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This year the Local Missions Team decided to focus on three areas. These were helping to fill local food pantries, helping the community with service projects, and providing monthly opportunities for giving to help “Change the World.”

To help local food pantries we have continued a tradition that was started at St. Paul’s. The first Sunday of each month is a day in which we participate in “Sharing Bread.”

Members of the congregation bring food items to stock the pantry shelves. This is tied to communion

Sunday as a time not only to receive, but also to give.

The food is taken monthly to a neighboring church that has a community food pantry.

We have also continued to serve and volunteer in the community. Every two months, generally on the second Saturday, members of our church clean the roadside of Rollingbrook Drive between North Main and Garth. We also participated in the Faith in Action weekend for Baytown Methodists in March. In September, members delivered flowers to all the residents at Remington Park. In November we served the community through the Bay Area Ministerial Alliance Day of Caring, and in December we provided gifts for the Angel Tree.

Throughout the year members of the congregation have generously participated in “Change the World.” Each month a group or cause was chosen and members of the congregation were asked to donate their change to support the group. During some months we also collected additional items. In 2010 the following has been collected:



- Baytown Humane Society \$359.05
- Love, INC \$121.18, 150 packages of diapers, 60 packages of wipes
- Earthquake Relief \$149.29
- Ronald McDonald House 6 gallons of soft drink tabs
- Emma’s Hugs \$1,1015.15
- Bay Area Homeless Services and New Horizons Family Center \$92.37
- New Horizons Family Center \$68.59
 - YMCA Operation Backpack \$131.70
 - Special Olympics \$91.92
 - Bay Area Ministerial Alliance \$86.42
 - Church Women United Childcare Center \$143.81

In addition to the donations of change and items listed above, we also collected backpacks and school supplies for the YMCA in August. In October we collected 5 large garbage bags of coats for the coat drive at Love, INC, and in November we collected amazing amounts of food that helped Ross Sterling High School with their Thanksgiving baskets. Finally, in December the church provided Christmas gifts for 99 children at the Church Women United Child Care Center.

Thank you St. Mark’s for your support of local missions!!!

We hope that you will continue to support local missions in 2011 as we continue to “Change the World”. During the month of January “Change the World” donations will support Bay Area Homeless Services. In addition, we will also be collecting new blankets and towels for them.