

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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Madison, South Dakota 57042

The Very Rev. Karen E. Hall, Vicar Church: 256-2325 Home: 256-9440

February 9, 1989

To: The Bishop Committees of Grace Church, Madison, and St. Mary's/
 OBR, Flandreau

From: Mo. Karen *Karen*

I have struggled for some time on how to share what is happening to me. Some of you have counseled me to share nothing; others have opted for some sort of announcement, but when and where is a question. So ultimately it has been left up to me to make the decision.

The accompanying letter is one that was sent to all the clergy in the Diocese. This came as a result of the Bishop's request of Stephen and me. The letter has been received with love and support from the clergy.

However, my personal trauma will directly affect all of you since it is Church policy that in the event of a divorce the clergy are relocated. I have, therefore, two options to consider. One is to return to seminary to finish my M. Div., and the other is to submit my name to another position in the Diocese. In either event I will be leaving as early as June, 1989. We have plenty of time to reflect on the future of the ministry in our congregations and we need to take what time we have to be thoughtful and prayerful about that future.

To assist us in our deliberations, the Bishop and Fr. Genereux will be in Madison on February 26 for the Bishop's Annual Visitation. If possible we would like to meet with both Bishop Committees after that service. There will be a potluck and a time of question/answers. Following those events the Committees will meet. I would hope that all of you will be available for that meeting so that we together might forge the future in the Wider Area Ministries. If any congregational members wish to be part of that meeting, they are most welcome. A note to the Flandreau congregation: You are welcome to share in the service, potluck and time of sharing with the Bishop before our schedule Committee meeting. Please mark this time on your calendar and plan to be there.