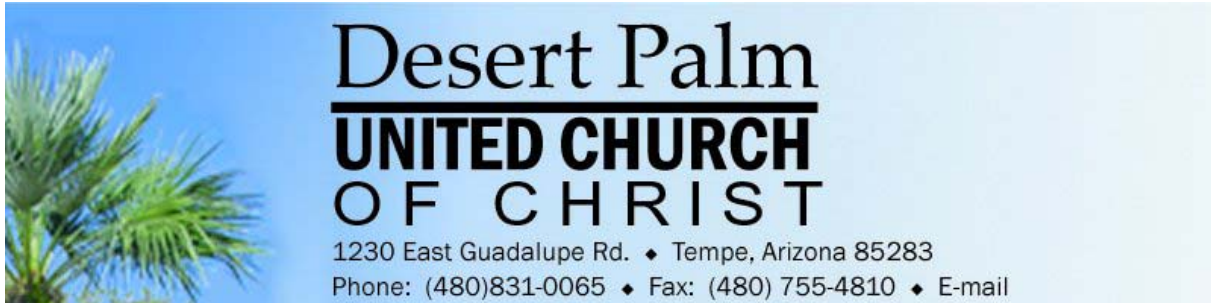


The Breeze
Advent 2011
Extra Addition Edition



Special Report from the Financial Secretary:

151 Pledge letters were sent out for 2012.

\$182,595 in pledge shave been received for 2012, from 75 accounts.

Of these 75 accts:---

\$179,040 – pledged by 71 existing accounts**

3,555 – pledged by 3 new accounts.

0 – pledged by 1 existing account.

\$182,595 – Total pledged for 2012 as of 12/1/11

** Comparison of the 71 existing accounts

\$179,040 – is pledged for 2012

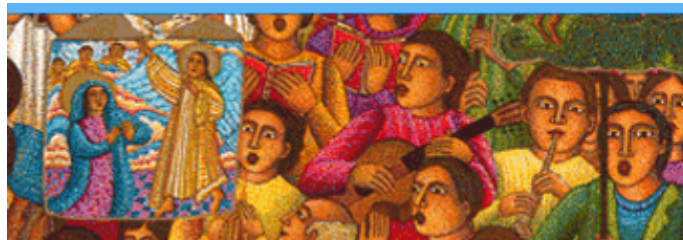
170,491 – was pledged for 2011

\$ 8,549 –Net Increase for 2012

(Of these 71 Accts., 45 pledged the same for both years; 8 reduced their pledges; and 18 increased them.)

Marlene Schanz, Financial Secretary

Christmas Fund Offering



CHRISTMAS FUND

O God, whose face shines on us, whose story restores us, whose birth in Bethlehem saves us, we give thanks for shepherds in our midst- active clergy and lay employees who faithfully keep watch over the church, announce the song of peace, encourage joy, and share the love we find at the manger.

For 109 years, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a means by which we - as members of the United Church of Christ and its predecessor denominations - reflect the light of the world, and in community. The Christmas Fund, one of the four Special Mission Offerings, received annually in the United Church of Christ, is a beacon of light for many who have served, and who continue to serve, our church.

The 2010 Offering enabled the Pension Boards Ministerial Assistance program to provide on behalf of the whole church, \$1,504,420 in Pension Supplementation, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks to individuals and families facing financial crises. The amount received was slightly less than the previous year. The goal for 2011 is \$1,650,000 for these vital ministries. In spite of this, we at Desert Palm significantly increased our giving by over \$700 from 2009.

The Target 2030: Next Generation Leadership Initiative provides young clergy in their 20's and 30's ongoing education to equip them for the sacred call of parish ministry. In March 2011, the Board of Trustees affirmed the vote of the United Church Board of Ministerial Assistance to provide \$200 energy grants to the 1,000 lowest-income annuitants and the 500 lowest-income active clergy.

In the next few weeks there will be bulletin inserts with personal stories of some of those who have received assistance. There will be a Mission Moment on December 11th and the Offering will be on December 18th. Christmas Fund Offering envelopes will be available with the bulletins on the 11th and 18th. A reminder to note on your check memo line, "Christmas Fund". Please remember that our generous contributions can and do make a difference> in the lives of many.