

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

Worship:

Tabernacle Worship Service

Every Sunday Evening

St. John's Parish House
75 East Main St. South Pottstown 5:30 pm

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465
7:00 to 9:00

King St Commons Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Prayer Requests:

Please keep Fanny in you prayers as she continues through the grieving process of losing her Mother.

Please keep Robert's sisters, Beth and Amy in prayer as they struggle to find God and overcome addictions.

Pray for Zenona's health. Pray also that she knows that she is loved by God, and his children.

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

The Code Enforcement Officer is trying to make the road to opening difficult. Please pray that God would bless her, or remove her from offending the poor.

The Moyer Home is under construction due to a break in the upstairs main drain. Please pray that the construction completes quickly.

Thanksgiving to God:

Mike & Moya

Have their new apartment, and Moya has received her passport, enabling them to move forward toward the rest of their paperwork.

Buzz has finished chemotherapy. Should you wish to send him a card or write him, his address is; **Buzz Saylor, 811 Highland Ave, Boyertown, PA 19512.**

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 4, 2007 Proper 26 (Year C)

psalm 119.137-144, habakkuk 1.1-4; 2:1-4,
luke 19.1-10, & 2 thessalonians 1.1-4, 11-12

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Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



6:00 to 8:00

1st Tuesday Evening

Each Month – Check with Church
for Transportation Arrangements

Consumer Center Church

Thursday Evenings on hold for the summer

249 High Street Pottstown, PA 19464
7:00 to 8:00

still waters of Pottstown
home churches & worship center

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

October 28 :: 2007



Casual Christianity
Settling for cheap rewards?



Worship

psalm 65
joel 2.23-32
luke 18.9-14
2 timothy 4.6-8, 16-18

Benediction

proper 29 (Year C)

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465
Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's parish

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Still Waters is a member church of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, P.O. Box 384 Winona Lake, IN 46590



[Service]

Tonight...

Worship Film ::

“ Psalm 84 ”

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 65

Scripture Reading ::

Joel 2.23-32

Congregation Song Worship ::

~ offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds
with songs of joy

Focus Films ::

“ Mercy Street ”

The Scripture

Casual Christianity
Settling for cheap rewards?

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. Joel 2.23

This week's Lectionary:
psalm 65, joel 2.23-32,

luke 18.9-14, & 2 timothy 4.6-8, 16-18

Reflection Film ::

“ Broken & Restored ”

Benediction ::

revelation 22 .12-14, 16-17, 20-21

[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

✘ who is justified?

✘ pompous prayer

✘ sprinkled or poured?

✘ honest confessions

“

Meditation:
I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ... all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted." (Luke 18.12-13 & 14b)

Reflection:

Jesus knows how susceptible religious people are to self-righteousness and pride, but the passion of our beliefs should be an instrument of radical inclusion rather than exclusion. To receive God's abundant forgiveness, love, and blessing, we need to release all that enslaves us to the demon of self-righteousness.

still waters

home church studies

psalm 65

[Worship]

1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, 2 O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. 3 When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. 4 Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple. 5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. 6 By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. 7 You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. 8 Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy. 9 You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. 10 You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. 11 You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. 12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, 13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Consider:

[Think & Pray...]

Contrasting our modern American church practices, with the forms of worship and observance in Jesus' time, things have become quite different through the evolution of the Church. What is orthodox (normal agreed upon decorum) in our way of working out Jesus' teaching, and those of the early Church, is lived far differently today, than what our patriarchs envisioned.

Last week we discussed how, in the way we view the bible, our thinking is affected in moving forward with God's way of reaching the world. If we believe that the direction (or the redirection) of the hearts of the people in the old testament and the early church had only to do with them and a failed

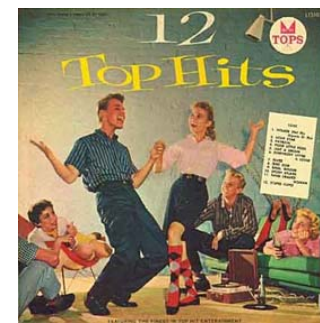
interpretation of God's "order," we disservice them and us. We can look at God's desire from "New Covenant" in a personal way, with individuals, as only looking forward to the church "age." In the same way we can look at the warnings of failure, exile, and judgment in the past as being only for those of that day, missing the point, and the warnings to us, of our own perversion of God's desires. Surely, the Church of today looks frighteningly identical to the religious attitudes and practices of exilic, fallen, arrogant Israel of the ancient past. Unfortunately, we are able to find ourselves rubberstamping their failed behavior today, which mirrors their ancient past. We moderns, embrace, and even adopt, their failures, inviting them into our own failed vision now.

The Church which the Apostle Paul died for, is the redirected, eternally focused, working out of God's radical love for the world; to the point of death—Jesus', and those of His followers.

We would rather build a church that is comfortable, filled with all of the "Worship HITS" that make us feel good, but Jesus won't let that sit. He tells us that radical humility, and an accurate self-confession is where He is free to be seen in us—a blank slate (so to speak) void of hindrance that reflects a perfectly merciful Father.

We are declared "Right" in the heavenlies when He is seen.

To His glory!! Amen.



[The Scripture] 2 timothy 4 .6-6, 16-18

6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. 16 At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! 17 But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.