

**Subject:** What Is God Doing Today?  
**From:** "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <[vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org)>  
**Sent:** 4/1/2015 6:43:13 AM  
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# St Francis



April 1, 2015

## Well Equipped

*... to equip the saints for the work of ministry ...  
Ephesians 4:12*

*John; people of St. Francis Episcopal Church: in Holy Baptism we received full adoption through God's grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit. Will you work together as partners in the mission of the Church, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?*

*We will, with God's help.*

Baptismal Covenant from the Welcome of a New Rector or Other Minister,  
Enriching Our Worship 4

### ***An Anniversary***

Today marks the end of my second year serving at St. Francis and the beginning of my third year. It has been an excellent time for me. This is a congregation full of wonderful people. Many of them have been here from the first days of the life of this congregation. The missionary desire is still here. Our ongoing outreach projects and new missional communities point to the missionary desire at the heart of our fellowship.

### ***My Responsibilities***

My assignment is to equip you to make things happen. In a lot of other organizations it is up to the leader to make things happen. Not so much with the church. Creating the environment in which you can receive you need to grow in discipleship, make disciples, build one another up, live out your calling, work in your gifting, and generally follow Jesus all the time is my work. In other words, I am to make sure you have what you need to make things happen. I am committed to doing that work at St. Francis every day I serve as the vicar. Those responsibilities are reflected in the verse from Ephesians as well as the selection from Enriching Our Worship cited above. It was in October of 2013 Bishop Susan Goff led us in renewing our commitment to that covenant.

### ***Results***

The long term result of building a discipling culture at St. Francis will be many in our surrounding communities will come into the family of God all because the members of St. Francis are equipped to live in a way the brings that about. In the short term, we will continue to become more and more like Jesus each day.

## **Coming Attractions**

***Thursday, April 2, 2015*** Maundy Thursday worship at 6:15pm

***Friday, April 3, 2015*** Good Friday worship at 6:15am

***Sunday, April 5, 2015*** Easter Day worship at 10:00am

***Please bring non-perishable food items to worship*** with you to donate to the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services Food Pantry. You may leave your contributions in the box in the vestibule.

### ***Our Missional Communities***

*The Parke* meets on Sunday, April 12, 2015 for pot luck at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker 1661 Centerville Parke Lane, Manakin Sabot

23103. Contact Richard Walker at [richardandhedy@yahoo.com](mailto:richardandhedy@yahoo.com)

*Symphony* meets on April 26, 2015 at 8:45am at Symphony Manor of Richmond 12411 Gayton Rd; Richmond 23238. Contact Bobbie Leviness at [400-7895](tel:400-7895)

### **Reconciliation Follow-Up: Hand-in-Hand Listening Sessions**

At the diocesan Annual Council meeting in January, Bishop Shannon Johnston announced the start of a new racial reconciliation initiative for the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia in 2015. The first step in this initiative is a series of listening sessions to take place across the Diocese, and we want our church to be represented at these important events. You're invited to join in one of three Hand-in-Hand Listening Sessions that will take place this spring in northern and central Virginia. Additional sessions will take place in the eastern and western portions of the Diocese in the fall. These gatherings will be an opportunity for participants to speak their hearts and minds in a safe, non-reactive environment. Registration is not necessary, but you can indicate which session you'll attend on the diocesan website at [thediocese.net/events](http://thediocese.net/events).

- Thursday, April 16: Epiphany, Richmond, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 18: Trinity, Fredericksburg, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, April 23: The Falls Church, Falls Church, 7:30-9 p.m.

### ***Centerville of Prayer***

For Centerville Imports, Tim and Ken, owners, that business would increase and many vehicles would be safely operating on our roads.

### ***Diocese of Virginia***

Congregations and clergy of St. Andrew's, Richmond; Grace, Alexandria; St. Paul's Memorial, Charlottesville Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria

### ***Metropolitan Richmond***

For the Spirit of Resurrection in Metropolitan Richmond: For a spirit of love, cooperation, peace, community, and commitment to all people in God's name.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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