

Thursday, December 7

Keep Waiting

But in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. 2 Peter 3:13 (NRSV)

Do you have a great Bible Camp story? No? Me neither. I've never been to any of the northern communities; I struggle to pronounce the names of most of them. Instead, my involvement with *On Eagle's Wings* has taught me about waiting, which is very much an Advent thing, a Christian faith thing.

You see, I was part of the trans-shipment process, waiting for Bible Camp teachers to arrive in Fort McMurray by plane, bus, or car, so I could give them a bed for the night while they waited for another plane to take them north. I spent a lot of time checking emails and schedules to make sure I got the times right for arrivals and departures. I met some gracious people from several states, but making beds, planning meals, and waiting while teachers chose craft supplies at a dollar store doesn't make an exciting story. Still, I knew that northern communities were waiting too, and it was my job to help the teachers on that part of the journey.

The experience reminded me that ministry is a community thing, that faith is a community thing. Together we search scripture for the promises; together we remember the history of God's people who have waited and hoped; together we remind each other that the waiting is worthwhile.

This moment isn't the whole story; this event isn't the whole journey. We are waiting for God's glorious future; we are grateful for the glimpses that help us wait.

O Lord, help us to wait in hope, so that we can live and serve as your beloved people here and hereafter. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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