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August 14, 2019

How's Business?

*By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted.
Proverbs 11:11*

D i s c u s s i o n s a n d P r a y e r s

Praying For The Businesses In Our Community

One of the things I do regularly is go to the business owners in our immediate area, introduce myself, and ask how we at St. Francis can pray for their business. I then publish that request this newsletter asking people to pray for that business. Every week there is a different business. After the newsletter is published I go back to the business with a hard copy of the newsletter and ask the manager if we prayed what they needed us to pray for. I then ask if there is anything they would like us to add the next time we pray for them. Most of the business owners are very thankful that we pray for them. Many of them have told me that no one has ever done that before.

We also have a monthly intercessory guide in which we pray for different aspects of our community life over a month's time. On Monday's we pray for those who are involved in the arts in Goochland County. On Tuesdays we pray for our national, state, and local government. On Wednesdays we pray for the schools. On Thursdays we pray for businesses. On Fridays we pray for the churches in our county. This is how we pray for the businesses on Thursdays:

Almighty God, that you would raise up business leaders, entrepreneurs, and strong employees to cultivate businesses in our area and give structure to the dreams of those who seek to make our community a better place to live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Each Thursday we pray for a different aspect of the local business environment.

One Example

One of the businesses we pray for regularly is the Aspire Dance Academy. We have developed a relationship with that business over the years. One of the things we do together is to have them come to one or two of our Sunday services each year. We send them a worship song one of us wrote. Lauren Gibson, the founder and director of Aspire Dance Academy, will then choreograph that song. During worship the dancers will dance while our band offers the song all as a part of our worship together. It is always a great time together. The next time that happens is this coming Sunday, August 18th, at our 10:00am service. Come and join us if you live nearby.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, August 18, 2019 Worship at 10:00am with a visit from the Aspire Dance Academy

Sunday, August 25, 2019 Worship at 10:00am

New Policies from our Vestry Committee:

Our Vestry Committee adopted two new policies at its August 13th meeting:

Gifts Acceptance Policy

All Gifts (other than weekly, monthly, annual cash, pledges, or pledge payments) to St. Francis, particularly gifts-in-kind, real estate, and other assets, must be approved by the Vestry/Vestry Committee and receive approval by the Rector/Vicar before being accepted.

Community Outreach/Involvement/Support

We want to encourage and support our members to be involved in other community groups as they desire. We want to be supportive of those community groups and our members' involvement as a way of encouraging our witness as a follower of Jesus in the community. We have adopted this policy to encourage each other to seek the benefit of all in our community:

1. Our members may place posters of their events, etc. for up to one month on one of our boards. If more time is needed it can be negotiated.
2. Our members may bring fundraisers for community organizations to the church which will be announced on our boards only (not the newsletter or bulletin).
3. Our members who wish to place posters or bring community fundraisers must seek the approval of the senior warden or, in the absence of the senior warden, the junior warden.
4. We encourage our members to take part in community activities and to endeavor to follow Jesus as his disciple in these activities as well as every aspect of their lives.

The first Sunday of each month, after church, Karen & Chris Webber will be collecting donated food from the Food Lion in Centerville and taking it to the food pantry. This would be an ideal time for anyone in the church to bring in their own donations!! The food pantry is in dire need of cereal, canned soups, and canned

vegetables (not generally things donated by grocery stores). If this is something you would like to contribute to, just bring it to church and we would make sure it was delivered to the food pantry.

Please help us in the fun sharing our favorite recipes, in the form of a St. Francis cookbook. Please bring your recipes to the pot luck each month, and give to Libby or Karen. You can also email to lcp@libbyclarkphotography.com.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

JJ's Seafood, Jason Cuthrell, owner, that business would increase and many families in this area would be served.

The Diocese of Virginia

For the people of Kingston? Abingdon Church; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; All Soul's, Atlee that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Communion

For the people of the dioceses of Okene (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Onsachi Buhiga (Burundi) The Rt Revd Evariste Nijimbere Bujumbura (Burundi) The Rt Revd Eraste Bigirimana that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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