Subject: One

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

**Sent:** 7/8/2015 7:48:24 AM

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

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7/14/2015



July 8, 2015

## One

What God has made clean, do not call common Acts 10:15

## Unity

The quote cited above is a correction from Jesus to Peter. In this story Peter had fallen into a trance and saw a vision of non-kosher animals being

dropped out of heaven in a huge tarp. Jesus told Peter to "Rise and eat." Peter refused (like he did at the footwashing earlier that same year). Jesus caught him up by telling him to not call common what God has made clean. Jesus told this to Peter three times (just like Peter needed to hear something three times during one of the post resurrection appearances- see John 21:15-19). What is very interesting about this whole incident is that Jesus is preparing Peter to take the gospel to a gentile household which we see happening a little later in the same chapter. This is a huge shift for Peter. He was still not percieving that God would be active among the gentiles. He thought that God would have nothing to do with common things and people. Yet Peter went to the house of a gentile and God acted very powerfully during that meeting. They had unity in the midst of ministry. The unity was there because God had acted in the lives of both the gentiles and the Jews before that meeting took place. The basis of unity was the previous action of God, "what God has made clean."

### **Practicing Unity**

Ask Jesus to show you where and in whom He has been at work. Ask Him to let you in on that. In addition to God's grace, mercy, forgiveness, healing, and extension of the kingdom you will also expereince unity with those God has touched before you got there. It does not matter how different you are otherwise, you are one because of the mercy of God.

# **Coming Attractions**

Wednesday, July 8, 2015 4:00pm vestry meeting

**Sunday, July 12, 2015** 10:00am worship followed by pot luck. Bright Beginnings packpacks due.

Tuesday, July 14, 2015 6:15pm healing ministry

**Sunday July 19, 2015** 10:00am worship

Tuesday July 21, 6:15pm healing ministry

Wednesday July 22, 2015 5:00pm Caritas at Christ Church, Glen Allen

*Please bring non-perishable food to worship* with you. You may leave your donations in the box provided in the vestibule.

#### Sermons During the Summer:

Seven Areas of Growth

How do we know we are on the path of growth? How do we know we are gaining the results of fruitful ministry God desires for us? How do we know we are growing in our own lives? What is the path for our church to grow? We will explore these questions as we take a closer look at the seven areas of growth the Apostle Paul cites in Ephesians 4:13-17:

... until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness and scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. Ephesians 4:13-17

July 12 Unity

July 19 Faith

July 26 Knowledge

August 2 Identity

August 9 Purpose

August 16 Security

August 25 Responsibility

## Tuesday Evenings This Summer at 6:15pm

Healings of Jesus

July 7 Healing of Simon Peter's Mother-in-Law Mark 1:29-34

July 14 Healing of A Leper Mark 1:40

July 21 Healing of A Paralytic Mark 2:1-12

July 28 Healing of A Man with a Withered Hand Mark 3:1-6

August 4 Healing of a Woman with an Issue of Blood Mark 5:21-43

August 11 Healing of the Sick in the Town of Gennesaret Mark 6:53-56

August 18 Healing of a Deaf Man with an Impediment Mark 7: 31-37

August 25 Healing of a Blind Man at Bethsaida Mark 8: 22-26

September 1 Healing of Bartimaeus Mark 8:52

Caritas is on Wednesday evening, July 22nd, at 5:00pm. Please contact Jenna Nelson if you would like to volunteer to work on the meal

7/14/2015

that evening. 749-3231

#### **Our Missional Communities**

*The Parke* will gather on Sunday, July 12 at 5:00pm for pot luck and worship at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Please contact Richard if you plan to attend-<a href="mailto:richardandhedy@yahoo.com">richardandhedy@yahoo.com</a>

Symphony will lead worship at Syphony Assisted Living on Sunday, July 26, 2015 at 9:00am. Please contact Bobbie Leviness to participate: bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

#### Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Goochland Dentistry, Peter Murchie, D.D.S., owner, that the health of many in the community would increase

## Diocese of Virginia

For Grace Church, Kilmarnock, that the clergy and people of this parish would contiually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Metropolitan Richmond

For the Boards of Supervisors, Councils, Administrators, and employees of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, New Kent, Powhatan, Ashland, Petersburg, and Hopewell

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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7/14/2015

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