

## 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 on Sunday, December 5, at 7:30pm the Sanctuary here at St. Mark's. 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](mailto:tickets@valleychoral.org).

## ANKH Circle

Ankh Circle will meet 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 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).



## 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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## TODAY at St. Mark's

8:45am	Chancel Choir-CR
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	ADVENTure-MH
12:00pm	Grace in Motion-MH
1:00pm	Advent Small Group-PR
4:00pm	Youth Group-GC
6:00pm	Spiritual Companions-E24

## ADVENTure Today

It's ADVENTure time! Yes, it's the time of the year to kick off a *creative* Advent season with our annual *ADVENTure Make and Take Craft Fair*. Join us in MacMurdo Hall **today**, from 12:00pm until 4:00pm for a light lunch of soup and bread and the chance to *make and take* a variety of crafts, decorations and gifts to brighten your holiday mood.

Since we are all facing the ongoing crunch of the recession, how fun would it be to go back to the tradition of making gifts for your family and friends? Our craft projects are designed to be simple enough for young and old to make with ease.

In keeping with tradition admission to this fun event is a canned or non-perishable food item (or items) for the St. Mark's food closet.

Bring a finger food snack to share and join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship and creativity. Soup, bread and music will be provided.

## This Week at St. Mark's

Monday, November 29

**Office Closed**

7:30pm Home Bible Study-Off Site

Tuesday, November 30

7:00pm Advent Small Group-E24

Wednesday, December 1

9:00am UMW Sew & Craft Circle-E5

7:00pm Council On Ministry-E26

7:00pm Grace in Motion-GC

7:00pm ACT Board Meeting-E5

Thursday, December 2

10:00am La Paz Circle-GC

12:00pm Knife & Fork Group-E5

7:00pm Chancel Choir-CR

7:00pm Advent Small Group-GC

Saturday, December 4

5:00pm GLBTI Christmas Party-Off Site

Sunday, December 5

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

## 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

Noel Glasgow

Twila Humiston

Jared (Mikailla Johnson's friend)

Jennine & Olivia Jones

Mary Kasai

Jimmie Poxon & Family

Tim Rowe

Marvin Short (DeeAnn Schmucker's father)

Dick Smith

(Anne's husband)

Betty Wright

## Silent Auction

### Update

### By Margie Shunk

Thanks to the generosity of many folks, both contributors and buyers, the Silent Auction held October 9 rose over \$2,000 to support St. Mark's 2010 obligations.

## Thanksgiving Offering: Annual Conference Ministries

Together, connected to each other and to Christ, we do far more than we can alone. The *California-Nevada Annual Conference Ministries* apportionment item supports mission, ministry and benevolent causes of our Conference

This connectional ministry makes it possible for us to educate, train, and deploy people in local churches and districts. It provides for the programs, resource persons and materials to strengthen the work of the local church as it seeks to proclaim the gospel, welcome, and gather people of faith into the body of Christ.

Please be generous **today** and put your contribution in the offering plate using your Thanksgiving Offering envelope or a pew envelope clearly marked, "Thanksgiving Offering." Make checks payable to St. Mark's UMC. Thank you.

## Knife & Fork

In December we will hold our annual luncheon at the Casa Garden Restaurant, located at 2760 Sutterville Road, on Thursday, December 2, seating at 1:15pm. Meet in Room E-5 at 12:15pm to carpool. The two entrée choices are Roast Chicken Breast with Apricot Wild Rice and Mixed Green Salad **or** Greek Salad with Shrimp. Dessert will be Chocolate Lover's Cheese Cake. Cost is \$17.00, beverage, tax and tip included. Reservations and prepayment are necessary. Please invite a friend. This is a fun way to start the Christmas season. Please RSVP to Joyce Estes at 481-0418.



## First Sunday Table

During the holiday season, St. Mark's is welcomed to share at the First Sunday Table sponsored by the Ministry in Action Commission. At this time of year contributions to Loaves and Fishes, Central Downtown Food Basket, Francis House 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 to the designated organization, 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 to assist in shopping. Items for Family Promise families will also be received at the table as well as paperback books for county jail inmates. Opportunities for volunteers will also be found at the First Sunday Table.

## Annual Church Conference

St. Mark's will be holding our Annual Church Conference on Wednesday evening, December 1, at 7:00pm, prior to a combined meeting of our Church Council and Council on Ministries. All persons are welcome to attend, and, if a church member, may vote. The Committee on Lay Leadership will present their report, including electing the Board of Trustees; the Finance Committee will be recommending the 2011 budget and we will vote on the Pastor's compensation.