

**Subject:** Transformers

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

**Date:** 9/4/2013 3:00 PM

**To:** Larry <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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September 3, 2013

## **Transformers**

*So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own.  
Luke 14:33*

### ***Giving Up***

A lot of people trip over Jesus asking us to give up everything, die to self, or to focus on Him. The assumption tripping up most people is giving up everything will make life miserable. We think, rightly, if we have no money, friends, family, and whatever else we value, then our lives would be very empty and meaningless. We also think we would suffer for no real reason. What is even harder is to think that Jesus asks us to live such a life. It is easy to think if we don't then we will

be outside of the blessing of God. For many a logical step after that is, "so who needs that kind of blessing."

### ***Transformed***

The missing piece in this train of thought is this- to change our outer focus we need to first change our inner focus. It would, in fact, be miserable to change all of our outward habits and practices without first changing the way we see life on the inside. In order to do what Jesus asks us to do we must first be transformed. That transformation is to be changed on the inside to be like Him. He does that in us. We do not change ourselves to become like Him on our own power. Giving up everything we own means giving up our own view of ourselves so that the character of Jesus can transform us to be more and more like Him. We can believe things about Jesus on our own. We can only believe what Jesus believes by His power at work in us. That will be true of every aspect of our lives- relationships, worship, work, etc.

## **Coming Attractions**

### ***Sunday, September 8, 2013***

Worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck lunch

***Sunday, September 22***, after coffee hour book study resumes with the first

chapter of Missional Communities by Reggie McNeal

***Saturday, September 28*** work day at St. Francis

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

# Blessing of the Animals



**October 5, 2013**

**10:00am**

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**

**1484 Hockett Rd.**

**Manakin Sabot. VA**

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

The Rt Rev Susan Goff  
Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Virginia  
and the people of  
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Manakin-Sabot, Virginia  
invite your prayers and presence at

The celebration of a new ministry  
they share with  
The Rev Dr. John F. Maher, Jr.  
Vicar of  
St. Francis Episcopal Church

Sunday the 13th of October 2013 4pm

1484 Hockett Rd.  
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Reception to follow

Clergy: unvested and seated with the people

Please email rsvp by October 9, 2011 to  
[vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org)  
or call [804-784-6116](tel:804-784-6116)

***Centerville Circle of Prayer:***

For Zenergy Massage, and the owner Jody Hauschild. That this practice would bring many people as deeper sense of rest and well being.

***Metro Richmond at Prayer:***

For schools and educational institutions of Metropolitan Richmond:  
For all public schools; for students, teachers and support personnel, including cafeteria workers, building and grounds staff, and school bus drivers..

***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. Four 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](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org) to let him know you want to attend. Registration fee is on St. Francis.

***PakMail in Centerville*** is looking for someone to work part time afternoons and Saturdays. Contact David at 708-0947, or [US835@pakmail.org](mailto:US835@pakmail.org)

Grace and Peace,

**John Maher**

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