



WOMEN of the ELCA at St. Mark's January 2012

Treasurer's Report

WELCA Treasurer Sandy Grundeman reports a balance of \$1,231.25 as of December 26, 2011. This includes monetary donations of \$208 for the December offering and \$486 for Bravo Theater, the December project. See page 3 for the complete treasurer's report for November and December.

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Winter Projects

We filled **17 Salvation Army Stockings** for our **October** project... WOW, a new record!

Our **November** project again displayed your generosity in the gifts for **children at Lynbrook**—which Jan Pantin delivered—along with the members of Deborah circle who delivered their gifts to their chosen St. Mark's family. Thanks again, everyone!

The **December** project was the Bravo Theater group, who had been scheduled to perform for our combined meeting. They looked and sounded wonderful in their rehearsal before the meeting, but unfortunately, the storm and subsequent power outage foiled our plans (see Fran's "Note" on this page) and they weren't able to perform for us. Thanks to you all for your project donations of \$486 on their behalf!

The **January project is our St. Mark's "Food for Others"** to which many of our WELCA members have been so faithful.

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A Note from Fran

I trust each and every one of you had a blessed, happy Christmas and look forward to a less hectic 2012!

Our **December meeting** was the most

unusual one I have ever attended! I want to thank our hostesses for their hard work—we enjoyed their efforts in spite of the blackout. I promise we will make another attempt to have **Bravo Theater** perform for us at another date.

This year, our **Bold Women's Sunday**, in conjunction with our annual **Thankoffering**, will be February 26. We have not yet selected our "Bold Woman" for this year, but we have had several suggestions. If you have any ideas, please let your Circle leader know before our January 18th Board meeting.

I want to especially thank the members of WELCA who have assisted with the several funeral receptions we hosted this past year. We are now working with staff to add St. Mark's members who are not currently WELCA circle members but would be willing to assist with these receptions. Since we often do not get a lot of "lead time" in the planning of these events, it will be helpful to have additional hands to help on short notice. Thanks for all you do for St. Mark's (and the world at large) through your offerings and project donations. You are ALL "bold women."

~ Fran

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Combined December WELCA Meeting—Unusual!

Thanks to all you lovely ladies who hosted and helped plan our latest combined WELCA meeting and to the Bravo Theater group, who attempted to perform for us, but the weather didn't cooperate...

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Bold Women's Day

Bold Women's Day is set for Sunday, **February 26, 2012**, at St. Mark's. In previous years, we have highlighted the lives of Katharina von Bora Luther and Margret Trower, honored "in memoriam" those of our sisters in our circles who have passed on, and last year we honored our women's group's three charter members: LaVon, Ruth, and Eleanor.

As Fran mentioned in her "Note" on the previous page, we need your input for our "Bold Woman" for this year. We have had several suggestions and, if you have any ideas, please let your Circle leader know before our January 18th Board meeting.

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DC Area WELCA Unit News

Spring Convention—*GATHER!*

The Metro DC SWO convention will be held on **Saturday, March 31, 2012 at Christ Lutheran Church, 3810 Meredith Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.**

Our keynote speaker for the day is The Rev. Dr. Marguerite Rourk. A special guest, Anita Gutschick from *Women of the Bible*, will lead a dramatic presentation told through the diverse voices of women from the Old and New Testaments. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there for a day of **Gathering** together.

More info will be forthcoming, but for now, please plan to go and enjoy yourselves... **SAVE THE DATE...**

Online Newsletters

Please note that two Women of the ELCA newsletters are now available in PDF online:

The national office: *Interchange*
(<http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA/Newsletters/Interchange.aspx>)

The DC Metro Synod: *The Joyful News*
(<http://metrocelca.org/publications/joyfulnews/>)

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Care Packages to Troops in Iraq/Afghanistan/Pakistan

Thanks to all for your past donations; let's keep up the good work! Monetary donations to pay for shipping costs are always welcome... and home-baked goods are the **BEST** as our troops **LOVE** getting these home-baked items. (Be advised that we **CAN** send goodies with chocolate chips at this time!) Gayle Parsons will post a list of any specially requested items in the weekly e-Messenger and/or in private emails a week or two before the planned collection Sunday, which is generally the last Sunday of each month, unless otherwise stated.

Thanks, Gayle, for continuing this ministry.

NOTE: A good way to package cookies is to wrap two cookies in a paper towel and put them into a sandwich baggie. It helps to keep them from crumbling and the person receiving the cookies gets a "ready to carry" cookie bag with a napkin as well.

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Reminders... Mark Your Calendars!

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| <i>Every Tuesday</i> | <i>Quilts and More (9:30 a.m. Friendship House) beginning Jan 3rd</i> |
| <i>Tue, 1/3</i> | <i>Ruth (7:30 p.m., Kathy Harris's)</i> |
| <i>Wed, 1/4</i> | <i>Esther (9:30 a.m. Friendship House, Peggie Morrison, hostess)</i>
<i>Lydia (noon, Julia Hale's)</i>
<i>Deborah (7:30 p.m., Margret Feigel's)</i> |
| <i>Wed, 1/18</i> | <i>Bazaar Crafters (10:00 a.m. Friendship House) to discuss disbursement of bazaar funds!!!</i> |
| <i>Wed, 1/18</i> | <i>WELCA board meeting, (7:30 p.m. church)</i> |
| <i>Sun 2/26</i> | <i>Bold Women's Sunday and Thankoffering collection</i> |
| <i>Sat, 3/31</i> | <i>DC Metro Synod Women of the ELCA Spring Convention, Christ Lutheran, Fairfax, VA</i> |
| <i>Wed, 5/2</i> | <i>Combined WELCA May meeting (7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall)</i> |

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**Women of the ELCA of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report
for November and December, 2011**

Balance October 22, 2011 \$ 1,157.46

Income

November Offering	\$ 608.00
John Martin Memorial	\$ 50.00
Lynbrook School	\$ 28.00
Bazaar	\$ 3,166.35
December Offering	\$ 208.00
December Project	\$ 486.00

Total Income \$ 4,546.35

Subtotal \$ 5,703.81

Disbursements

Synod WELCA 1/3 November Offering	\$ 189.00
Synod WELCA 1/3 December Offering	\$ 69.00
Bazaar (change)	\$ 162.00
Fran Eck	\$ 41.98
Salvation Army	\$ 20.00
* Tilahun Mosisa	\$ 190.50
World Vision Child (November and December)	\$ 60.00
World Vision Child (Christmas)	\$ 85.00
Cheryl Dwyer (John Martin Funeral Expenses)	\$ 169.08
Evelyn Westenhaver—Bravo Theater Group (Dec project)	\$ 486.00
Fairfax County Thrivent Financial (Bazaar)	\$ 3,000.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 4,472.56

Balance December 27, 2011 \$ 1,231.25

* Sandy received this note of heartfelt thanks in an email from Tilahun, the Ethiopian student and friend of Amsalu's that we're helping to get through school by quarterly paying his \$60/month tuition. Thanks to you all for your continued monetary and prayerful offerings for his support:

*To Ms Sandy Grundeman
the peace and the grace of Jesus be with you. i want to send my best greeting to all
stmark's of Lutheran church also i bless you in the name of Jesus for you help i am on the
learning i hope God with you for my sucess keep me in your pray to God
God be with you!
From your Tilahun*