

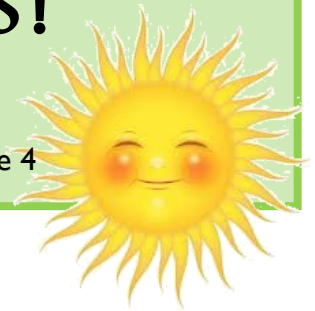


HOT OFF THE PRESS! SUMMER NEWS

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

July 2013

Issue 4



NEW BUILDING ALLOWS SACRISTY EXPANSION

With the construction of our Education Building, the nursery will be moved and the present nursery space will be converted to a new sacristy. A sacristy is a room in a church set apart for the preparation of the Holy Eucharist by the Altar Guild.

The St. Mark's Altar Guild, directed by Dorothy Dawlearn, is a group of hard-working church members dedicated to care of the altar and its furnishings and to preparation for Holy Eucharist. "We are all looking forward to the completion of the new building, and the Altar Guild especially is looking forward to moving into the new space," says Dorothy. "The new sacristy's proximity to the altar area will be a major convenience to the Altar Guild. In addition to being well-equipped for housekeeping, this new, more useful sacristy will provide ample storage spaces for all items used in the worship life of the parish, from vestments and hangings, sacred vessels and linens, candles, vases, as well the bread and wine used in the Eucharist. An Episcopal Church uses an incredible number of sacred items in its liturgy."



Dorothy Dawlearn, Altar Guild Director

Besides Dorothy, Altar Guild members include Lynnett Alderson, Jeri Culberson, Bobbie Gammill, Isobel Gotschall, Ruthie Hurta, Jan Leaman, Caron Marble, Bettye Newberry, Barbara Ricklin, and Frances Samuelson. They work in teams and have duty every third week.

OUR GOAL IS PRESCHOOL ACCREDITATION



Future Preschool Attendees with Their Moms!

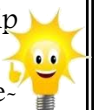
The St. Mark's Preschool Board is working with The Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools (SAES) to ensure that our preschool will become accredited in the future. SAES sets a high standard for Episcopal accrediting in the United States and has a mission "to lead, to nurture and to unify Episcopal schools in order to advance educational excellence with the faith community of the Episcopal Church."

This summer, three members of the SAES consulting team will assist St. Mark's with accreditation planning in the areas of school management, program development, financial systems, and the hiring of our preschool director. These consultants will help ensure now that we are building a preschool that will meet SAES's high standards of excellence when St. Mark's applies for accreditation after three years of operation.

SHARE YOUR STEWARDSHIP STORY

Church members have offered many positive comments on the stories of personal growth and stewardship shared during our Growing in Grace Capital Campaign. Perhaps there are more stories out there?

Think about your journey of stewardship. What has it meant to you or your family? Has it changed your relationship with Jesus Christ? Please consider sharing it so others can learn from you. Contact Father Bert at 281-545-1661 to be put on the Sunday schedule. Thank you!





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ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



I love bringing newcomers into our St. Mark's story. I always feel privileged to tell the story. We are then blessed by the new members who become a part of the story. Those who founded our church and the new members of today will shape the course of our future. It's a story to be continued!

The Rev. Bert Baetz



Sara, Matt, Mia and Macy Hawkes

New Facilities and New Families!

St. Mark's recently hosted a Newcomers (G.R.A.C.E.) class to welcome several new families to the parish. Our newcomers learned what it means to be members of St. Mark's and gained a fuller understanding of our mission and core values. God is blessing St. Mark's as the parish grows in facilities and in families!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

PROGRESS TO DATE

Total Number of Pledges:	45
Amt. of Capital Campaign Pledges:	\$503,310.00
Amount Given Not Pledged:	\$3,624
Total pledge Contribution:	\$279,019.45
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:	\$282,643.45

PROGRESS THIS MONTH

Total Contribution:	\$2,022.00
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EXPENSES

Expenses this month:	\$89.90
Expenses Year To Date:	\$40,768.63

"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Luke 6:38

