

Subject: A New History
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 4/6/2016 9:14:04 AM
To: lckiddjr@gmail.com

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S† Francis



April 6, 2016

A New History

*For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation is gone, and now the new one is here. (Jerusalem Bible)
2 Corinthians 5:17*

What Kind Of Peg Are You?

Are you a round peg? Round pegs have a lot to offer, unless someone is trying to force them into a square hole. Nobody wins in that scenario. It might seem to you as though your team, your class, your family, your band, or your boss is trying to get you to become something you are not so that the group will go well. Your own growth and specific contribution may not even be noticed, let alone cared about. Regrettably, even in church we can try to put round pegs into square holes. We can hope someone will join in with a program and secretly think the program will now be able to keep going because that new person joined the group. It is tempting to think that way. We all do it. It takes some discipline on our part to put aside our hopes for survival and growth so that we can focus on building up people.

Who Wants To Be A Peg Anyway?

Our round peg/square hole metaphor quickly becomes irrelevant. It assumes that you have somewhere on the organizational chart to be. To take it a step further, even if we put you in a place that fits you better we have still put you in your place. Following Jesus is not walking a confining, lifeless path that denies you the vitality of your own God-given gifts.

Following Jesus is walking in new life to places and events that no one else has gone to before. It is making new gospel history through your life. The same is true when new missional communities are reaching new people. It is not that these groups find new ways to bring people into a very specific expression of the faith that does not really connect with them. Missional communities open new ways living out the gospel with new groups of people who will make new gospel history. New things will happen in the name of Jesus. Greater works will be done. That means no pegs, no holes, but rather new life lived out in new ways. For those of us old enough to remember it here is an adaptation of an old saying which describes this thought- to boldly go where no Episcopal Church has gone before. The photo above is an image through the Hubble telescope of the Pillars of Creation. Let it inspire you to seek God for expressions of a new creation. Will you ask Jesus to lead you to the place where you will be taking some part in opening up new groups to be making new gospel history?

Coming Attractions

Wednesday, April 6, 2016 Color Me Friends at 6:30pm at St. Francis.
Contact Carol Maher at carolsdream@gmail.com

Saturday, April 9, 2016 Work day at St. Francis 9:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, April 10, 2016 Worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck.

Wednesday April 13, 2016

Vestry Committee 4:00pm

Theology on Tap 6:30pm at Keegan's contact Richard Walker at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Caregivers' Support Group 7:00pm. Contact Susan Kidd at sokid@comcst.com

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to be distributed through the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

Precious One Family Day Home, Simone Healy, owner, that the children of our community would have safe places to learn and grow.

Diocese of Virginia

For the people of Falls Church, Falls Church; St. Anne's, Reston that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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