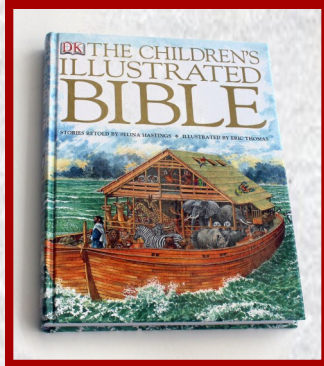


The St. Mark's Times

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

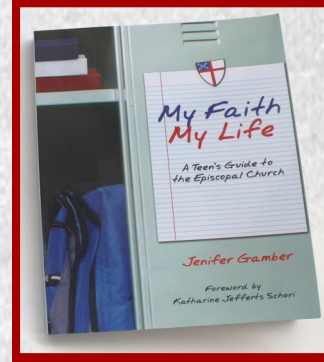
Issue 6

September 2013



Kid's Kingdom to use The Children's Illustrated Bible





This fall, the students in grades 1-6 who are participating in the Kid's Kingdom Christian Formation Classes will be using new youth Bibles. With the help of Jamie Martin-Currie, the Missioner for Christian Education with the Diocese of Texas, The Children's Illustrated Bible was selected for use by the St. Mark's students. Ms. Currie felt that this particular Bible fit our needs. It is written in easy to understand language and has beautiful traditional illustrations. This version will be perfect as our students start their study of the Old Testament by exploring the story of Moses.



Grades 7 & 8 to Participate in Confirmation Class

Starting in September, the 7th and 8th graders at St. Mark's will begin a course of study leading to Confirmation. The class will be taught every Sunday during the Christian Formation time by Chris Abbott. They will be reading and studying My Faith My Life – A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church and using the Bible, The Book of Common Prayer and the 1982 Hymnal as additional resources. This study will provide the students with a better understanding of Baptism, Confirmation, the Bible, the sacraments, faith, prayer, and the Episcopal Church. Students completing this course will be well prepared for their Confirmation in January 2014.

Adult Christian Formation comes in several flavors, and at St. Mark's one of our most enjoyed adult classes involves Bible study. We have developed a simple, four-step method that anyone, regardless of their 'Bible-study-maturity', can embrace and make their own. The four steps are:

-  **Pray.** There is no better way to begin any adventure than to start with prayer to the Father. Thank Him for providing you this personal means to better know Him and His Son. Ask Him to open your mind, your heart and your spirit to His will. Ask Him to strengthen your resolve to continue the study at the pace He sets for you.
-  **Read.** Reading the Bible allows you to see in your mind what God wants you to know of your faith's history, the reasons for doing what He did, who Jesus is, and your place in His creation. You are reading the greatest book ever written!
-  **Think.** Use a personal journal to create a record of your study and spiritual growth. The beauty of a journal is to show you how you have grown spiritually over time, which is why you want a journal that will last several years.
-  **Apply.** Something will change about you! Ask yourself: What can I change about myself based on what I have read? What can I change within my family life? What can I change about my school, club or workplace that would demonstrate to others my growing Christian maturity?

Come join Adult Christian Formation on Sunday mornings from 8:45am to 9:45am!!





St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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St. Mark's
Christian
Formation
Fall Preview
Inside



Jason and Chelsea, parents of
Jack Purifoy, baptized on
August 4, 2013

Jack's Christian Formation Journey

Recently Jack Grayson Purifoy was baptized at St. Mark's being marked and sealed as Christ's own forever. As Jack grows, he will be able to participate in the life-changing Christian Formation programs at St. Mark's.

At age three, Jack will begin learning the stories of our Christian faith while attending Godly Play for Children. When Jack enters first grade, teachers will welcome him into Kid's Kingdom where Bible stories will come to life through art, dance, drama and crafts. If he chooses, Jack can attend St. Mark's Confirmation Classes in seventh grade, strengthening his commitment to Christ. Jack will participate in Adult Christian Formation starting in high school, where he will study God's word renewing his mind as God directs us to do.