

Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service



The 24th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service was held Wednesday November 25, 2009, at Sparks United Methodist Church. This worship service of prayers, readings, and music from a variety of faith traditions permitted individual faith leaders to express praise and thanks in the manner of their own traditions in company with all others in attendance. Bishop Gene Savoy Jr., president of the Nevada Clergy Association and chairman of the planning committee, was instrumental in organizing the event, which has become a cornerstone of interfaith relations in the Reno/Sparks area. Representing the International Community of Christ, Bishop Savoy delivered the benediction and the Reverend Dr. Bill Bartlett recited a Buddhist prayer. The Reverends Gary and Amanda Buchanan and the Reverend Deacon Stephan Fuelling, representing the Jamilian Handbell Choir, assisted the Shepherd's Bells of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in performing the Call to Worship. Other recitations were delivered from the Protestant, Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Hindu, Jewish, Baha'i, and Native American traditions. Choir selections were performed by the Reno Stake of Latter-Day Saints, Trinity Episcopal, and the Reno Buddhist Church. Dr. Clair Earl, outgoing president of the Reno Stake of LDS, delivered the keynote address. Monetary contributions collected were given to Family Promise, and food donations were given to help feed the hungry. Three hundred people were in attendance.