

November 6th – By the Numbers

To become a member of St. Mark's you need only say you want to be a member. You don't have to disassociate from another church you may belong to. But now St. Mark's offers the opportunity to also become an Episcopalian. If you're interested...read on.

How does one become an Episcopalian at St. Mark's?

1. Be baptized at St. Mark's Chapel,
2. When old enough, be Confirmed at St. Mark's Chapel. (Confirmation classes currently underway. Please speak with Jack Nietert),
3. If Baptized or Confirmed an Episcopalian at another church, have a Letter of Transfer sent to St. Mark's Chapel (forms are on the table in the narthex), or
4. If previously Confirmed in an Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran or Roman Catholic Church, ask to be Received by our Bishop into the Episcopal Church. (One is not Confirmed a second time but rather officially welcomed by the Bishop into this branch of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church).

Opportunities for Episcopalian commitment or recommitment during the Bishop's Visitation on November 6th

1. Be Confirmed,
2. Be Received, or
3. Reaffirm your baptismal vows. (The Bishop will lay his hands on your head and pray: May the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. Amen.)

The Meaning of Baptism

In baptism we are immersed or 'washed' with water as we proclaim belief in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and promise to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us live this new life.

1. Union with Jesus Christ
2. Forgiveness of sin
3. Birth into God's family, the Church - we become members!
4. New Life in the Holy Spirit.

The Meaning of Confirmation

1. An individual's saying "yes" to the promises that were made in Baptism - a "confirming" of those vows.
2. An individual's public witness to being a Christian.
3. An individual's accepting the beliefs, traditions, and customs of this branch of the Church.
4. The Bishop's prayer and laying his/her hands on an individual's head asking God the Holy Spirit to empower this person to be the Christian he/she is called to be.