

The WORD on the Street

Issue 16 ● St. Mark's Episcopal Church ● August 2014



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

.....Matthew 19: 14.....

LORD, BLESS US AS WE BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR

August is here and for many families that means school is just around the corner! On **Sunday, August 24**, students of ALL ages, preschool through adult, bring your backpacks or lunch boxes to the Sunday worship service. **The Rev. Bert Baetz** will lift up students asking God to be ever-present with them while filling them with a passion for learning. **Blessings will abound** on this Sunday as Father Bert also does a blessing of our new school for a safe and enlightening school year. He will take us into our new building and bless classrooms and the space where our teachers and administration will carry out their education ministry.



St. Mark's School will open on Monday, August 25! This is a long-awaited and exciting event supporting the mission of St. Mark's. In the picture to the right are teachers, **Tiffany Trlicek** and **Anne Calbert**, and Founding Head of School, **Tracey McMahon-Little**. Other school staff includes **Mary Paul**, the Before and After School Program Director, **Jerri Carington**, the School Office Manager, and **Lynnett Alderson**, Teacher's Assistant. Thank you all for your service!

IT'S COMING....WHICH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE WILL YOU ATTEND?

Choices – we all like them! Starting **Sunday, September 7, 2014**, we will enjoy the choice of attending one or both of St. Mark's Sunday worship services. Thanks to God's many blessings, our church is growing, and to make space for that growth, our new worship service schedule will be:



Ruthie Hurta Rings in Two Services

- **9:00am**
Holy Eucharist Rite II (with music)
- **10:00am-11:15am**
Coffee and Gracious Hospitality
- **10:10am-11:00am**
Christian Formation
- **11:15am**
Holy Eucharist Rite II (with music)
- **12:15pm**
Coffee and Gracious Hospitality

Our fall Christian Formation classes (Godly Play, Kids' Kingdom, the class for youth grades 7-12, and the adult class) will also begin on Sunday, September 7th.



FOR MEN ONLY... A MINISTRY FOR YOU

Now there are **TWO** ways to enjoy fellowship with the men of St. Mark's.

- The St. Mark's Men's Group meets at the church at 7 PM on the 2nd and 4th Monday each month. Come and be nourished with:



Food for our **bodies** – chocolate chip cookies and "manly" food



Food for our **hearts** - fellowship and relationship building



Food for our **minds** - lively discussion



Food for our **souls** - studies for spiritual growth and occasional compline

Plans are underway for **Houston Texan's game watching parties, Social Outreach projects, and road trips!**

- You can join a group of St. Mark's men for breakfast every Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. at Whataburger.

Questions? Please contact Benno Scheibner.

The Daughters of the King

The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a spiritual sisterhood of women dedicated to a life of prayer, service and evangelism. St. Mark's Daughters recently toured The Fort Bend County Women's Center. With Father Bert, they presented Ms. Vita Goodell, Executive Director of the Center, with a donation as part of DOK's service to others.





St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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EXPERIENCING THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S PRESENCE.....

Godly Play, St. Mark's Christian Formation program for three- to six-year-olds, provides a creative experience taking little children on an imaginative journey through the Old Testament. In fall 2014, the children will open the church year thinking about the colors of the Church and what they mean. A giant felt wall calendar provides the children a preview of the year ahead. During the fall weeks, the children will learn about the Story of Creation, the Flood and the Ark (Noah), the Great Family (Abraham and Sarah) and the Backward Prophet (Jonah and the Whale).

The children are invited into sacred stories of our Christian faith through the art of story-telling and visual engagement using the beautiful *Godly Play* materials.



Godly Play students Eloise Baetz and Kade and Kaylie Wacker



"*Godly Play* nurtures our young children's spiritual growth through the telling and hearing of the wonderful stories of the Holy Bible. The lessons bring out the wondering, imagining, and recognizing of God's Kingdom in their own lives. I constantly am amazed and gratified by the understanding preschoolers often exhibit during our time together."

Jeanne Reaves, Leader, St. Mark's *Godly Play* program



Godly Play materials

Spreading the WORD, Staying the Course