

NFL referee these days, not after the blown call last Sunday, which, as fans argue, caused the Saints to lose a trip to the Super Bowl. Who takes pleasure in putting themselves in the line of fire week after week? When the calls are good, no one notices; but when they're bad, everyone complains. No one enjoys getting criticized. Some of us handle it better than others, like tolerating a trip to the dentist. For For none of us has fully arrived. others, the fear of failure and being a disappointment can leave us paralyzed. Our critics may believe we appreciate their criticism as a way to helping us become a better version of "us." Chances are we don't hear criticism as positive feedback, but fear that we have failed or been disappointing.

reveals that it takes our brain experiencing five positive events to make up for the psychological effect of just one negative event. (source: umn.edu) For example, if I were to receive one hundred positive remarks about a sermon and only one criticism, I would obsess over the one criticism. Again, who takes pleasure in putting themselves in the line of fire week after week?

Those who serve in the Church are not immune to these fears. Some refuse to pray or read in public. Others refuse opportunities to chair a committee or ministry. Many resist serving

I wouldn't want to be an as Deacon or Sunday School Teacher. Why? Because we're afraid of criticism, of failure, and being a disappointment. Jesus' word to critics: "Judge not, that you be not judged . . . with the measure you use it will be measured to you." If you must critique, then Ephesians 4: "Speak truth in love." A word for those afraid of criticism: Truth. If there is truth, spoken in love, then keep an open and humble heart.

Someone said: "I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody." Anything worth doing attracts admiration and criticism, both. Even Mother Teresa had her detractors. And, if it is worth doing, seek improvement, not approval. Stay focused on the conclusion, not Psychology research the criticism. Jesus encourages us in Luke 9: Keep your hands on the plow and don't look back.

If you are weighing a good decision, even to serve the Lord, but the fear of criticism is preventing you from acting, keep these words of Elbert Hubbard in mind: To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing.

> Keep Courage, Pastor Leonard

#### **ADULTS**

#### LLL

#### Tour of St. George Catholic Church & Lunch Thursday, January 24

The bus departs from the church at 10am and returns to the church after the tour for a delicious lunch of jambalaya, gumbo, white beans, french bread, salad, and king cake. \$10, please sign up and pay in the church office.

#### **Deacon Orientation**

Sunday, January 27 5:00 p.m., SDR

#### **Newcomer Ministries Council Meeting**

Monday, February 4 6:00 p.m., CCR

#### **Grief Share**

Sundays, 5:00 p.m. **Church Conference Room** 

"A Missing Piece"

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. Church Parlor

## Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 3

You are encouraged to bring a box of crackers and a can of soup for Southeast Ministries and place them in the various food barrels in the church.

#### New **Ladies Book Study**

A new book study will begin in mid-February, and thereafter every other Monday at 1:30 p.m. The book will be Hope for the Thinking Christian (\$16). If you would like to join the book study, please let the church office know by Sunday, February 3 so enough books can be ordered. For more information, please contact Pam Morgan.

#### **Building Maintenance Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, January 30 5:00 p.m., CCR

#### **Communications Committee Meeting** Wednesday, February 6 6:00 p.m.

### **Day of Caring**

Saturday, February 9 9:00 a.m., CAH

We will meet at 9 am in the Activities Hall for a fellowship breakfast and card writing, then head out for visits with our homebound church members. Please sign up in the church office so that we can prepare for breakfast.

#### **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Ocshner Norma McNeil

**BRG-Bluebonnet** Sue Seab Johnnie Faye Goodwin

**Woodleigh Nursing** Home **Charles Steele** 

Home from the Hospital Carolyn Jordan

#### **In Loving Memory**

Mr. Max Futch united with this church on July 30, 1961 and departed this life on January 8, 2019.

#### In Appreciation

Words of sincere appreciation have been received from: Alice and Charles Steele Dianne Lea

#### **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

#### Wednesday Night January 23

Dinner 5:15 p.m. Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls, Cobbler

Bible Study, 6:15 p.m. The Gospel of John

#### Wednesday Night February 6

Dinner 5:15 p.m. Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls, Brownies

Bible Study, 6:15 p.m. Mary Mullen Won't You Be My Neighbor

#### Wednesday Night January 30

Dinner 5:15 p.m. Chicken & Sausage Gumbo, Rice, Potato Salad, Bread, Mississippi Mud

Bible Study, 6:15 p.m. The Gospel of John

#### Wednesday Night February 13

Dinner 5:15 p.m. Spaghetti, Corn, French Bread, Salad, White Cake

Bible Study, 6:15 p.m. Mary Mullen Won't You Be My Neighbor

#### **CALENDAR**

**Thursday, January 24** 

10:00 A LLL departs for St. **George Catholic Church** 

Sunday, January 27

9:15 A Sunday School 10:30 A Worship, Deacon Installation and Ordination

**Extended Teaching Care** Judy Averett, Baileigh, Bren, and Erika Futch, Stephanie McKenzie

5:00 P Grief Share, CCR **Uncle Phil's Practice Deacon Orientation** 5:45 P Belles and Beaux

**Tuesday, January 29** 

11:00 A A Missing Piece, Parlor Wednesday, January 30

7:00 A Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:00 P Bldg. Maintenance Cmte.

Meeting, CCR 5:15 P Church Family Dinner 6:00 P Youth Bible Study

Children's Programs 6:15 P Adult Bible Study, CAH

7:00 P Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, February 3

9:15 A Sunday School 10:30 A Worship

**Extended Teaching Care** Jennifer and Laurel Fishburn, Jack

and Ainsley Nunneley 5:00 P Uncle Phil's Practice Grief Share, CCR La. Youth Orchestra Perform., Sanctuary

5:30 P Youth Super Bowl Party 5:45 P Belles and Beaux

Monday, February 4

6:00 P Newcomer Ministries Council Meeting, CCR

**Tuesday, February 5** 

11:00 A A Missing Piece, Parlor Wednesday, February 6

7:00 A Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 P Church Family Dinner

6:00 P Youth Bible Study Children's Programs Communications Mtg.

6:15 P Adult Bible Study, CAH

7:00 P Sanctuary Choir

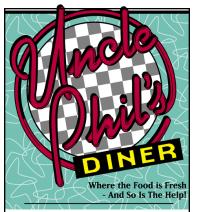
#### YOUTH

## **Super Bowl Party**

Sunday, February 3 5:30 p.m.

At the home of Fae Foster and Haves and Savannah Hoffman.

#### **Uncle Phil's Rehearsal** Sundays at 5:00 p.m.



Two Performances: Saturday, February 16 6:00 p.m. Sunday, February 17 11:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 after February 8. Limited space available.

Mark Your Calendars! **Orion Parade** Saturday, February 23 details to follow

ind, your place

## and **Installation Service**

**Deacon Ordination** 

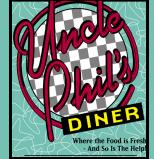
Join Us for our

Sunday, January 27 10:30 a.m.

#### New Deacons to be ordained:

Jim Chapman Danielle Gremillion Alyssa Henderson Angie Miller Jamie Smith

2019 Deacon orientation meeting at 5:00 p.m.



#### An Evening of Food and Fun from the Fabulous 50's!

Two Performances: Saturday, February 16 6:00 p.m. Sunday, February 17 11:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 after February 8. Limited space is available, so please call the church office to sign up.

#### **YOUNG FAMILIES**

# **Entire Congregation**