

Subject: Housebound
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 3/4/2015 7:48:18 AM
To: "Larry" <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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S⁺ Francis



March 4, 2015

Housebound

*And whatever house you enter,
stay there, and from there depart.
Luke 9:4*

Together Then

Yesterday, March 3rd, was the commemoration of of John and Charles Wesley on our liturgical calendar. In two weeks on March 17th it will be the commemoration of Patrick of Ireland. These commemorations can be lost in the middle of Lent. They point to significant ministry in the history of our church which can be done today. Some of the practices would be different now than they were in the time of the Wesleys or Patrick. Even though they lived in different centuries and cultures they had several very important practices in common. One of those practices was living out the Christian life together with a group of people. Patrick would bring a large group to a village to introduce the Christian Faith and see it established.

The Wesleys would organize groups of different sizes to strengthen new converts and reach out to new people. In both cases it was very fruitful. These groups were, in both instances, like large households or families.

They mirrored the very powerful evangelistic ministry we see in the New Testament.

Together Now

We can take the same approach adapted to our own culture and situation.

When we gather in groups to worship, encourage each other, and serve people outside of our groups we begin to see some progress in sharing the faith. It is much less effective to try to share our faith individually. Seeing how Christians relate to each other and, in turn, welcome outsiders into a group is a very powerful witness of the love of God.

What Is God Asking You?

Is there something God is putting on your heart and mind about this right now? Are you part of a group right now? Is God prompting your group to take a new step in some way? If you are not in a group like this is there some way God wants you to join in with others? Would that be in an existing group, or is it time to start a new one? Would you send me an email (vicar@stfrancisva.org) and let me know?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, March 8, 2015 10:00am worship followed by pot luck. Don't forget to change you clocks one hour ahead.

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 vestry meeting

Sunday, March 15, 2015 worship at 10:00am. The Garden meets followng worship

Sunday, March 22, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Wednesday, March 25, 2015 Caritas at Christ Church, Glen Allen

Sunday, March 29, 2015 Palm Sunday, worship at 10:00am, visit from Aspire Dance Academy

Our Missional Communities

The Parke outreach meets on March 8, 2015 at 5:00pm at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker, 166 Centerville Park Lane, Manakin Sabot 23103. Contact Richard Walker at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

The Garden meets on March 15, 2015 immediately after worship. Contact MJ Weatherford at mcats2@aol.com

Symphony meets on March 22, 2015 at 9:00am at the Symphony Manor of Richmond, 12411 Gayton Rd.. Richmond 23238. Contact Bobbie Leviness at bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

Please bring nonperishable food to worship with you to donate to the Goochland Free Clinic Food Pantry

Centerville Circle of Prayer

Centerville Family Practice, Dr. Nelson Chen Fernandez, and Dr. Beerta Granados Ortega, that this new family medicine practice would prosper and bring a new level of health to many in our community.

Diocese of Virginia

For the congregations and clergy of St. Peter's, Port Royal; Hanover with Brunswick Parish; King George; St. Peter's, Purcellville; Good Shepherd, Bluemont; Immanuel, King & Queen; St. Paul's, West Point that they would continually walk in the power the Holy Spirit.

Metropolitan Richmond

For healthcare in Metroploitan Richmond: For all the sick and their caregivers, doctors, nurses, hospice workers, home healthcare workers, and all who minister to the healthis of others.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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