

Subject: New From ST. Francis Episcopal Church
From: St. Francis Episcopal Church <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
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To: Larry <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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March 12, 2014

Can't You Read The Sign?

The wind blows wherever it wills . . .

John 3:8

One Year On Approaching

On April 1, 2014 I will have been the vicar of St. Francis for one year. It has been a great year in many ways! One of the challenges of local church leadership is keeping the purpose of the local church squarely in view. Leslie Newbiggin writes in several places about that when he says the local church is the sign, foretaste and instrument of the Kingdom of God. I want to focus on each on of

these in the weeks approaching April 1st.

A Sign

The local church is a sign of the kingdom of God. It is the fellowship of people who have begun to see the day coming when there will be no more sickness, hunger, death, or mourning. It is that group of people who have begun to order their lives around the Table of The Lord where we celebrate the coming feast of the world's redemption. It is that group of people who pick up the practices of healing the sick, restoring the broken, feeding the hungry, and calling for the dreams of people as a sign of the kingdom of God being present among us.

You have a part in all of this. You have a place to belong at the Table of The Lord. It is there you can become all you were created to be. From that place of strength together we bring the signs of the kingdom to the community surrounding us.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, March 16, 2014 10:00am worship

Sunday, March 23, 2014 10:00am worship

Sunday, March 30, 2014 10:00am worship

Wednesday, April 2, 2014 Caritas at Christ Church, Short Pump

Centerville Circle of Prayer

That Paws Inn would serve family pets well and be a sign of goodness of God to this community.

Diocese of Virginia

That the congregations and clergy of St. Peter's, Port Royal; Vauter's, Loretto; St. Dunstan's, McLean; Holy Cross, Dunn Loring; St. Peter's, Richmond; Trinity, Highland Springs. would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Metropolitan Richmond

That health care in Metropolitan Richmond, especially for emergency response personnel and all emergency room staff, as well as hospitals, nursing homes, and hospice programs, and for persons diagnosed with terminal illness, that they would know the presence of the Spirit of God.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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