

**Subject:** Looking Ahead  
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# St Francis



August 19, 2015

## Looking Ahead

*We can make our plans  
but the Lord determines our steps  
Proverbs 16:9 (New Living Translation)*

### **Right Now At St. Francis**

Four years ago the leaders at St. Francis worked on a five-year plan. Since that plan is now four years old we thought it would be good to work on another one. Long range planning always helps with immediate, present day decisions. As Peter Drucker once said, "Long range planning does not

deal with the future decisions, but with the future of present decisions."

We are looking ahead to a future that will:

1. Develop ongoing leadership development
2. Sustain no-cost, or low cost ministry multiplication.
3. Have ongoing discipleship as the basic activity of our fellowship

### ***Looking Ahead***

We will run a short term learning community to read, discuss, and apply the teaching in Mike and Sally Breen's book Family on Mission. The Breen's describe how church related groups can grow to 20 or more and multiply from there. We will then write a plan for the next five years based on what we learn. We desire to multiply mid size groups (some call them missional communities) so that we may invite everyone from our surrounding communities into the family of God.

### ***What We Want Now***

We invite you to join us for this short term learning community. If you are able to take part please get a hold of a copy of Family On Mission. Read the first two chapters and plan to meet at St. Francis on September 2nd at 6:15pm. Let me know you are planning to come as soon as you can. Email me at [vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org). We are looking to God for His vision of church life at St. Francis over the next five years. Our prayer is that God will direct our steps as we walk into that future.

## **Coming Attractions**

***Sunday, August 23, 2015*** worship at 10:00am

***Tuesday, August 25, 2015*** healing service and communion 6:15pm.  
This will be the last healing service of the summer.

***Sunday, August 30, 2015*** worship at 10:00am

***Wednesday, September 2, 2015*** Family On Mission learning community.

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

*The Parke* will meet on September 16, 2015 at 5:00pm for pot luck and worship. Contact Richard Walker at [richardandhedy@yahoo.com](mailto:richardandhedy@yahoo.com)

*Symphony* will be leading worship at Symphony Assisted Living on August 23, 2015 at 9:00am. Please contact Bobbie Leviness at [bobbiedrew@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbiedrew@yahoo.com) to make arrangements to join in.

### ***Family On Mission Learning Community***

Our Tuesday evening summer healing services will end on August 25th, one week earlier than planned, so that we can make room in our schedule for our Family on Mission Learning Community in September. The Learning Community sessions will be on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15pm on September 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

**Centerville Circle of Prayer**

For McDonald's that the business would continue to grow, and that solid employees would be added to the Centerville restaurant.

**Diocese of Virginia**

For the clergy and people of Kingston Parish , Matthews that they may continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Metropolitan Richmond**

For economic development in depressed portions of our region and for the establishment of businesses that will create new employment opportunities.

**Members who have questions or** concerns for the vicar may:

- a. ask the vicar directly
- b. ask for a meeting at a later date
- c. sit at the vicar's table at the monthly pot luck
- d. email or phone call
- e. If the member feels the need, ask a vestry member to come along with them to a meeting with the vicar- this is an essential ministry of vestry members

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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