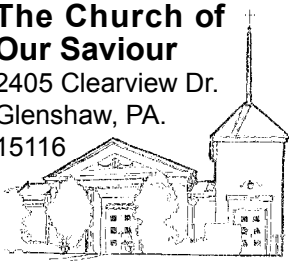




## The Church of Our Saviour

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### Message From the Rector

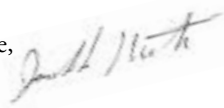
(Continued)

upheld Lambeth 98 and called the Episcopal Church to express regret for what they had done and agree not to do it again. So far that has not happened. The Anglican Communion Network, of which Bishop Duncan is the Moderator, is a group of Episcopal Dioceses and churches who uphold Lambeth 98 and desire to remain a member of the Anglican Communion.

In June of 2006 the Episcopal Church will meet again for its General Convention and decide whether or not to abide by the Windsor Report and remain a part of the Anglican Communion. All signs indicate that will not happen and the communion will fracture. What that means for the Church of Our Saviour is yet to be determined. We will continue to follow the Lord in accordance with the holy scriptures and stand firm in support of Bishop Duncan. My hope is that we will continue to grow in our relationship with the Lord and stay focused on the mission of the church, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of Glenshaw and the ends of the earth. One thing we can count on is the words of Jesus, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

In Christ alone,

Joseph



## "Book of Daniel" Gets it Half Right

If the culture was confused before about what the Episcopal Church is supposed to stand for, they're even more clueless now after watching NBC's Friday night series "The Book of Daniel" which aired Friday, January 6. The tragedy of the series is not the "colorful" cast of characters and the broken and pitiful lives portrayed, although many have found that offensive enough. The real tragedy is that, like many institutional churches, the Episcopal Church has failed to communicate the other half of the Gospel message.

In case you missed opening night, the cast includes the following: the main character, Daniel, a drug addicted Episcopal Priest (but a nice guy), his alcoholic wife, a drug dealing daughter, a homosexual son, a sex crazed son, a sister in law having a lesbian affair, a Catholic Priest involved with the mob, and a cool, friendly Jesus figure. The story was written

by a homosexual, ex-catholic Buddhist and centers around a wealthy, scandalous Episcopal Church. But that's not the real tragedy.

The fact is, the show is no more raunchy than half the shows on TV. Sex, drugs, shattered lives, twisted morals, we've seen it all before, and it's not far off from reality or the biblical depiction of the human condition. That half is right on. "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."

The real tragedy is that no one watching the show will ever hear the good news of the true gospel of Jesus Christ from the show's Episcopal Church or from many others around the country, the good news that all people, like the cast of Daniel, are desperately lost in sin but Jesus Christ has paid our debt in full and we are made righteous by believing in him. What a great ending that would make!



## The Church of Our Saviour's Christmas & New Year's Celebrations



*Top Left and Center: Santa was a big hit at the Greens Brunch on December 18. After a dedicated team decorated the sanctuary, everyone gathered in the undercroft for lunch and a surprise visit by "you know who."*

*Top Right: An impromptu New Year's Eve was thrown together so Parishioners could welcome 2006.*

*Left: Joseph Martin leads an appreciative congregation in applause to show their appreciation to the children who participated in the annual pageant on December 18. The large shepherd on the left is Jeff Acquafondata, who narrated.*