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University Relations, "April Community Meal to Feature Traditional Mexican Fare" (2013). *Campus News Archive*. 243.

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Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

April Community Meal to Feature Traditional Mexican Fare

Summary: The next Morris Community Meal will be held on Monday, April 8, at 5:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church.

(March 25, 2013)-The next Morris Community Meal will be held on Monday, April 8, at 5:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church (108 West Eighth Street, Morris). This month's menu highlights a traditional Mexican dish, pazole, served with a variety of toppings. The event is free and open to all members of the Stevens County community.

Since its inception in January 2009, Community Meal has established a reputation for providing delicious menus and warm, welcoming atmospheres. Providing free meals to hundreds of Stevens County residents while opening community space to build bridges and strengthen existing connections, the project is a valued event in the community. Food options for people with special diets—gluten-free, diabetic, vegan, and vegetarian—are always available, as are child-friendly options. Meals are served six times a year from 5:30 until 7 p.m.

Support for Community Meal is provided by a broad coalition of local businesses and organizations, one of which serves as the primary sponsor each month. By serving the meal, sponsors hope to initiate new connections among community members and to provide a warm meal to those who may not always be afforded one. Primary sponsors of this meal are the University of Minnesota, Morris's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Programs, Jane Addams, an intercultural discussion group that meets on Tuesday nights on the Morris campus, and LAZOS, an organization dedicated to helping Latino immigrants build relationships within Stevens County. Ongoing sponsors include Pomme de Terre Food Co-op, Willie's Supervalu, Faith Lutheran Church, and the Office of Community Engagement.

Volunteers looking to help cook or serve the meal are welcome to come to Faith Lutheran Church between 2 and 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 7, or from 2 until 8 p.m. on Monday, April 8. To get involved as a sponsor or volunteer, contact the Office of Community Engagement at 320-589-6457 or engagmnt@morris.umn.edu.

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