

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it... Psalm 127:1a

Ministry Opportunity:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

Things to Remember :

Remember: we are always collecting items for the Women's Center.

Please bring small soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, washrags, towels, lotions, disposable razors, large plastic zip lock bags, etc. to Sunday Tabernacle Service.

Camp Conquest Banquet: Come celebrate with us on Monday, October 16th at 6:15 at Weavers Market in Adamstown. Updates on the Bathroom Project, purchase of adjacent property and reports from Summer Camp. Adults \$10, children free. Call the camp office for tickets, 717.336.2541

St John's Fall Work Day: Saturday, October 7th at 9:00 am until 12:00 noon, here at St John's. Please consider coming and helping those who have blessed us so much this year!!

Your Prayer Reminders:

We are looking to begin a homeless shelter in Pottstown. Bill and I have talked with several folks who want this too. Are you interested in helping? Please pray.

Pray for Melvin Moore who is still recuperating after removal of his right lower leg. Please continue to remember him in your prayers.

Please remember to pray for Lori's youngest son while he is away, also remember her as she struggles to find her place in God's family.

Please pray for the Rabenold family as they struggle to be obedient to God.

Your Prayer Notes:

Next week... **Psalm 26, Job 1:1; 2:1-10,
Mark 10:2-16, & Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

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"He restores my soul . . .
surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

The Week of October 1st, 2006



yom kippur - atonement
Taking the Plunge



"Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us." Mk. 9:39-40

TODAY

Worship

psalm 124

esther 7 & 9

mark 9

james 5

Benediction

Our Mission

To pursue God's heart and mission of building a worshipful faith community within the Pottstown area, through good works and home churches; recognizing Jesus as King of the universe, and worshiping Him privately and publicly because He is worthy.

[Worship]

psalm 124

1 If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—let Israel now say—2 if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us, 3 then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; 4 then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; 5 then over us would have gone the raging waters. 6 Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

[Think & Pray...]

Read mark 9::38-50
and esther 7::1-6, 9-10, & 9::20-22

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul and will cover a multitude of sins.

jas. 5:19-20

[The Scripture]

james 5:13 - 20

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. 19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20 you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Meditation: *Jesus says, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me,..." and then He continues, "Anyone who is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward."*

Reflection: The gift of a "cup of water," is evidence of being "for us." The readings from Mark and Esther cause us to question who is really for or against us. If we pay attention, we may find that we have some surprising allies in our work for God's kingdom. Michael Fox has commented that it is **"the willingness to face history with an openness to the possibility of providence—even when history seems to weigh against its likelihood...this is a stance of profound faith."**

Elie Wiesel, commenting on a meeting of "righteous Gentiles" in New York, spoke of those who had defended Jews in the European holocaust: "Most who cared were simple people who didn't even know what they were doing was courageous... They did it because it was the thing to do. And I felt then, woe to our society if to be human becomes an heroic act."

Your Action: Who do you sense is "for us" but does not belong to our faith community? Where have you witnessed being human as "an heroic act"? What do you want to affirm as "good" outside, and deal with as "bad" in our church life? Re-read the Michael Fox quote. Do you agree with him?