

[View this email in your browser](#)



*Make Us Channels of Your Peace*

## St. Francis Episcopal Church



June 10, 2020

### Friends

The congregation in Antioch was blessed with a number of prophet-preachers and teachers:

- Barnabas,
  - Simon, nicknamed Niger,
  - Lucius the Cyrenian,
  - Manaen, an advisor to the ruler Herod,
  - Saul.
- Acts 13:1+2

#### **Friends**

The famous photo of Mr. Rogers and Officer Clemmens sharing a swimming pool has become very well known in our day. It depicts something about what God does to overcome racism and bigotry. Mr. Rogers and Officer Clemmens were friends. When we become friends with others as we see them for who they are. We become deeper and better friends with others when we see them as God sees them. That happens most powerfully in the church.

#### **Friends In Church**

The verses cited above show a very diverse group in the leadership of the church in Antioch in the first century. There were Jewish people, Africans, Romans, and Cyrenians. In the culture of that day they would not been on the same leadership team. With Jesus they are on the same team. It goes beyond being on the same team. It is being true friends because we are friends with God. It is the Spirit of God who gives us eyes to see what God sees, and loves, in people who are different from us. Some of the friends I miss very much are people of other races. I miss them because of being friends as well as the work we were able to do together. Jesus did all of that between us. Who has Jesus brought you into friendship with who is very different from you?

---

#### Coming Attractions

**Sunday, June 14, 2020** - Worship via *zoom* at 10:00am

---

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

For the Aspire Dance Academy, Lauren Gibson owner/director, that they would be safe and well as they enter back into their studio this week.

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

For the people of Christ Alexandria; St. Paul's, Hanover; St. Gabriel's. Leesburg; All Souls, Atlee that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### **The Anglican Communion**

For the people of the Diocese of New York (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Andrew Dietsche Amritsar (North India) The Most Revd Dr Pradeep Samantaroy that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

---

*Grace and Peace,*

**John Maher**



Email us at: [vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org)

or visit our website:  
[www.stfrancisva.org](http://www.stfrancisva.org)

Our mailing address is:  
*St. Francis Episcopal Church*  
*PO Box 303*  
*Manakin Sabot, VA. 23103*

Telephone: *804-784-6116*

