

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
Subject: The Whole Thing!
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To: mjweatherford16@gmail.com



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The logo for St. Francis, featuring a large white 'S' and 'Francis' in a serif font on a dark blue background. A red cross with radiating lines is positioned behind the 'S'.



November 7, 2018

The Whole Thing!

*I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
John 10:10*

What Space Are You In?

Man of us enjoy inspirational worship services and meetings when we attend church. Some of us go to larger meetings where several, or even many, churches get together for worship. At the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia there is always put into the agenda items of inspiration. These are pastoral addresses or stories of faithfulness and fruitfulness among our churches. While these kinds of meetings are very uplifting after a while we can find ourselves thirsty for something else, something more

a while we can find our selves thirsty for something else, something more. We can find ourselves spending our Christian lives in large, public space gatherings leaving vast portions of our spiritual growth stunted. How do overcome this? We need to take the whole thing!

All The Spaces

While we never want to give up the inspiration we receive in large, public space gatherings it is good to add the dimensions we experience in other size gatherings. There are four types of groups in which we can grow:

1. Public Space: Large gatherings like a Sunday morning church service. The purpose is to inspire us
2. Social Space: A gathering of 20-40 people all working towards the same goal. This is where we become clear about our discipleship practices.
3. Personal Space: A gathering of 6-12 or so. This is where we receive pastoral care and encouragement.
4. Intimate Space: 2 or 3 people. This is where we receive positive accountability

All four of these dynamics are important and essential. How do you live them out? What is God telling you right now about how this plays out in your life? Is there a group you need to be part of so that you are receiving and living in all that Jesus has for you?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, November 11, 2018 10:00am Worship followed by pot luck. If you have the 5fold gift of teacher please sit with the Vicar during the pot luck.

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 4:00pm vestry committee

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

6:30pm Theology on Tap at 6:30pm. Contact Richard at richardandghedy@yahoo.com.

7:00pm Caregivers' Support Group. Contact Susan at n1placesusan@gmail.com

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

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

James River Capital Corporation that the employees would serve the clients with wisdom and diligence

The Diocese of Virginia

For the people of Emmanuel, Rapidan, and St. Andrew's, Burke; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; and All Souls, Atlee that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Communion

For the people of the Dioceses of Kaduna - (Kaduna, Nigeria) [The Rt Revd Timothy Yahaya](#)

Kafanchan - (Abuja, Nigeria) [The Rt Revd Marcus Dogo](#) that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Highlights from the 224th Diocesan Convention:

In addition to the highlights below I accepted the bishop's Outreach Award for 2018 for Embrace Richmond. I am proud to serve as President of the Board of Directors.

Highlights of the 224th Annual Convention
of the Diocese of Virginia

More than 330 lay and clerical delegates from across the Diocese gathered at the Richmond Marriott November 1-3 for the 224th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia.

It was the final Convention to be led by the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Bishop of Virginia who announced his retirement August 2. At the

Bishop of Virginia, who announced his retirement August 31. At the conclusion of Friday's proceedings, he passed presiding duties to the Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Bishop Suffragan.

In her address on the final day of Convention, Bishop Goff said, "As I begin this period as ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese of Virginia, I commit myself again to life in community with you...We are a community for one another and for the love for the world."

"As we go now into the world, we will grow in community.... As we go now into the world, we will build on all that has come before."

Bishop Goff announced that she will host a series of Listening Sessions around the Diocese before Christmas to "hear your concerns, your frustrations, your joys and your hopes about our life as a diocese."

Helen Spence, Chair of the Standing Committee, addressed next steps in the transition process, along with J.P. Causey, Chancellor of the Diocese. Ms. Spence and Mr. Causey also took questions from the floor. The Standing Committee will continue the search for a Bishop Provisional.

The Convention passed a resolution that would authorize the Bishop Suffragan, in consultation with the Standing Committee, to hire an Assistant Bishop when and if needed.

In his final pastoral address, Bishop Johnston thanked the people of the diocese for "keeping the main thing, the main thing," during the years when the Diocese was in litigation with breakaway congregations.

He spoke about his commitment to the inclusion of LGBTQ Christians into "the fullness of our community." He applauded our growing willingness to "engage issues in the public square as people of faith.... Our call has never intended to be partisan: our only bias is Jesus."

He celebrated the deepening partnership with the Dioceses of Liverpool, UK, and Kumasi, Ghana - the Triangle of Hope. Bishop Paul Bayes of Liverpool and Archbishop Daniel Sarfo of West Africa were among his special guests at the Convention.

Several people were elected to the Standing Committee of the Diocese, including:

The Rev. Andrew T. P. Merrow, St. Mary's, Arlington

The Rev. Barbara "Bambi" Willis, Trinity, Fredericksburg

Ms. Ashlev Cameron, St. Marv's, Goochland

Ms. Christie Thomas, St. Paul's Memorial, Charlottesville

Other actions of convention include:

- Passing two additional resolutions: one condemning the recent violence against the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh; the other commending the Way of Love/Rule of Life endorsed by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.
- celebrating the transition of Trinity Church, Charlottesville, from mission status to full parish status.
- Approving a budget totaling \$4,946,087. The budget featured increased funding for college chaplaincies, a new ministry for the hearing impaired, and continued support growing ministries across the Diocese.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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