

## Meet Our Farmers

On May 11, shoppers from the neighborhoods around Grace Lutheran will come to our parking lot for the second market of the second season of Grace Farmers Market. They'll be joined by volunteers from Grace and the Duke Lutherans, and will shop for delicious food from our farmers and vendors. Let's meet some of our farmers.

Immanuel and Valarie Jarvis of Jireh Family Farms work their land in Durham County. In addition to selling pork, chicken, beef, eggs, and sometimes rabbit to our regular customers, the Jarvis's generously provide their products at wholesale prices to twenty Walltown families who are especially struggling with food security. The Jarvis's are outspoken about both their Christian faith and eating. When a bunch of Grace members attended their 4th of July breakfast last year, Immanuel led us in prayer, and Valarie preached about the importance of organic food.

Ree Ree Wei is one of the farmers at our newest farm, Terneawtheri Family Farm. Ree Ree's family are Karen (G'Naw) immigrants who came from refugee camps in Thailand. They set up at Transplanting Traditions co-op farms in Orange County and are now supplying fruits and vegetables to two farmers markets aside from Grace's. Ree Ree likes our market the best, because we focus on supporting our community.

Howard Allen and his family own Faithfull Farms. As the name suggests, Howard is a man of faith, whom was recently on the Grace prayer list due to a health scare. A week later, we again prayed for Howard, this time prayers of thanksgiving for good test results. Howard later related that he felt lighter inside, and because of this lightness, he is committed to running faster and farther for Christ. He is also committed to being a good steward of our soil, as he does on his Orange County farm raising vegetables and fruit.

Come to the market on May 10 to meet Immanuel and Valarie, Ree Ree, Howard, and their families, plus five other vendors. You'll leave with some great food, knowing you're part of the loving, giving community of Grace Farmers Market.

