

Circuit Rider

1001 Holden Avenue PO Box 2590 Big Bear City, CA 92314 (909) 585-4089

Sept/Oct 2013

Volume 5 issue 5

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Monthly Newsletter of
Big Bear Lake
United Methodist Church

Rev. Nancy Carlson
Pastor

Robert Ludecke
Lay Leader

Pat Hubby
Secretary

A Word From Our Pastor Nancy

Summer is ended and harvest is over, we now enter the season of grace. During my life in the farming community this sentiment is perhaps more poignant than our mountain life. While the summer days were longer, we worked outside longer and played harder. Then came the harvest and times were crazy. Every member of every family was somehow involved in harvest. The elderly and young were in the kitchen fixing meals to take out to the fields. Even before they could reach the peddles, (wood blocks were duck-taped on to peddles for youth) anyone else was driving trucks, trailers, combines, and transfer bins. We were up well before the sun and went to bed long after the sun. The rush of getting the harvest in before hail storms was enormous. Everyone was excited. We hear throughout the Bible of the great joy of harvest; the time when we see the result of many days, weeks, and months of work. Then the harvest was over and it was a season of grace. Grace of God giving us the yield we received, grace of God healing the wounds from our lives of hard work and toil, grace of God helping us realize that throughout everything, and He will take care of us.

Here, in Big Bear, we may think we are far removed from the harvest of farm life, and in many ways we are. However, if we look at the patterns of farm life we may just see ourselves after all. Summer tourist season is a time of long days that create our periodic financial yield. Our short summer season causes us to work harder on our yards. We live in paradise and want to play in the beauty of God's creation and our days are longer to do just that. While we may not harvest food products, we gather wood, rake in pine needles and trim back trees to keep our area fire resistant. We know winter is coming and we begin to get ready. It seems autumn is a busy time transitioning from the warmth of summer into the winter freeze. Could this be another layer of meaning when Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few"?

We know that Jesus was really referring to harvesting believers, being fishers of men, and bringing people to the Gospel.

Of Course this doesn't just last a few months of our calendar year, we are talking about God-time which is far different than human time. God's time is not as linear as ours and seems to be fluid, flowing in and out of our lives. Sometimes we are tempted to say that we have already worked long hours in one area or another in the church. And the truth is we all have. Then comes that fluidity of God's time and we are called to labor again in the fields of our lives. Our brain's muscles scream, "I'm tired"! Our attitudes cry, "Not again!" Like the farmer, if we stop before the storm, our yield is diminished.



We plant the seeds in the fertile minds of children and nurture their growth. We also need to plant seeds of God's grace in the minds of the un-churched and nurture that growth as well. As we continue to plant and nurture others, our harvest will be plentiful. 2 Corinthians 9:6 & 7, Paul reminds us that "Whoever sows sparingly reaps sparingly, and whoever sows generously reaps generously." God promises that as we work hard in planting and nurturing, the harvest will be abundant. We have seen our church grow and new members join each year because we resisted the urge to stop. When we want to wind down and "take some time off" we miss the joy of the new people and their ideas. God's season of grace flows throughout our seasons. He seems to know that our lives are in need of grace at the time of greatest hurry. So let's take some time to celebrate the season of grace as it comes our way. As we harvest our blessings may we count our church and church family as some of our greatest.

Yours in harvest, yours in Christ,

Pastor Nancy



A Big Thank You!!

By the time this article goes to print, the "Fun" Raiser committee will have had our first event, the Bad Poetry Dinner! We have no totals on how much money was raised, but it was a unique learning experience for us.

We are fortunate at BBUMC to have the most amazing people working to bring funds into our church!

Mary and Walt Campbell
 Pastor Nancy Carlson
 Sandy and Bobby Clark
 Donna Edmundson

Steve Walker
 Al Woodward
 Joan Wolcott



It was great working together and making new friends. We are a wonderful "quorum"! Many, many thanks to each and everyone of you!!!

If you would like to be part of a hard working, fun loving group, we would love to have you!

Prayer Needs & Praise Reports

“It is a privilege to “stand” in the gap for someone in intercession.” - Bettie’s nuggets



• **Our church:**

To grow in faith, fellowship, friendship & finances.

• **Health concerns for:**

Sherry Drury & sons, Robert & John

Steve & Pam Walker

Tammy Stevenson’s brother, Scott

Leonard Chaidez

Pat Hutchens

Chuck Rose

Fred Jones

Carla

Suzanne Chapin & son Chris

Donna Edmundson



Lori Young

• **Other needs:**

Administrative support & Technical difficulties.

Our local hospital & its employees

• **Those in Grief:**

The family of Marge McDonald

Polly Dopps

• **Safety needs:**

Alan MacQuoid while abroad

Ken & Holly Pak visiting from Kuwait.

• **Praise:**

For God’s protection & provision!

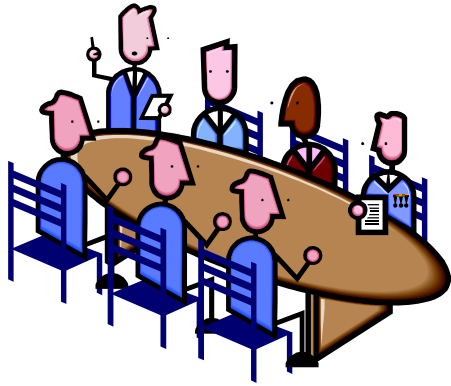


Thanks to all who got your articles to me on time!! It is much appreciated.!

* * * * *
 * If this newsletter did not have *
 * information regarding an event or a *
 * report you’re interested in, contact *
 * the person or the committee chair in *
 * charge of it to determine why it is *
 * missing. *
 * * * * *

Newsletter Articles are due the 15th of the month prior to publication month

REPORT OF THE SPRC



The Staff Parish Relations Committee has experienced a less dramatic year than it has in the past few seasons. Our paid staff has worked diligently to breathe new life into their positions. But it's time to replace our Treasurer and what better place to solicit help than our own newsletter? Jane is ready to retire, having expressed her desire to relinquish this position.

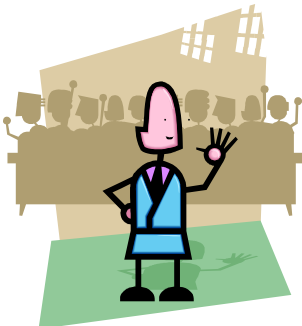
Any volunteers? The Treasurer is a paid part time position. Please give a copy of your resume to Pastor Nancy or the SPRC, make sure to give a number where you can be reached.

Our Church could never have accomplished what it has without the dedication of all our volunteers, these wonderful people who have blessed us with their support and spiritual gifts. Through the Grace of God, we have continued to accomplish the goals we have set for ourselves. Think of how you might want to support this Church and get involved with any of our committees or projects. Maybe you just want to participate in a special event, perhaps you have a great idea that no one has proposed yet. Please let us know.

This year was the beginning. We are looking forward to what lays ahead of us and move toward that vision. Come join us.....

Margaret de Guereña, SPRC Chairman
[\(909\) 585-2577](tel:(909)585-2577)

deguereña@aol.com



Happy Birthday



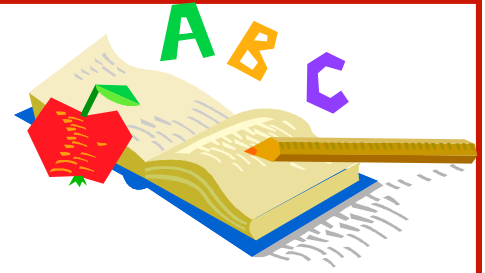
Everyone who had an August Birthday my apologies for leaving you off the last newsletter. It was an honest mistake! So, a special Happy Belated Birthday to all of you!! - Pat

Timothy Dick	August 5
Fred Jones	August 8
Sam Jacoby	August 11
Pat Hutchens	August 13
Kathy Ludecke	August 25
Jim Frerking	August 26
Alaine Uthus	August 28
Elizabeth Evans	September 2
Julie Chamberlin	September 2
Mark Uthus, Jr.	September 4
Travis Chamberlin	September 5
Marlene Thurston	September 5
Mary Campbell	September 6
Michael Chamberlin	September 17
Lorna Vernon	September 18
Sandra Clark	September 20
Robert Ludecke	September 24
Jane Rech	September 26
Shannon Clark	September 26
Terry Snell	September 28
Charles Rose	September 29
Kathy Breuer	October 13
Pat Hubby	October 17
Margaret deGuerera	October 20
Trudy Tarras	October 21
Paul Terry	October 21



News from N.S.C.P.S.

What a wonderful start to the new school year. We are full for our Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday session!



This year we have some very young children (2 years 9 months). These little ones can't even reach the sink facets! Their precious faces delight in the simplest pleasures; bubbles are the greatest invention!

We continue to have time with the Pastor in the church on Tuesdays. Once again Vicky and Chuck Rose assist with the songs. We are so "joyful" to have Chuck play a part in the singing of "I've got that Joy". The children just love when Chuck says "where".

Why not stop by some Tuesday around 10:40 and feel the joy? We would love to see you.

Peace and love,
Patrice

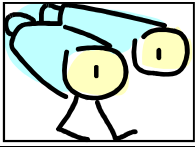


Witness Committee News

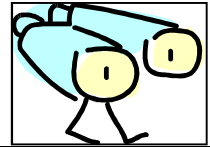
By Sandy Clark

An idea came up and Susan Chaidez and I would like to put it before the church council. The idea is a prayer tent like the one on Hwy 38 just out of Mentone. There will be more discussion at the church council meeting in September. Our meetings are every 2nd Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm at the church. Come join us in planning how to best serve the needs of others.





We Are Looking for You!



We are looking for the next year slate of involved Christians to do the work of the Lord in our church and congregation. The following are ways you can serve, contact the church office if you are interested in any of these listed 909-585-4089:

Trustees: Supervise and maintain all property belonging to the congregation (church and parsonage); report to charge conference annually on the state of the property, equipment etc.; work with Finance to receive & administer all gifts and trust funds made to the congregation and be sure adequate insurance is in place; insure that all articles of incorporation are up to date, work with the Pastor for all use of the church buildings and grounds; submit to Finance Committee and Church Council requests for insurance, and maintenance projects. Current leader is Mark Uthus.

Finance: Manage the finance system in the process of raising, managing, and dispersing the finances for the mission and vision of the church. Finance team counts & deposits all funds; makes reports of contributions to members for tax purposes; supports treasurer, financial secretary, Finance Chairman and Pastor in all financial decisions of the church. Current leader is Bob Ludecke.

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC): Basically the human relations department of the church. Supports and trains staff, supplies leadership training, etc. Current leader is Margaret de-Guerena

Nurture: Nurture involves the spiritual nurturance of our church in areas such as Sunday School and education, Youth Group, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups, Church parties, children's celebrations, prayer chains, etc. Current leader is Julie Chatham.

Outreach: Identify with the Pastor and team the Outreach and Missions the church will be doing throughout the year. Mission projects can be international, national, or local. Our current local Outreach projects are our Food Pantry and Simple Supper. Nationally, we are working with the District team to send people to work on Hurricane Sandy. Currently 3 people from our church are going. Internationally we help through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) with their efforts and African Ministries. Current leader is Tammy Stevenson.

Witness: Working with the Pastor and team for healthy growth in membership and spirituality; working with the way new people are received into the congregation, following up on attendance trends; empowering people for ministry; planning and working with the Pastor and team to reach out to people and help them grow in their relationship with God. Current leader is Sandy Clark.

United Methodist Women (UMW) Fellowship of women in service and faith who support each other in their Christian walk. Current leader is Sandy Clark.



Looking Ahead 2013



September 7 Heritage Potluck
Dinner (UMW sponsored fundraiser)

October 6 World Communion

October 24th Set Up for Halloween
Carnival 7pm

October 25 Halloween Carnival
5:30-8:00

October 31 Set Up Craft Fair

November 1 & 2 Craft Fair

November 3 Share the Harvest Food Collection
Kick Off

November 24 Share the Harvest Food Collection
Dedication

December 8 & 15 Alternative Christmas

December 14 Breakfast with Santa 9:00

“Lord, I will accept Your grace which is sufficient for my every need.” ~ from Bettie’ nuggets

Healed wounds, form scars of strength.

Reach out to Jesus & ask Him to help you find His way through your difficulty.

Crisis is a signal to the person of faith to stop where he is & listen.

Stand still "Stand silent and know that I am God".

Knowing that God is & that He knows the darkness through which we are passing, we can take courage & affirm our dependency & trust in Him.

In crisis, faith looks for God's alternatives to futility & despair, yet some fulfillment always comes for those who remain open to life and to God.

Do not cling to your crushing experience & refuse to get well.

Faith enables us to see that nothing in our experience is wasted. But in everything be open to God; He does something redemptive in it, & in us, & brings good from it.

Will we allow pain to destroy us? or find the way in Jesus to survive & make creative use of it.

By faith, we understand that life does not contain the whole story. There is a city which has firm foundations whose Builder & Maker is God.

2 Cor. 12:9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Simple Supper News

By Susan Chaidez & Sandy Clark

Simple Supper has been going very well. We have many coming just for fellowship and are also enjoying the good food. Thanks to all who give of their time in serving our community through this ministry. You are appreciated beyond words.

Pine Summit will be hosting a "Thanksgiving Dinner" in November. More information on day & time will be forthcoming. Contact Sandy Clark at 909-584-0187 or Susan Chaidez at 909-585-9733 if you would like to be a part of this event.



Pastor's Praises to the People

Pam Walker- Anyone who went to the Bad Poet's Dinner could see that a lot of planning was necessary, but . . . Anyone who worked on the committee can tell you that there were many hic-ups along the way. For every glitch, Pam calmly directed the committee to another solution. Rarely is there a more effective organizer. Pam listens, coordinates, plans, helps, and works so effectively it is amazing. Way to go Pam, you are such a blessing.

Joan Wolcott – What a worker! Joan was here about 12 hours each day for the week before the Bad Poet Dinner. She is one of the quiet giants behind the lines that so often go unnoticed. Blessings upon blessings to you Joan!

Mac McKee – One man's trash is another man's treasure and Mac was incredible at organizing our rummage sale. For weeks he worked on getting volunteers, organizing pick-ups, dealt with demands of needs for pick-ups, calmed tempers, and kept a jovial tone for the whole event. You are a lifesaver, praises and blessings to you!

Al Woodward – Where do you get your energy?!? Al is responsible for getting many of the silent auction items and picking up most of the rummage sale items. Give Al a mission and get out of the way or get run over. Too bad he is allergic to that white winter stuff, he would be a blessing year around. We are so lucky to have you when we do. God bless you.

UMW News By Sandy Clark

Pres. Sandy Clark
Secretary Evalyn Ellis
Treasurer Susan Chaidez

**We are looking for a Vice President.

Want to join our team?? Call 909-584-0187 or the church office and leave a message at: 909-585-4089.

September 7

Heritage Potluck Dinner (bring a sample of food from your heritage.

November 1 & 2 (Oct. 31 Set Up)

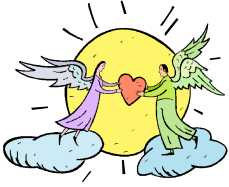
Craft Fair



UMW Pot Luck Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 11:30.

“Heaven/Grief Group Support”

Lead by Lillian Hart



We will begin a new series of GriefShare on Sept. 5th. We have 7 people attending and healing is happening. Blessings and thank you for inviting GriefShare to meet at your church. God Bless You.~ Lillian Hart (909)584-2456

“There is a Time to Mourn”

By Max Lucado

Solomon said, “There is a time to mourn!” Give yourself some. Face your grief with tears, time, and one more—face your grief with truth. God has the last word on death. And if you listen, He will tell you the truth about your loved ones. They’ve been dismissed from the hospital called Earth. You and I still roam the halls, smell the medicines. They meanwhile, inhale springtime.

You miss them like crazy, but can you deny the truth? They have no pain, doubt, or struggle. They really are happier in heaven. Reunion is a splinter of an eternal moment away. I Thessalonians 4:13 says that there is no need for you “to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.”



God understands. He knows the sorrow of a grave. He buried His Son. But He also knows the joy of resurrection. And by His power, you will too.

MaxLucado.com—Upwords

From the Finance Committee Chair

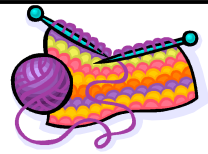
Bob Ludecke

It is always a balancing act with the finances. Let’s all pray for our church to grow in faith, and have God’s wisdom with His provision.



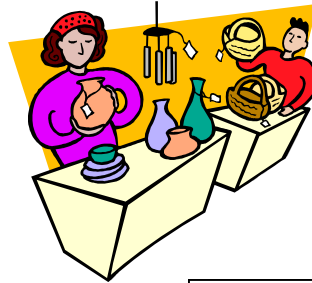
“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10

UMW Craft Fair November 1 & 2, 2013



Our meeting was held on August 8. The discussion was the upcoming Craft Fair. Sandy Clark will be in charge of it. Her Number is 909-584-0187. Her helpers will be Pastor Nancy, Aunt Carol, Joyce, Evalyn Ellis, Jane Reeh, Susan Chaidz, Peg Jones and members of the church.

Craft Fair hours are 8 am to 4 pm. Lunch can be purchased from 12-3pm.




Big Bear United Methodist Church
1001 Holden Ave.
Big Bear City
Corner of North Shore Drive & Holden

The Trustees Chairman, Mark Uthus Report:

Hello everybody,
My apologies for all the confusion on the meeting time. I got my wires crossed I guess. We will have a trustee meeting Monday, September 9 at 7pm. Our meetings are the second Monday of each month. In October, we will change it due to Columbus Day to Oct 7. There will be no meetings in November & December. The next tentative meetings will be January 13 and April?? If you have any questions, please email me.

As far as the latest projects around the church, we are asking for everyone to "Adopt a Spot" at church to lend a helping hand. There will be trash bags left in the green shed for this purpose. Lots of fall leaves & pine needles to clean up. Many thanks!



September 2013

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 Labor Day 	3 North Shore Preschool Worship Service 10:40 am	4	5 Griefshare Begins 13 week session 2:00-3:30pm	6	7
8 National Grandparents Day 	9 Trustees Meeting @ 7pm	10 North Shore Preschool Worship Service 10:40 am	11 Nurture Committee Meeting @ 7pm	12 UMW Meeting @11:30, Witness Committee Meeting @ 1:30pm	13	14
15	16	17 North Shore Preschool Worship Service 10:40 am	18	19	20 Outreach Committee Meeting @ 1:00pm	21
22 Church Council Meeting after service	23	24 North Shore Preschool Worship Service 10:40 am	25	26	27	28
29 High & Dry Luncheon after service for Missions	30					

October 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

**North Shore Christian Preschool Fall break 7-18th		1 <i>North Shore Preschool Worship Service</i> 10:40 am	2 <i>Nurture Committee Meeting</i> @7pm	3	4	5
6	7**NSCPS Out 7th-18th Trustee Committee Meeting @ 7pm	8	9	10 <i>UMW Meeting</i> @ 11:30, <i>Witness Committee Meeting @1:30</i>	11	12
13	14 <i>Columbus Day</i> 	15	16 <i>"National Boss Day"</i>	17 <i>Finance Committee Meeting</i> @5pm	18 \$ <i>Outreach Committee Meeting</i> @1:00pm	19
20	21	22 <i>North Shore Preschool Worship Service</i> 10:40 am	23	24	25 <i>Fall Carnival</i> 	26
27 <i>Church Council Meeting after service</i>	28	29 <i>North Shore Preschool Worship Service</i> 10:40 am	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> 		

Outreach News

By Tammy
Stevenson



Kenya



Keep an eye out for several events sponsored through the Outreach committee.

September 29 - Lunch after church. Join us for a simple lunch. Put in the donation bowl whatever you think is appropriate. The funds collected will be used for a mission project of the Hi and Dri Cluster. The cluster is made up of the UM churches in the Victor Valley, Barstow, Wrightwood and Big Bear areas.

November 1-3 - Crafts from African Team Ministries will be available for purchase at the Craft Fair, and following church. Proceeds will support projects in Kenya.

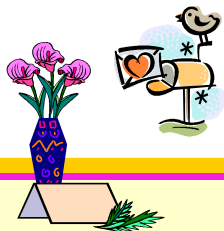
November 3 - Pick up a decorated grocery sack. Fill it with items for our food cupboard.

November - Exact date to be determined. Shoebox Ministries will be packing gifts for children. Start now by collecting small gift items to put in the boxes. We have shoeboxes, so don't need more of them.

November 24 - Food collected for the food cupboard will be dedicated during church service.

November 28 - Thanksgiving Dinner at Pine Summit Camp. Co-sponsored by Simple Supper, and the camp.

December - Alternative Christmas Project. Bibles for Military. Pick up a Christmas card, write a note in the card, and tuck it inside a Bible. Cards and Bibles provided - you supply the good wishes and prayers.



Nurture Committee News



Nurture Committee Report

The Nurture Committee will meet on the Wednesday, September 11 at 7pm in the narthex at the church. October's meeting will be on October 2 at 7pm to plan the Fall Carnival. We will be discussing how to further serve our church sending cards to visitors to our church to let them know how much we enjoy seeing them at our services. We will also discuss bringing food to congregation members and their families that have returned home after a hospital stay. The annual July 4th game, water balloon toss, and squirt gun battle was a dripping success. Several children joined in the damp fun. Sunday School for children ages 2-8 has continued to thrive with lessons and art projects related to Bible stories each Sunday during our church service. Please feel free to join us on the 11th to help us further serve our congregation members and visitors to our church.



“COST OF FREEDOM TRIBUTE”

Coming to Big Bear Lake
September 26, 27, 28 & 29 2013



The City of Big Bear is hosting “American Veterans Traveling Tribute” largest display – the outdoor Cost of Freedom Tribute – honors all who defend and protect our freedoms. All conflicts the United States of America has been involved in are represented. This one of a kind outdoor tribute pays respect to veterans, active duty military, law enforcement and fire-fighters; anyone whose daily job is to put themselves in harm’s way, to protect and defend our way of life, in locations around the world or here on the home front. It creates a great forum for communities to raise local awareness, educate the public and the chance to host an event that can raise funds that stay within the community to help local causes. AVTT is committed to helping and honoring our nation’s heroes, one community at a time.

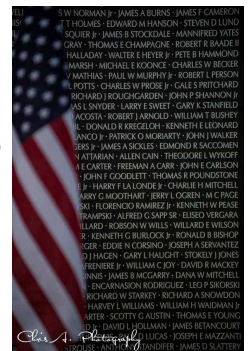
While the "Traveling Wall" is the center piece of our tribute, the total "Cost of Freedom" exhibit includes:

- * The Traveling Wall – an 80% replica Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall (360ft long/8ft tall at apex) with flag display flown over the Wall (14 flags total)
- * 190ft of additional stand up displays honoring all veterans and those serving today.



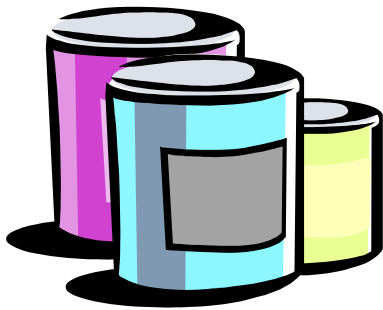
The Cost of Freedom Tribute will be on display in Big Bear Lake from September 26-29th of this year. On Wednesday September 25th, there will be an honor escort that will lead the Cost of Freedom Tribute into town. The Cost of Freedom Tribute will be set up on Thursday morning, on display from midday Thursday thru Sunday afternoon and then disassembled on Sunday at 3PM honoring all veterans and those serving today.

AVTT is not affiliated or supported by any Government organization. AVTT is self funded



Big Bear United Methodist Church
1001 Holden Avenue
PO Box 2590
Big Bear City, CA 92314

The Circuit Rider



Food Pantry Distribution Day is the **second Tuesday of every month** from **10 to 11 am**. Please call in advance to give us your name, address & family size. On day of pick up, bring your drivers license. Any questions, call the church office at 909-585-4089 and leave a message.

Volunteers are needed on distribution day. Contact Chris Smith or call the church office if you can help.

Our Food
Pantry
Needs:
Cold Cereal
Spaghetti Sauce
Pancake Mix
Veggies
Soup
Tuna



“Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

Phil. 1:6

