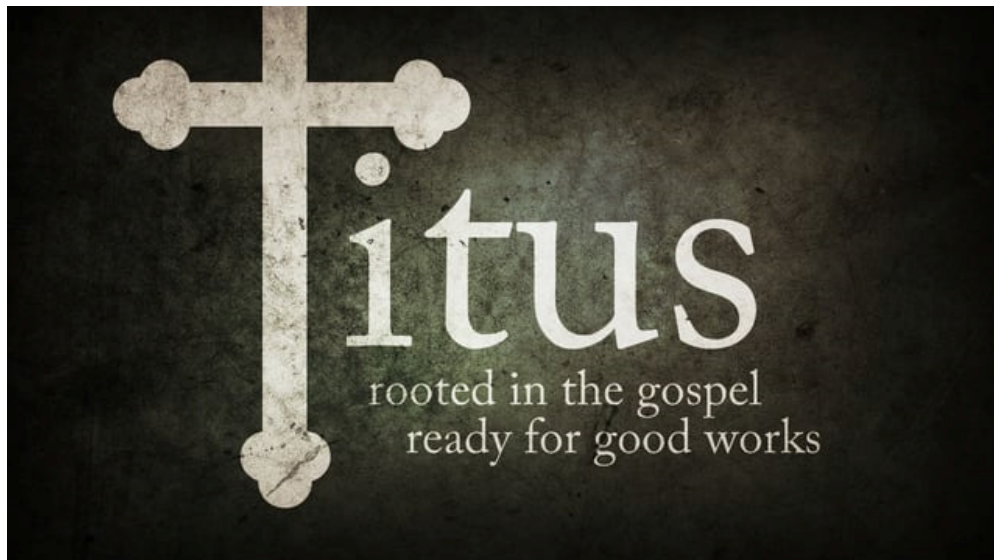


Subject: Good Works
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 12/23/2015 8:31:02 AM
To: "Larry" <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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St Francis



December 23, 2015

Good Works

*... So that those who believe in God
may devote themselves to good works.
These things are excellent
and profitable for all people.
Titus 3:8*

Gospel Works

Tomorrow night we begin our Christmas celebrations with Christmas Eve services. For many of us worship on Christmas Eve can stir a desire to do

good works for others. So, we give to charity, help out with not-for-profit organizations, and are generally more thoughtful towards others. This all stems from engagement of some kind with the Spirit of God. The graphic above displays this. The verse cited above articulates the idea: rooted in the gospel ready for good works. One way you know you have begun to engage with Jesus is you have a desire to work towards the welfare and benefit of others.

Profitable for All People

Selections from Paul's Letter to Titus will often be read at Christmas. However, they get lost when we hear the familiar gospel story about the angels, the shepherds, and the manger, etc. The Letter to Titus deserves more recognition. Not only does Paul clearly spell out God's grace and our trust in it, he also is clear about the signs that follow those who have trusted Jesus. There are good works which are excellent and profitable for all. They change us, our neighborhoods, and our circles of friends so that everyone is built up. In other words, we know we have encountered Jesus when the good works we desire to do make the whole environment good for everyone. That is what it means for something to be good and profitable for all. May this desire in our hearts be the result of our celebration of Christmas.

Coming Attractions

Thursday, December 24, 2015 worship at 6:15pm

Friday, December 25, 2015 worship at 9:00am

Sunday, December 27, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Sunday, January 3, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Please bring non perishable food items to worship for the Food Pantry at Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services.

Our Missional Communities

The Parke will meet for pot luck and worship on January 3, 2016 at 5:30pm at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Contact Richard at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Symphony will led worship at Symphony Assisted Living on January 24, 2016 at 9:00am. Contact Bobbie Leviness at bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Coleman Brothers Florist. That business would increase.

Diocese of Virginia

For all the baptized in their life and work

Metropolitan Richmond

For an end to child abuse; for healthy relationships between children and

their caregivers; for families going through divorce; and for all in the midst of life transition.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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