

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
Subject: BAcK Seat Driver
Date: September 21, 2016 at 7:30 AM
To: Mcats2@aol.com



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State of
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LICENSE NUMBER
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THE COMMISSIONER ALREADY
HAS YOUR NUMBER, BUT
WE'VE ASSIGNED THIS ONE
TO YOU ANYWAY!

BACK SEAT DRIVER'S LICENSE

NAME		
PRINT IN FULL		
ADDRESS		
CITY	ZONE	STATE

SIGNATURE OF LICENSEE

Back Seat Driver

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. Luke 4:1+2

Led By The Spirit

This reading from Luke came up in the readings for Morning Prayer this morning. I have seen it numerous times before. I have been impressed with the same thing from this verse once again. And, just like before, it strikes me as deeply as it all the other times I have read it. I am probably having a hard time learning how to follow Jesus. That would be natural.

My difficulty is that I want to tell the Spirit of God where I would like to be led. When I see that Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit and then led by the Spirit into the wilderness, and then was tempted by the devil, and then did not eat for forty days and was hungry I am not compelled to choose to be led by the Spirit of God. I would not choose to have that kind of spiritual experience. But Jesus did. There must be something I need to catch here.

I Am A Back Seat Driver

I picture being filled with the Spirit and being led by the Spirit as something which should be easy, uplifting, and encouraging. It should be a "blessing." I have a bias that if things are not going well it is because I am not being led by the Spirit, have committed some kind of sin, and am generally "off." Apparently, that is not the case. If I am going to be led by the Spirit then it is the Spirit of God who decides where to go and what it will be like. My response is to follow where I am being led and lean on the Spirit of God for the power to go. Instead, a lot of the time I am a back seat driver telling the Spirit of God how to lead, where to go, and what to provide. Maybe I should imitate Jesus more on this one.

And You?

What do you want to do in your relationship with the Holy Spirit? Do you want to call the shots? What would happen if you told the Holy Spirit that you will go wherever that Wind blows? What if we all tired it? What would the church look like then? What would our faith be like after following like

that for a while? Would you like to try?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, September 25, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Sunday, October 2, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Wednesday, October 5, 2016 Color Me Friends at 6:30pm. Contact CArol at carolsdream@gmail.com

October 6, 2016 St. Francis will have a booth at the Goochland Chamber of Commerce EXPO [Thursday October 6 from 5 – 8pm](#). We would like to sell baked goods made by our members. They should be packaged and priced, but don't have to have the ingredients listed. We also need volunteers to sell the baked good and just be in the booth. Please contact Libby Clark with questions or to volunteer. This is a great opportunity for St. Francis to connect with our community.

Sunday, October 9, 2016 Worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck.

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to be distributed to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For JJ's Seafood, Jason Cuthrell, owner, that business would increase and many families in this area would be served.

The Diocese of Virginia

For the people of ST. Matthew's, Sterling, St. John's, West Point, St. Paul's, West Point, Our Savior, Montpelier that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit

Finally, we are taking a two week break. Look for us again right here on October 12th.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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