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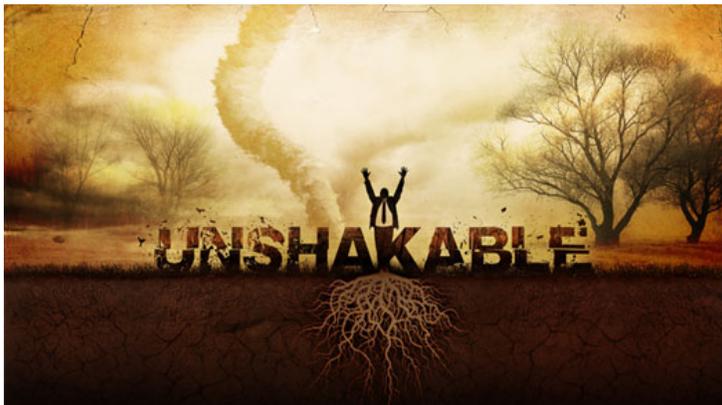
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**This Sunday  
Aug 25**

## SUNDAY SERMON PREVIEW

### Unshakable



Dear Friends,

One cannot avoid the feeling that all around us some major changes are taking place. Almost every day there is a new incident of violence, discord, trouble, tragedy and terror in our world. Our nation in some ways seems to be coming apart at the seams with the coarseness of our political dialogue and we no longer seem confident about our direction or our future as a nation. We don't quite know what is coming next, but we know that change is in the air.

We have been talking a great deal here at *The Park* about change and our future together as a congregation. We have engaged in a series of Holy Conversations about vision, values and mission and what we sense God calling us to do and be as we approach the year 2020. And we know that change will be required. Not change for change sake, but change for God's sake, for life's sake.

There is something about us that doesn't like change. Change is difficult. Moving from one place to another can be a traumatic experience. Leaving old securities and certainties behind, established routines and traditions, and launching into an unknown future can be positively terrifying. I can honestly say that I have never made a move

Summer Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 am

Adult Bible Study  
10 am

Children's Sunday School  
10 am

Sunday Morning Prayer  
Group  
10:30 am

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
11 am

**Rev. Dr. Alvin O Jackson,  
preaching**

Kid's Church  
11 am

Congregational Meeting  
12:15 pm

Clergy Collegium  
1:30 pm

Lifeline Gathering  
6 pm

## In This Issue

Sunday Sermon Preview

A called Congregational  
Meeting

of any consequence without having second thoughts and regrets and remorse not long after making the decision.

A new job, a new city, new school, a new business venture, a new relationship-moving stirs up nostalgia for the old and secure, and fear for the new and unknown. There is something about us that doesn't like change, doesn't want to change, doesn't want anything to do with change.

We may not notice it all of the time, but always change is going on around us. In some bright happy experience we say, "I wish this moment could last forever." It cannot! We say when things all seem to be going our way, "I hope this never changes." It will!

Almost always when we say such things we are thinking of something pleasant and familiar. We are all creatures of habit. We all like to move midst familiar surroundings, among people we know and understand. When some sudden shift forces us into new circumstances and requirements, we bristle and complain. The new, the strange irritates us, unsettles us, leaves us feeling nervous and apprehensive.

But this Sunday morning I want to offer a word of hope and encouragement and remind us that there are some things that will never change. There are some things that will always remain. They cannot be shaken. Indeed, they are unshakable!

I hope that you will join us this Sunday for study and worship and read in preparation for our time together: [Psalm 46](#) and [Hebrews 12:18-29](#).

See you at *The Park*!



Rev. Dr. Alvin O. Jackson

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, After Service, Sanctuary**

## A Called Congregational Meeting

There will be called Congregational Meeting for all members of *The Park* immediately following worship in the Sanctuary. The topic is the 2020 Vision and the future of *The Park*.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1:30-3 PM, Sanctuary**

## Clergy Collegium

Clergy Collegium  
Quote of the Week  
Upcoming Events

## Service and Witness

\* The [Saturday Community Lunch program](#) welcomes volunteers every Saturday. Contact [Rev. Luis-Alfredo](#) to participate.

\* For information on free food and assistance programs throughout the five boroughs, visit the [New York City Coalition Against Hunger](#).

**Visit the church's volunteer webpage for more opportunities**



We would like to invite you to lunch following the congregational meeting and a conversation with clergy members of our congregation. We will focus on how we might best live out the great marks of our vision, **True Community, Deep Christian Spirituality and a Passion for Justice.**

**To attend, please RSVP to Nelly x110 or Kim x102 in the church office.**

## Quote of the Week

*No doubt about it, religion is often religion's own worst enemy.  
The tension between religion at its best and religion at its worst  
drives people from church to church, searching for authenticity.  
It drives them, as well, from the God of the institution  
to the God of the spirit within. When religion makes itself God,  
when religion gets between the soul and God,  
when religion demands what the soul deploras-  
a division of peoples, diminishment of self, and closed-mindedness-  
religion becomes the problem. . . .  
But religion at its best anchors us to the best in ourselves.  
It enables us to find meaning in life.  
It sets the human compass toward home.  
It raises our sights beyond ourselves.*

~Joan Chittister, *Called to Question*

## Upcoming Events

### Every Sunday - Sunday Morning Prayer Group, 10:30 am, Back of the Sanctuary

We invite you to join us in the back of the sanctuary for a time of prayer for our church community, our city and the world.

### Sunday, Aug 25 - Summer Choir, Sanctuary

Join the Summer Choir in leading worship. All are welcome to sing with us. Simply arrive at 9:45 a.m. and join in rehearsal at the front of the Sanctuary.

**Did you know that there are scores of events -- bible study, concerts, committee, common interest, and self-help meetings -- happening every month at 1010 Park Avenue and around the city?**

**[Visit our website calendar](#) to find an activity that calls to you!**

### EVERY SATURDAY - Saturday Community Lunch Program

For over 20 years, *The Park* and its partnering congregations serve lunch to approximately 200 guests. [Contact Rev. Luis-Alfredo to volunteer.](#)

### EVERY SUNDAY - [Lifeline](#), 6:00 - 7:00 pm

*Lifeline* is a spiritual gathering for people recovering from all kinds of addiction,

## Donations

General Fund  
Flowers and Decorations Fund  
Stewardship Campaign Building Fund  
Sanctuary Book Fund

## short cuts

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affected family and friends, and others who seek the promise of healing and restoration that only God can provide. Beginning at 6 pm, there is an hour of meditative music, prayers and speaker who shares his or her experience about addiction, recovery and spirituality. Fellowship and food afterwards.

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CLICK ON EVENT TITLES (WHEN [HIGHLIGHTED](#))  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TICKETED EVENTS

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[Contact us via email.](#)      [Visit the church website.](#)

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