

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
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November 16, 2016

Making Peace

*Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.
James 3:18*

Peace

Many of us think of the state of peace as being the absence of conflict. It is, as you might suspect, more than that. Peace is a state of wholeness, well being, fullness and completeness. The Hebrew word "shalom," often translated "peace" into English, reflects that fuller description. To be a peacemaker is to be one who contributes to an environment in which everyone can grow into the fullest possible potential they can reach. Obviously, that does not mean keeping everyone perfectly comfortable and content. Reaching all that you can be, all that you were created to be, is a state of peace and wholeness that will have challenges and tests along the way. A peacemaker will not take those challenges and tests away, but will encourage everyone to take full advantage of them (this, I know, is not the popular view of a pastor's job description).

Peacemakers

An essential part of the environment a peacemaker helps create is making it possible for people to fully and deeply engage with the Spirit of God. It is an essential part of reaching all that is possible in our lives. When a peacemaker sows into our lives and helps make the environment in which we can meet every challenge we will leave a legacy of others following in our footsteps. The legacy is the harvest of righteousness referred to in the verse cited above. Our fullest potential and highest state is reached when we have multiplied ourselves into others.

How is God challenging you to partner with others to meet their challenges and become the ones God created them to be? How will you rise to what God is asking of you?

Coming Attractions

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 Learning Community at 6:15pm

Sunday, November 20, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Sunday, November 27, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to be distributed to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services.

An Invitation From St. Matthew's United Methodist

St. Matthew's collects coats for distribution through Christmas Mother. They have invited us to participate. If you would like to donate coats for others this winter please bring them to church between now and December 4th. We will store them in the trailer until we take them over to St. Matthew's.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Yardworks that business would increase and employees would be healthy

Diocese of Virginia

For the people of Christ Church, Cunnigham Parish, Millwood; Meade Memorial, Whitepost; St. Timothy's, Herndon; Calvary, Hanover; St. Paul's, Hanover; All Souls, Atlee; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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St. Francis Episcopal Church
PO Box 303
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

804-784-6116

vicar@stfrancisva.org
www.strancisva.org



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