

ANKH Circle

Ankh Circle meets in Room E-26 (Fireside Room) on December 7, at 6:45pm. This will be their annual *Ankh Angel* program. Boni Fields provides direction and materials for each person to craft an angel ornament. Refreshments provided.

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.

Sacramento Entertainment Books

The sale of the 2011 Entertainment Books will end in a few weeks. 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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A Reconciling Congregation
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TODAY at St. Mark's

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
10:15am	Blood Pressure Check-PR
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

First Sunday Table

Today you can reach out at the First Sunday Table, sponsored by the Ministry in Action Commission, in the entryway to the Sanctuary. At this time of year contributions to Loaves and Fishes, Central Downtown Food Basket, Francis House, the River City Food Bank and Wellspring Women's Center are especially needed and will be sent to the designated organization. Checks may be made payable to the organization and will be mailed in a group, showing St. Mark's support of their efforts. Items for St. Mark's own food closet and for the River City Food Bank may also be left at the table. Loaves & Fishes, Mustard Seed School and Wellspring Women's Center provide holiday gifts to their guests. Sweatshirts and one-size-fits-all socks, gift cards for fast food and groceries, and unwrapped toys are among the items requested. Detailed lists of needs can be picked up at the table. Items for Family Promise families will also be received at the table as well as paperback books for county jail inmates. Opportunities for volunteers can be found at the First Sunday Table.

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday, December 6

Office Closed

7:00pm Women's Spirituality-Off Site

7:30pm Home Bible Study-Off Site

Tuesday, December 7

10:00am NOW Circle-E24

6:45pm ANKH Circle-E26

7:00pm NSP Group-E26

7:00pm SPRC Meeting-SR

7:00pm Disciple-E5

7:00pm Bell Choir-CR

Wednesday, December 8

9:00am UMW Sew & Craft Circle-E5

9:30am Hilton Group-E25

6:30pm St. Mark's Men's Club-GC

7:00pm Family Ministries-E25

7:00pm Grace in Motion-GC

Thursday, December 9

9:30am Men's Group-GC

7:00pm Underground Circle-Off Site

7:00pm Chancel Choir-CR

7:00pm Advent Small Group-GC

Friday, December 10

9:30am Scrabble-E24

Saturday, December 11

8:00am All-Church Work Day

4:00pm Dominoes Group-E26

Sunday, December 12

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

Eric Anderson

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

Jared (Mikailla Johnson's
friend)

Jennine & Olivia Jones

Mary Kasai

Gaylon Palmer

Tim Rowe

Marvin Short (DeeAnn
Schmucker's father)

Dick Smith

(Anne's husband)

Marsha Strode

Betty Wright

In Memoriam

We extend our love and sympathy to Ralph Davis, in the death of his father, on November 20, in Houston, Texas. Services were held there. Please keep Ralph and his family in your prayers.



Blood Pressure Screening

The Blood Pressure screening clinic will be **today** in the Prayer Room from 10:15am until 11:00am. Come meet Pam Taylor, the new Parish Nurse, and have your blood pressure checked.

Joyful Sounds of Christmas

The *Valley Choral Society* heralds the season with selections from Handel's Messiah and beloved Christmas carols. The concert will take place **tonight**, at 7:30pm the Sanctuary. Admission is \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors. Concert proceeds benefit Family Promise. Tickets available at the door of the concert, at Family Promise: 443-3107, or by email: tickets@valleychoral.org.

Thanksgiving Offering Report

Thank you to the people of St. Mark's. The response was awesome for the Thanksgiving Offering; a total of \$4285 was received. The money will be used to help provide funds for the **California-Nevada Annual Conference Ministries**, one of our apportionments that can change people's lives, renew them, save them and give them hope.

Stewardship 2011 - Rooted & Reaching Out

A great many members have already made their commitments for the 2011 current expense budget. And, there are a number of increases. *However, a commitment is needed from every member and friend of St. Mark's in order for us to meet our ministry commitments next year.* To aid you we have placed commitment cards in the pews. You may complete yours and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. Yes, the economic times are tough for us all. But, we all make choices about where we spend, invest, give our money. The work of Christ through this church has never been more needed. This is a good year to step up our giving in faith.

Second Sunday Art Show: Judy's Homeless Portraits

Judy LewLoose, an artist with over 20 years of career experience, is taking watercolors up a notch. Her unique blend of color, light and shadow shimmer with a splash of pointillism. This method of using tiny dots of pure color, explores a new technique in watercolors. Judy is a pioneer in this style and her paintings are collected by both professional organizations and private collectors. Her ability to see color in all facets of painting is apparent in her professional background in fine art. She holds a Bachelor in Fine Arts degree from the prestigious Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York and attended the Academy of Art College in San Francisco for two years. Judy is definitely an artist whose works are receiving more acclaim. Her successful graphic design career spans over two decades; working at firms from New York to Sacramento.