



# HERE'S THE BUZZ!



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

June 1, 2013

Issue 3

## Building Update....

Visit the groundbreaking site to see first-hand how our land is being transformed for our new Education Center.

The many accomplishments are:

- Hartfiel Architecture and Design has finished up the architectural drawings.
- The trees have been cleared as needed.
- The waterline was re-routed.
- A drainage plan has been created through site engineering.
- A structural engineering plan for the slab and framing have been created.



## Bass Construction Selected as Builder

St. Mark's has contracted with Bass Construction of Rosenberg, Texas to build our new Education/Preschool Building. With over 50 years in the construction business, Bass' philosophy is one to be applauded: "To us, construction isn't about hammers and nails; it's about turning a vision into reality, creating a sense of community and leaving a legacy for future generations to come."



## Our Preschool Moves Forward....

The Board of the St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool meets regularly to undertake the many steps needed to open our Preschool in September 2014. This month, our Preschool Board is pleased to share its mission statement and philosophy:

### Mission Statement:

The mission of St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool is to encourage spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development in young children through an enriched curriculum, rooted in the Christian faith.

### Philosophy:

St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool fosters an early childhood education which honors the unique value and beauty of all children as creations of a loving, empowering God. Based on nurturing Christian values which mirror our Episcopal identity, St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool integrates spiritual formation, joyful discovery, and playful creativity into our daily curriculum, enabling children to reach their full potential.



Left to Right (Preschool Board Directors): Jan Leaman, The Rev. Bert Baetz, Jeanne Reaves, Janice Knight, Kim Janke

**"For every house is built by someone; but he that built all things is God." Hebrews 3:4**



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## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."*

(Matthew 13:31-32)

Within its beautiful rural setting, St. Mark's has taken on the image of a tree for its vision. Fr. Bert says, "I'd love St. Mark's to be known as the 'mustard seed' church. God seems to like taking small things and growing them to be a means of his abundant grace. We have a great story at St. Mark's. A small group of people kept the hope alive for our parish, and we are becoming more like the tree of the parable, where many birds come to make nests in its branches."



The Rev. Bert Baetz and Fairis Samuelson  
 (designer of the Growing In Grace tree)

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

#### PROGRESS TO DATE

Total Number of Pledges:	45
Amt. of Capital Campaign Pledges:	\$503,310.00
Total pledge Contribution:	\$277,037.45
Amount Given Not Pledged:	\$3,584
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:</b>	<b>\$280,621.45</b>

#### PROGRESS THIS MONTH

<b>Total Contribution:</b>	<b>\$3,441.00</b>
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#### EXPENSES

Expenses this month:	\$75.98
Expenses Year To Date:	\$40,678.73

**If you have made a pledge and are using a pink envelope to contribute cash to Growing in Grace, please put your name on the envelope. Thank you!**

