

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
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St Francis



December 19, 2018

Knowing You

KNOWING YOU

*... for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of
the Lord as the waters cover the sea.
Isaiah 11:9*

Its Been Great!

We've had a wonderful advent season here at St. Francis! There was our first ever offering of Advent Lessons and Carols. This coming Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the Aspire Dancers will be with us offering two dances in worship. Then there will be Christmas Eve on Monday, December 24th at 4:00pm. All of this has been and will be a great time of worship and celebration.

Knowing God

The worship in which we engage draws us closer to God. We get to know God better as we worship. Many people are drawn to worship God at Christmas time even if they do not worship God at all during the rest of the year. That is because the Spirit of God is at work to have the earth filled with the *knowledge* of the Lord. The world is already filled with the presence of the Lord (see Psalm 139). What is opening up more and more is actually knowing God. That is why God became one of us. It is for us to know God personally and deeply.

What the Church Does

The Church is on the earth to join in with God's mission to have people know him. We show what it is like, serve people as God would, and invite them to come closer and closer to God. One way to do that is to invite people to come along with you to worship at times of the year like Christmas. Do you know someone who seems to be interested in God, or spiritual matters? Maybe someone just comes to mind who you would not think was interested in spiritual matters, but there they are. Would you consider inviting them to come with you to Christmas Eve, or this Sunday when we have a special Fourth Sunday of Advent? They may be ready to say "yes" because the Spirit of God has been drawing them. You may be the one who helps them come to know God better.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, December 23, 2018 worship at 10:00am with offerings from

the Aspire Dance Academy.

Monday, December 24, 2018 Christmas Eve worship at 4:00pm

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

The Nit Fairies, that the health of clients would greatly improve

The Diocese of Virginia

For all the baptized in their life and work, for the people of St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; All Souls, Atlee that they may continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Communion

For the people of the dioceses of Kollam - Kottarakkara - (South India) [The Rt Revd Dr Oommen George](#)
Krishna-Godavari - (South India) [The Rt Revd George Cornelious Tanteputi](#) that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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