

Subject: Kinder and Gentler

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church <vicar@stfrancisva.org>

Date: 8/28/2013 12:13 PM

To: Larry <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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The logo for St. Francis is displayed on a dark blue rectangular background. It features the word "St" in a white, serif font, with a red cross symbol integrated into the letter "t". The cross has a sunburst or halo effect around its top and right sides. To the right of "St" is the word "Francis" in a larger, white, serif font.



August 28, 2013

**The Strength of His Kindness and Gentleness Flows
Through You**

*Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.
Luke 14:13*

The Hands and Feet of Jesus

It is easy to want to be kind to others so that they will be kind to you. That is natural. That desire can go deeper when you want to be kind to others because that is the type of person you want to be. Taking it a step further, we can want to be kind because that is the way we reflect and communicate the presence of Jesus.

The Fruit of the Spirit

The big question is how do we actually reflect and communicate the presence of Jesus to others through our personal kindness and gentleness. The answer is generally the same as it is with any other question of how to live a Christian life.

We do it in the power of the Holy Spirit. To communicate His presence to others we must first know His presence within our own lives. His Spirit gives us power to do what we cannot do on our own. The strength of His kindness and gentleness flows through us because of the presence of God within us. We do not have that kind of strength on our own. Gentleness and kindness are a part of the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) in our lives.

Kindness First

Who do you know that really would not believe they are welcome to receive from God, or to take part in worship on Sunday morning (the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind)? The kindness of Jesus flowing through you will go a long way in opening their eyes to that belief.

What is God saying to you right now about reflecting the kindness and gentleness of Jesus to someone?

What would God have you do about that?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, September 1, 2013

Worship at 10:00am

Saturday, September 28 work day at St. Francis

Saturday, October 5 10:00am Blessing of the animals at St. Francis

Sunday October 13 4:00pm Celebration of a New Ministry

"Behold the Lamb of God" scheduled for Dec 5 at 7:00 PM. Larry Kidd will be ordering a group of tickets together to this performance in early September.

Anyone desiring tickets should let Larry (lckiddjr@gmail.com) know by Sunday, Sept 1.

Centerville Circle of Prayer:

For Air Specialists of Virginia that there would be increased business in the

construction industry.

Metro Richmond at Prayer:

For schools and educational institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all Superintendents, School Boards, School Administrators, PTAs, students, and staff.

A Vision Day sponsored by Fresh Expressions US will be held in Richmond on Friday, Sept. 20 in partnership with the Baptist General Association of Virginia, The Anglican Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic and Third Presbyterian Church. Several of us from St. Francis are going.

The Vision Day is ideal for:

Anyone interested in renewal within established congregations

Those interested in building relationships and serving the communities in which they live or work

Those who have real questions about fresh expressions and mission-shaped church

Those who have started something new and need some practical help

Consider going. Email John at vicar@stfrancisva.org to let him know you want to attend. Registration fee is on St. Francis.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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