

Koinonia - One of the goals of St. Andrew's UMC Cross-Cultural Ministry is to promote an environment of unity, spiritual growth, and empowerment of God's people to serve the community. The love and compassion that we learn from the healthy teaching of the gospel is always to help the needy. Inspired by the example of the early church, we recognize that God calls us to return to effective practice and to the dynamics of the community of the Apostles of Jesus Christ where everything began: *"42 The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers.44 All the believers were united and shared everything. 46 Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. 47 They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone."* (Acts 2: 42, 44, 46-47 – CEB). In the spirit of this early attitude of believers we are ready to practice "*Koinonía*". The definition of *Koinonía* (*koy-nohn-ee-ah*) is a transliterated form of the Greek word, **κοινωνία**, which means communion, joint participation; the share which one has in anything, a gift jointly contributed, a collection, a contribution, etc.

***Koinonía* is communion and that is why it includes human unity – sharing.**

We will be purchasing food at wholesale prices and dividing it among those who wish to participate at cost.

If you're interested in participating simply sign up. For instance, in the past we spent a total of about \$62 on 50 pounds each of potatoes, tomatoes, and onions, which were divided into ten bags each (about 5 pounds per bag). This came out to be \$2 per bag, and all were distributed. Depending on the cost of the items that we purchase each week, the cost may be more or less than this. If a person spent \$6 this week, they got 5 pounds each of all three items – not bad at all! Some weeks we may purchase fruit - it all depends on what is in stock where we purchase the items. There is no profit to be made on these things – this is designed to help our community.