



The Weekly Word

January 29, 2012

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

A Word to the Wise: “Choices, choices!!!...”

Sunday January 29th is our Annual Parish Meeting. Usually the most important business we do at those is selecting five new vestry members, but it is a good time to get together and celebrate who we are as a parish church. You have a wonderful selection of vestry nominees to choose from, and it will not be easy to make your choices, because each has wonderful gifts to offer the church. It is a great gift and privilege to have the freedom to select our leaders, and it should not be “easy” to make those choices—St. Mark’s deserves the best leadership and we have a deep pool to draw from. Give your selection careful prayer and thought, and be present to encourage those who serve and those who stand forth as nominees.

In truth, what goes for picking vestry folks goes for all of our life in the church and in the nation. We are blessed with great freedoms and, therefore, weighty responsibilities, which demand serious and careful choices. Picking leadership at any level is a discernment process that reveals what is at work in the “deciders.” We get the leadership we deserve, not only because we choose it, either by our action or our inaction, but also because no leader rises up except from the community in which he or she was bred, hatched and nurtured. We show who we are by whom we choose.

And our choices are shaped by the other choices we make. If we have dug deep into the traditions, lore and practice of our faith, our choices reflect that. If we are oblivious bystanders, that reality shapes how we understand and how we choose not only leaders but our own ways of life, but that’s a good way to get run over by life. We all want something better for that...for our church, for our children, and for ourselves. Make good choices!

Frank Fuller+

This Week ...Jan. 29-Feb.4

Annual Parish Meeting: Sunday January 29 in Payne Hall following the 10:15 service. Please mark your calendar to attend. Lunch will be served, annual reports submitted, and vestry elections will take place. Please make every effort to be present. For those unable to be present, absentee ballots will be available in the church office from Monday Jan. 23- Friday Jan. 27 during office hours (8:00-5:00). Absentee ballots must be signed and submitted in person. All confirmed communicants in good standing (regular in corporate worship, receiving the sacrament, known to the treasurer) aged 16 years and older are eligible to vote in the parish meeting.

Vestry Nominees: Five persons will be elected at the annual meeting for a three year (2012-2015) term. Nominees are: Robert Birdwell, Sissy Coffin, Susannah Cronin, Allison Gilbert, Chris Johnsen, Steve McGrade, Gordon Pate, George Rienstra, Paul Robichau, and Ninette Teel.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ ST MARK’S

Wednesday Night supper (6:00 PM) and programs (6:30-7:30). Children’s class: Play ‘n’ Worship (3yo-K). Stories, Prayer, Games, Movies n’ Worship (grades 1-5).

Adult classes (6:30-7:30):

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis. (Frank Fuller)

Who Wrote the Bible? An Introduction to the Old Testament Literature. (Dean Calcote)

Parenting Self-Reliant Kids. Discussion of Wendy Mogel’s book *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*. (Jerome Dick)

Vestry Orientation, Saturday, February 4, 10:00 AM-12:00 noon. Newly elected vestry members meet to get up to speed on Vestry procedures.

Next Week...Feb. 5-11

Food Pantry Collection Sunday, Feb. 5.

Scout Recognition Sunday, Feb. 5 at 10:15 service honoring Boy Scout Troop #601 and Cub Scout Pack #291. All Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Kids, Camp Fire Club and Brownies are invited to attend in uniform.

Mission Committee meets Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Kid’s Night Out, Friday, Feb. 10

163rd Annual Diocesan Council, Bryan College Station. Delegates: Dan Mabry, Allan Nichols, James Black.

Upcoming Events...

Treasure House recognition Sunday: Feb. 12.

“Bless the Work of Our Hands”—Sunday Feb. 26, an exhibit of works created by St. Mark’s Parish-ioners, sharing our creative spirit! Arts and Crafts, Hobbies, Woodworking, Ceramics, flower Arranging, Needlework, Sewing, Photography, Garden Produce, Poetry, Cooking, Sculpture, etc. PLEASE PLAN TO PARTICIPATE. Go to www.stmarksbeaumont.org for registration forms. Deadline for registration is Feb. 19.

Good to Know...

Many thanks to **Boy Scout Will Wilson** for his great work replacing Treasure House product/size dividers on the racks. Come by and see his professional job!

