

## Christmas Offering

We have made good progress in the last two months, but we still have 71% of the *California-Nevada Annual Conference Ministries* apportionment of \$77,724 to be paid.

The apportionment for *California-Nevada Annual Conference Ministries* supports various missions of our conference, some of which are: local youth work, pastoral support, church development, and ethnic minority congregations.

An apportionment is less a claim on the local congregation, a tax on their resources, and more a mechanism of enabling our shared stewardship, of under girding our connectional mission and ministry.

Please be generous on December 19, 24 or 26, and put your contribution in the offering plate using your Christmas Offering envelope or a pew envelope clearly marked, *Christmas Offering*. Your offering will go to help provide funds for the *California-Nevada Annual Conference Ministries*, one of our apportionments. Please make checks payable to St. Mark's UMC. We live in a global village, and the world is our parish. When we give generously, our gifts do wonderful, life-changing things in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you.

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## Heifer Ark Update:

By Cynthia Lawrence, Global Hunger Task Force

The *Global Hunger Task Force* will complete an ark for Heifer International in 2011, as gifts and Sharing Table receipts for 2010 are about half the amount needed. Thanks to all who have given their support to Heifer International in 2010.

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## Sacramento Entertainment Books

Besides the Sacramento book, Entertainment Books are also available for immediate sale in 14 other California locations, 2 Arizona locations, 2 Nevada locations and 2 Oregon locations. All of these books are available Sundays on the Patio. Sacramento books continue to be available in the church office during the week. In addition, Entertainment will give a Restaurant.com \$25 card with any Book sold in the next few weeks. This provides a certificate for usually 50% off at many local restaurants. Proceeds from the sale of the books go to St. Mark's Youth Ministries. Call John White, 487-8714, if you have any questions, want to reserve a book, or want to special order one of the 165 books available for other locations, perhaps for a relative, friend or yourself.

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## Give the Gift of Music

Gift Certificates will be on sale between worship services at the Welcome Center for Bravo Bach. Prices start at \$12 per ticket/concert. The 2011 Bravo Bach Festival will be held March 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27. All performances start at 7:00pm.



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## TODAY at St. Mark's

8:45am	Chancel Choir-CR
9:00am	Art Show Opens-A1
9:30am	<b>Worship Service</b> -SA
9:30am	Faith Pilgrimage-E25
9:30am	Sunday School-E3-4, 22
9:30am	Youth Sunday School-GC
9:30am	St. Mark's Singers-CR
9:45am	Worship Band Rehearsal-E26
11:00am	<b>Worship Service</b> -SA
11:00am	Jesus Seminar Class-E25
11:00am	Quest Class-E24
11:00am	Sunday School-E1-4
12:00pm	Grace in Motion-MH
1:00pm	Advent Small Group-PR
2:00pm	Seasoned Companions-E24
4:00pm	Youth Group-GC

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## Second Sunday Art Show Opens: Judy LewLoose

Judy LewLoose is a unique artist with over 20 years of career experience. Her unique blend of color, light and shadow shimmer with a splash of pointillism. This is a method of using tiny dots of pure color to create an image. Her paintings are absolutely stunning! We are also honored to share with you Judy's paintings of the homeless. She expresses a message to those who do not know, and those who will never know what it is like to be in this situation. These are individuals much like you and me, who have succumbed to a life of day to day existence in the most poverty stricken conditions imaginable. The impact of LewLoose's paintings should educate and inform us all. Be sure to stop by the gallery; Judy will be there to talk to you and answer questions!



## This Week at St. Mark's

Monday, December 13

### Office Closed

12:30pm Super Seniors-Off Site  
7:30pm Home Bible Study-Off Site

Tuesday, December 14

9:00am UMW Executive Committee-E5  
10:00am United Methodist Women-MH  
7:00pm Trustees-E25  
7:00pm Gifts, Memorials, Bequests-SR  
7:00pm Disciple-E5  
7:00pm Bell Choir-CR

Wednesday, December 15

9:00am UMW Sew & Craft Circle-E5  
7:00pm Education Commission-E5  
7:00pm Adult Education Cte.-E21  
7:00pm Grace in Motion-GC

Thursday, December 16

7:00pm Ministry in Action-E5  
7:00pm Chancel Choir-CR  
7:00pm Advent Small Group-GC

Friday, December 17

10:00am Membership Care Team-SR  
6:30pm St. Mark's Veterans Group-E21

Saturday, December 18

10:00am Bereavement Group-PR  
7:00pm Mark Twains Group-Off Site

Sunday, December 19

8:45am Chancel Choir-CR  
9:30am **Worship Service**-SA  
9:30am Faith Pilgrimage-E25  
9:30am Sunday School-E3-4, 22  
9:30am Youth Sunday School-GC  
9:30am St. Mark's Singers-CR  
9:45am Worship Band Rehearsal-E26  
11:00am **Worship Service**-SA  
11:00am Jesus Seminar Class-E25  
11:00am Quest Class-E24  
11:00am Sunday School-E1-4  
12:00pm Grace in Motion-MH  
1:00pm Advent Small Group-PR  
2:00pm Seasoned Companions-E24  
4:00pm Youth Group-GC

## Remember In Prayer

Paul Allen  
Andy (Beth Shoemaker's grandson)  
Sue Bailey  
Lorin Brown (Cath's brother)  
Maurice Brown  
Sherry Cavros  
Margaret Ann Dukleth  
Richard Ewen  
Jill Fernino  
Don Fado  
Twila Humiston  
Jennine & Olivia Jones  
Tommy Jovalis  
Mary Kasai  
Gaylon Palmer  
Tim Rowe  
Marvin Short (DeeAnn Schmucker's father)  
Dick Smith (Anne's husband)  
Betty Wright



## Bereavement Group

This is a reminder for the St. Mark's Bereavement Group which will be meeting on Saturday, December 18, at 10:00am in the Prayer Room. The group meets every third Saturday of the month from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Ruth Reynolds, a trained Spiritual Director, is the coordinator of this group. If you have questions regarding the group; her e-mail is [ruthbranch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthbranch@sbcglobal.net).

## Stewardship 2011 - We Are Rooted

Your giving has already made it a certainty that we will give far more toward our Apportionment goal than a year ago. Now, we are entering the home stretch. Four Sundays remain in 2010. We'll all want to meet our pledge goals by or before December 31.

Mail postmarked on or before December 31 will be counted. Also, you may go to our web site, [www.stmarksumc.com](http://www.stmarksumc.com), and give or raise your current pledge.

## Nestle and Knit . . .



You're invited to join the knitters and crocheters Monday evening, December 13, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, at Carol Klein's. Please RSVP to 487-2511. If you would like to learn to knit please bring size 8 needles along with two skeins of yarn to start a scarf. Fiona Ogren (one of our outstanding St. Mark's youth) will lead our program.

## UMW December Meeting

Come to enjoy and participate in music of the Christmas season and the installation of officers at our meeting on Tuesday, December 14, at 10:00am. Cath and Peggy Fenimore-Brown will weave vocal and instrumental music with the singing of our favorite carols in this festive event. What a great way to start of the Christmas season of sharing hope and joy with the world! All men and women are invited to attend this celebration. Lunch will be served. Please make reservations with Sally J. Wieland, 489-1029, and let her know if you need child care. The executive committee meets prior to this meeting at 9:00am in Room E-5 (Library).



## Cookie Exchange

December 19 is the date of this year's annual *St. Mark's Cookie Exchange*. This is the perfect opportunity for all who want to have a variety of sweets to serve to family, friends and drop in guests without baking dozens of recipes. Just prepare one or more of your favorite cookie, candy, brownie and/or cupcake recipes, package them in "baggies" of a dozen each, and bring them to the table on the patio to exchange bag for bag, weather permitting. If there is rain that day, the table will be in the coffee room.



Take advantage of this opportunity to downsize one of your holiday tasks. You mix and bake once, but get the variety you would like to have on hand. Exchanges can be made before, between and after Sunday services.