunday until further notice.

The worship materials will be mailed out to those without email, emailed out to everyone in the parish we have email addresses for and posted on our website. The sermon and ZOOM login information will also be sent with the service material and posted on our website. The video of the worship service will be posted on the parish Facebook page after the service.

INCOME TOWARD ATLAS' BUDGET

Offerings:

June \$ 1725.00 Other \$ Unavailable

Total \$1725.00 as of 6/20/21

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

\$3278.84 - Needed per Month to cover expenses. **\$1553.84** shortage for June.



PLANET 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!









LOAVES & FISHES **NEEDS OUR** ONGOING SUPPORT

You are invited to bring food for the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry in Luck. As we are not currently holding indoor services, please drop your food shelf donations off in person at the food shelf.

July Collection:

School Supplies













Scott Olson 7/2 Jamie Steffen 7/12 Brodie Kunze 7/15 Chelsie Kunze 7/21 Marguerite Walsten 7/23 Roxane Brock 7/27

THANK YOU

LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY

Monthly Report ~ May 2021

Households Served 30 Luck School District 17 Adults 54 **Unity School District** 13 Children Other

Total People New Families: Unity 1 Luck 0 Other 0

USDA Food Received 952# NON-USDA (Donations) 542#

Groceries Purchased 0# Volunteer Hours 40

Items Needed: Peanut butter, tuna fish, canned corn, canned peas, canned beans, cereal and pancake mix.



HELPING HANDS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There are sign-up sheets for volunteers now that we are again holding in-person services. In-person services will start Sunday, July 4th at 11:15 am. We hope to see you there!

We will still also hold ZOOM Video services at 8:30 am every Sunday. Check out our website and Facebook page for details. We hope you can join us! Thank you!



Betty Benjamin 7/8
Betty Doolittle 7/24
Jim Andrews 7/28
Joan Ziegler 7/31



ST. CROIX FALLS NEWS

REMEMBER THE FOOD SHELF

On Communion Sundays, you are invited to bring in donations for the SCF Food Pantry... just be sure your food items have not expired.

COMMUNION SUNDAY: 7/4/21





St. Croix Falls Admin Council Meeting

> June 15th 4:00 pm

JULY MISSION

Sailor Hat Offering will go to support: Harbor House



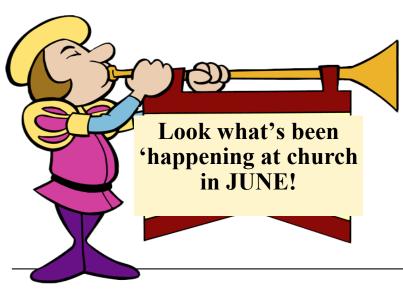
Thank you for your support!

The Polk County Fair Board would like to invite you back to the Fair!

We are proud to announce the return of the Polk County Fair in 2021 to the Fair Park in St. Croix Falls. While the decision to cancel the fair last year was difficult, the decision to move forward with the fair this year has been equally challenging. There will be, undoubtedly, many obstacles to overcome, and some things may not look or feel like they have in the past, but, we are committed to keeping our attendees as safe and healthy as we can. We will be working with partners at the National, State, and Local, levels to ensure that we are incorporating as many Best Practices as possible. We are also just as committed to ensuring that everyone who attends our fair has a good time! In fact, our mascot this year Gertrude the GOAT, promises that you will have the Greatest Of All Time...

Thu, Jul 29 - Sun, Aug 1

Polk County Fair Grounds 800 E Louisiana St, St Croix Falls, WI



Acolyte for Sunday service, May 30, 2021 (Willow Erickson and Pastor Jenny Lee)



Outdoor service at Atlas Park (Don Schween, Colleen Adams-Schween, and Kenneth Olson)

June 13, 2021.



Visiting with Bevan Branstad on June 4, 2021.



Visiting with Dorothy Miller on June 17, 2021.





Ad Council Meeting with DS Rev. Barb Certa-Werner on June 10, 2021.



St. Croix Falls Reunion on June 6, 2021.



Outdoor service at Atlas Park (Jim Andrews, Kathy Gionis and Peter Gionis, 6-13-2021)

Graduation Party for Tanner Gaffey on June 6, 2021.





June Happenings Continued....



UMW Vintage Sale June 17-19, 2021

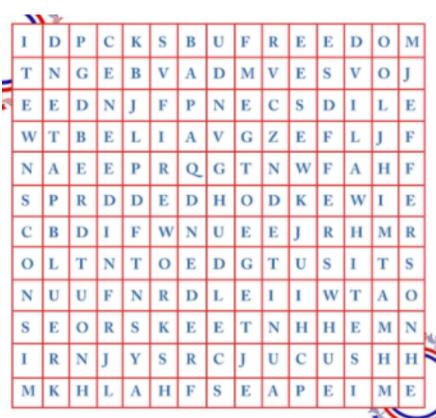


Pastor Jenny received a commissioning as a Provisional Elder on June 15, 2021.





Wisconsin Annual Conference, June 18 and 19 (Sue Olson, Karen Sciacca, and Barb Loomis)



4th of July WORD SEARCH ®

INDEPENDENCE RED FLAG WHITE JULY BLUE PARADE FIREWORKS UNITED CONSTITUTION FREEDOM GEORGE LIBERTY JEFFERSON

- Q. What did one flag say to the other flag?
- A. Nothing. It just waved!







Miscellaneous

MINISTRY TABLETS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder we have ministry tablets available for all churches to use for their members, please let Pastor Jenny know if you would like to use one.

Our experiences are that users really appreciate them, they are able to hear and see other members during the service. -Karen Sciacca



Youth & Children's Ministry Directors Wanted

The Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Church is looking for two high energy, fun spirited directors to join our team. Must have a Christian sense of call to compassionate service, a love for working with youth and children, passion for faith development, excellent communication skills, creativity, and the ability to work effectively with others. Both positions will be part-time: Youth Director position is about 5 hours per week, and the Children's Director position is about 7 hours per week. Duties include coordinating programs, leading activities, and monthly meetings with volunteers and the pastor. Pay based on experience.

Please email resume with cover letter to jennlee1732@gmail.com.

Contact: Pastor Jenny Lee

Address: 301 S. Pine St., Grantsburg, WI 54840

Website: www.upperstcroixparish.org



NEW UPPER ST. CROIX PARISH



The SPRC Committee met on June 24th to discuss in person worship services at each of the 3 churches in the Upper St. Croix Parish. It was decided that the schedule would be as follows:

8:30 am Central UMC in Grantsburg

9:45 am Atlas UMC in Atlas

11:15 am St. Croix Falls UMC in St Croix Falls

It was agreed not to rotate times in order to provide consistency. If the Pastor is running behind schedule the Liturgist at the church can begin the announcements and the service.

A quarterly all parish service (Joint service) will also start again on Aug 22nd.

We will again need volunteers for each service. Please see the signup sheets at each church and sign up if you are able to help. We love our volunteers!!

We look forward to opening the doors again at all the churches and welcoming all who come.



Introduction of Two Small Group Gatherings



We will be starting two new small group gatherings. The purpose of these gatherings is to help us build good relationships with God and with one another. This will help revitalize our faith and our church community. In addition, we will evolve in our faith as disciples of Jesus Christ, and contribute to our local community and the global world.

We will begin with two small groups, and later on, we hope to add additional groups. We will meet (gather) regularly (once a week or twice a month). Each group has a leader and an assistant leader (or secretary). Each leader and assistant has the responsibility to communicate with members, and prepare for each gathering. They will also work with Pastor Jenny. These two groups are open to everyone, and they welcome all! We will open our church to the community for these gatherings and plan to start the first week of August 2021.

Prayer Group (Breakthrough Prayer)

"This kind can come out only through prayer." (Mark 9:29)
It is an intercessory prayer group for the people, church,
community, county and the world. The prayer group will learn
about many styles of prayer, and will practice some of them.
The prayer group will keep record and report as witnesses of
the power of prayer.



2. Craft Group

"A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul." (Acts 16:14)

This group will meet and craft together. Some of the potential projects are crocheting, knitting, handmade crafting, drawing, etc. We welcome everyone from beginners to those who are open to teaching others. The goal of the craft group is to get to build relationships with our church family and neighbors in the community, and to also contribute to a local community through fundraising and mission work.



If you are interested in either of these groups, please contact Pastor Jenny.

(Main Office: 715-463-2624, Cell: 773-793-7307, or Email: jennlee1732@gmail.com).

We look forward to gathering-God always shows up, we hope you do too.

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



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

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

Phone: 715-501-4657



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.



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: 715-520-2397

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, Thurs-

day 9-5 pm, Friday 9-5 pm, & Saturday 9-Noon









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.