



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Dear Beloved in Christ,

On September 24 I shared some of my heart about heaven. I wanted to share just a few of those thoughts with all of you.. For those who were there on that morning forgive me for repeating what I said then, but for those of you who were not there I wanted you to know my heart and so I have included some of what I said on that day.

I have lately been thinking a lot about things unseen, about the whisper of another place that is home, really home for me. I can't escape from the awareness that even in Hudson, even here as much as I love and call this place home it is not home. That I am an exile here and no matter what foundations I lay or have laid, they are only shadows of what God has in store for me -- and for you too. In Hebrews 11. You'll find this in verses 9 and 10. The author is writing about Abraham "By faith he made his home in the promised land, like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."

Even in the promised land -- even in this land flowing with milk and honey; we live estranged, we dwell in tents. It simply doesn't matter how good it gets, no foundation that we could ever lay can take away the longing, or take away the sense that we are not yet home. In 2 Corinthians Paul expresses it this way, "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built with human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling."

That's what I have been thinking about alot lately. That heavenly dwelling. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard the glories that God has prepared for those who love him." Paul does not intend this passage to discourage us from imagining what lies ahead, but rather to encourage us to use our imaginations to build anticipation for what lies ahead. And all the glories that we can

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imagine, as glorious as they might be will pale and fall short from what is reality.

This heavenly perspective has changed my heart. I'm much less anxious than I have ever been before. I'm also less driven to judge others being content instead to love them and encourage them in the truth without feeling the need to defend God. I'm fairly certain God can take care of the judging business. I also am finding that my love for each one of you is growing deeper all the time. I don't want to miss the opportunity to fellowship with you forever at the Lord's table. You have a special place in my heart and your presence in my life has been an incredible gift. Each day that I am with you is a foretaste of an even greater tomorrow. May God bless you and your family as you grow in his grace. Jesus is Lord; and I rejoice in your faithfulness to him.

Love in Christ Jesus,  
John+

Dear St. Paul's Family,

I write to you this month with great joy and hope as we decide to stand for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus is actively at work among us. I hear many of you talking about your faith on levels that we haven't been at before. Isn't it interesting and assuring that, as we face the tumult in the broader Episcopal church, we are growing in our faith in Christ, and our hunger for His Word? I am encouraged by this.

I recall the people of Israel returning from exile, led by Nehemiah and Ezra. The people had been separated from the things of God for some time due to their ancestors giving up on their faith, no longer trusting God. Then, as the exiles returned from captivity in Babylon and Assyria, they stumbled onto the Word of God in the Temple. The people wept as they heard the Word read to them, and as the priests made the meaning of it clear and applied it to their lives. They vowed that they would make the things that were important to God important to themselves. They repented and confessed their falling away, as well as confessed the sins of their fore-fathers who had displeased God.

I can see some relation to the people vowing to return to God in

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those days to our current situation within the Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church has left its moorings in Apostolic Faith. There is a remnant of faithful people, clergy and congregations to be sure. But by and large, our denomination is a sinking ship, its leadership at the highest levels having willfully chosen to leave the Historic Apostolic Faith and Order, offering no lifeboats to the people and congregations who do not want to sink with it.

So we are intently seeking the lifeboats. There is great hope stirring in the majority of the other Anglican provinces worldwide, and life boats are being prepared so that the remnant of the folk faithful to God and His Holy Word can continue in a Biblical, Apostolic and Missionary Anglicanism in the USA.

As we gathered during the October solemn assembly, we shared on these things and prayed for the Church. We prayed that there would indeed be a faithful witness of Anglicanism that would rise up out of this upheaval, so that we as a congregation would have a place to go to belong and to proceed from, as we fulfill our mission in this community.

Fr. Dick had a word of prophecy from the Lord this past week and we shared it at the assembly. It stated that the glory of God was departing from our denomination. It was a call to return to the Lord. I am very encouraged, and hope does remain that we will see a place for us to be faithful to God in the very near future. We are taking a bold stand at November Diocesan Convention in Conrath, joining many congregations around the country making stands for the faith as well. We want to share with the whole parish the status of our bold stand at a specially called Parish Meeting on November 5, 2006, at 9:15am between the two services, in the Parish Hall. I hope you will make every effort to attend, as we will corporately vote on several resolutions that are bold statements of our faith and intentions in the days ahead. These resolutions were mailed to you the end of September, and there is another copy in your box.. Read them. Pray over them. Ask God to lead us.

Blessings to you all. Your hearts are precious to me, and I continue to be committed to fighting for your hearts as you grow in Christ.

In Strength and Honor,  
Fr. Derek

November Birthdays:

3	David Hardman	20	Jim Obermuer;;er
4	Loise Cunningham	21	Lisa Singerhouse
5	Ava Larson	22	Russell Peters
	Christine McGinnis	23	Sandra Solie
8	Alex Terwilliger	25	Jennifer Mueller
9	Mellissa Dahl	27	William Hamill
	Erik Solie	28	Wilis Miller
10	David Hackworthy	29	David Ball
12	Jan DeCraene		Melissa Robidou
14	Ilene Firth		
	Tyanna Granberg		
	Fr. Derek Washington		
	Kiera Wood		
18	Neil Wenzel		
19	Judy Winslow		

November Anniversaries:

4	Ray/Helene Jensen
12	Derek/Dorothy Washington

If your special day is not listed—Please contact the church office. Thanks!

### New Year's Eve

Heather Tank is starting to organize our third annual New Year's Eve pot blessed dinner and concert gathering. The dinner will be at the church and the concert features Colleen Raye and Company and the Minnesota Jazz Orchestra ("starring" non other than Christopher Tank!). Heather has 40 tickets reserved for the evening. The cost for each ticket is \$29.00. \$26.00 covers the ticket and \$3.00 covers refreshments and décor. Details will follow with regard to time, what to bring, etc.

Please note the concert time has changed this year.. We will be going to the concert at 6 p.m., which is earlier than last year. We may have dinner after the show.

Be sure to act fast! Call Heather at 377.3120 or email her at [heathertank@comcast.net](mailto:heathertank@comcast.net) or sign up on the kiosk at church. Tickets must be paid for by November 19th. If you decide to attend after the 19th, you may purchase tickets directly from the Phipps.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

November 2006

Non Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Hudson, Wisconsin  
54016

We're on the Web!  
[Stpaulshudson.faithweb.com](http://Stpaulshudson.faithweb.com)

*Jesus is Lord, All the time!*

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church:**

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Office: 715-386-2348 Fax: 715-386-2542  
E-mail = [spechudsonwi@juno.com](mailto:spechudsonwi@juno.com)

**Services:**

Sun. 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Traditional Service  
9:15 am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School  
Children's Sunday School (Sep-May)  
Youth Confirmation Class (Sep-Apr)  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Praise Service

Wed. 2:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Sep-Apr)  
3:00 pm NETworks Youth Ministry Middle High  
6:00 pm NETworks Youth Ministry Senior High

Thur. 9:00 am Hudson Mom's Group Meeting  
11:00 am Holy Eucharist/Bag Lunch/Bible Study

**Jesus is Lord...All The Time!**

**Clergy:**

The Rt. Rev. Keith B. Whitmore, Bishop  
The Rev. John E. Rasmus, Rector  
The Rev. Richard McGinnis, Associate  
The Rev. Derek Washington, Associate

NETworks Youth Director: Ben Woods  
Episcopal Church Women: Patti Muenich 715-386-8532  
Band of Brothers: Fr. Derek Washington 715-386-2348  
Men's Social Ministry: Ed Slamkowski 715-246-9989  
Sunday School: Amy Dickerson  
Operation H.E.L.P. Volunteer Phone Line 715-386-0881  
\*Small Group Bible Study: Sunday and Wednesday evenings  
\*Alpha Course Host: Inquirer's Class: is offered in the fall and early spring. Call the church office for dates, times and locations