



Linking Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin
farmers to consumers through
congregations.

A project of Churches Center for Land and People

What is Churches' Center for Land and People?



A non-profit ecumenical organization started during the 1980s farm crisis, helping farmers connect to consumers through congregations, and linking consumers to nutritious, local food.

Why is the Center holding Winter Farmers' Markets and Meals for Hope?



Both rural and urban children need safe, nutritious, secure sources of locally raised food.

What sort of farmers' market can a church hold in winter?



Unheated high tunnel structures have been developed to extend growing seasons up to 120 days in our climate.



Innovative farmers have been increasingly building certified kitchens, mills, bakeries, presses, creameries, food preserving and fiber producing structures on their farms.

Why are farmers' markets being held in church parish halls?

It increases justice to local farmers, increasing their incomes. It protects the health of our children and families with ecological practices. It builds community with neighbors and other churches. It breathes new spiritual life into our parishes.



Why is a meal of local and regional foods held with the farmers' market?



Our Center's winter farmers' markets increased from 3 in two cities to 52 in 20 cities in the project's first 5 years. Paid staff to schedule, coordinate and publicize the Markets and Meals for Hope is needed. Programming to increase nutrition education, cooking abilities and farmstead production is needed. Proceeds from the meals help the program continue to grow and help meet local food security needs.

When do these events take place?



Markets and Meals have been held on Fridays (4-7), Saturdays (9-1 or 10-2) and Sundays (between and after services). For a current schedule go to [cclpmidwest.org/markets & meals.html](http://cclpmidwest.org/markets%20&%20meals.html)



Chefs, Culinary Arts students and host parishes have partnered to prepare meals.

Foods from farmers are purchased and delivered ahead of scheduled meals.





Enduring relationships have developed at our winter markets between farmers and consumers.



All markets and meals are open to the public. Neighbors and people of all faiths work together to ensure food is safe, local, accessible.



More than 70 farmers have sold their products in our winter markets. Wisconsin Farmers Union and USDA SBIR have greatly helped our project grow.



Find out more about Markets and Meals for Hope,
contact JMStoiber@gmail.com