

**From:** St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org  
**Subject:** Catch The Wind  
**Date:** March 8, 2017 at 9:53 AM  
**To:** Mcats2@aol.com

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St Francis



March 8, 2017

## Catch The Wind

*The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear it's sound, but*

*you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.*  
*John 3:8*

### ***Who Catches Who?***

Anyone remember Donovan? Anyone remember his song "Catch The Wind"? Listen to it here if you have a few minutes-

<https://youtu.be/zInM4k9VERU>

His heartache over the impossibility of having a relationship with the person he loves is pictured in the phrase "Ah, but I may as well try and catch the wind."

While Donovan most likely did not have this connection in mind when writing this song, what came to my mind this morning is: It is easy for me, and maybe most of us, to think that actually following Jesus day to day is like trying to catch the wind. It is, however, the other way around. The wind of the Spirit of God catches me just like the wind catches a sailboat and takes that boat wherever it likes. That is how I am able to follow Jesus. It's not that I study enough (I don't), or am morally good enough (I'm not). It is that I get into position to have the wind catch me and take me to wherever Jesus desires.

### ***How Do I Do That?***

Discipleship is the short answer. What do you have to do to put yourself into the position for the Spirit of God to take you wherever Jesus wants to take you?

Those activities are discipleship activities. We've shared a lot about it at St. Francis. Now I invite you to take part in our next Learning Community to gain more ability to be in the position for the wind of the Spirit of God to catch you. There are two aspects we will be sharing:

1. A gathered meeting four times this year: April 25, June 27, September 12, and November 10. For those who have evening commitments we will have a 4:00pm meeting. For those who are only free in the evenings we will have a 6:00pm meeting. Both meetings will be identical. The sessions will last 90 minutes.
2. I will be leading four huddles of 4-6 people in which we unpack our practices, what God is saying to us, and the steps we are taking. Our sessions will last 60 minutes. Please choose one:

Huddle 1 on Mondays at 8:45am March 20, April 3, 17, May 1, 15, June 19

Huddle 2 on the same Mondays at 5:45pm

Huddle 3 on Tuesdays at 8:45am March 21, April 4, 18, May 2, 16, June 6

Huddle 4 on the same Tuesdays at 5:45pm

I hope you will consider and pray about this opportunity. The short term benefit for you is you will grow in your skill as a disciple of Jesus in a way that is right for you. The long range benefit is that St. Francis will increase its capability to invite people in our area into the Family of God.

Please email me (vicar@stfrancisva.org) by March 19th to let me know you will be taking part in this year's Learning Community.

## Coming Attractions

### ***Wednesday, March 8, 2017***

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

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

***Sunday, March 12, 2017*** Worship at 10:00am followed by Pot Luck.  
Carol Maher- teaching on Creativity.

### ***Monday, March 13, 2017*** Evening Prayer

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

### ***Centerville Circle of Prayer***

Goochland Realty, Verne M. Burton, owner- that business would increase.

### ***Diocese of Virginia***

For the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church that each would have wisdom and energy to be caught up in wind of the Holy Spirit and lead in the path of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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