

**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:**

**William's Home Church**

**Monday Afternoons**

61 N. Evans St. Pottstown, PA 19464

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**King St Commons Home Church**

**Thursday Afternoons**

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464

12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

**Hanover St. Home Church**

**Tuesday Evenings**

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465

7:00 to 9:00

**This Year's Theme:**

hearing God in 2008

**Announcements:**

We are starting Dinner and a Movie Night at Still Waters the last Friday of May. We will show relevant movies to our pilgrimage over a pot-luck dinner with discussion and prayer afterward. We are in need of a location to do hold this each month.

**Prayer Requests:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall.

Pray for those who do not have homes yet.

Please pray for Our friend and co-laborer, Jeff Reifsnyder of Cocalico Creek Fellowship in Reamstown, PA. Jeff just received a donor liver this past Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The operation was successful and Jeff is recovering on schedule. Please consider providing a benevolent contribution. There is a genuine need of financial help for some prescription medications, hospital expenses and travel expense.

Please pray for Zenona as she struggles to find peace with God, and where her place is in His world.

Please offer prayers on behalf of Vinnie Ronto, who suffered a mini-stroke on last week. He is recovering in a rehab near Reading, PA.

Please keep Howard's family in prayer.

We received word this week that our friend Dick John (from St John's & Ministries at MAIN Street) had passed on to be with Christ. Please pray for his wife, Jean, and our friends at St John's as they grieve their loss.

**Next Week's Scriptures:**

**May 18, 2008**

**Trinity Sunday (Year A)**

**genesis 1.1 - 2.4a, psalm 8,**

**matthew 28.16-20, & 2 corinthians 13.11-13**

Get in touch with us at: i. [www.besidestillwaters.net](http://www.besidestillwaters.net) e. [Info@besidestillwaters.net](mailto:Info@besidestillwaters.net)  
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**Ministry:**

**The Table**

**Every Wednesday Evening**

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



6:00 to 8:00

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Evening**

Each Month - Check with Church for Transportation Arrangements

**Consumer Center Church**

**Thursday Evenings**

249 High Street Pottstown, PA 19464

7:00 to 8:00

**Norman's Game Night**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Evening** Each Month

Locations to be announced

**still waters** of Pottstown  
home churches & worship center  
"He restores my soul . . . surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

May 11 - 2008

Pentecost

Tongues of Fire

When the Spirit speaks...

**Worship**

psalm 104:24-35

john 20:19-23

acts 2:1-21

1 corinthians 12:3-13



**Tabernacle Worship**

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's Parish House

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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 ::

“Pentecost”

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 104.24-35

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12.3-13

Focus Films ::

“Mother’s Day Movement”

The Scripture ~

## Tongues of Fire When the Spirit Speaks

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John 20:19-23

This week's Lectionary:

psalm 104.24-35, john 20.19-23  
acts 2.1-21, & 1 corinthians 12.3-13

Reflection Film ::

“A Pentecost Prayer”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13



[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

¥ oaths of Shavuot

¥ standing together in one place

¥ God breaths in, & out



**Meditation:**

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?" (Acts 2.1-8)

**Reflection:**

The entrance of the Holy Spirit "from heaven" at Pentecost is Jesus returning "in the same way" he left them, as he promised - now to make his dwelling among and within his followers.

The Holy Spirit first arrives only after people are gathered together, and it does so in a way that encourages both unity (standing together) and diversity (speaking to people in their own languages).

Pentecost demonstrates that Jesus' resurrection was, in large part, about the transformation which God enables in us, and expects from us.

# still waters

home church studies

## Psalm 104.24-35

[Worship]

24 O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. 26 There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. 27 These all look to you to give them their food in due season; 28 when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. 30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. 31 May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works— 32 who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. 33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD. 35 Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

### Consider:

Now the believers are gathered "all together in one place," when "from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting" (Acts 2.2). This entrance of the Holy Spirit "from heaven" is Jesus returning "in the same way" he left them, as promised in Acts 1.11. Though this scene has always conjured up images of singed hair and Spirit-slain apostles, the "tongues [that] appear among

[Think & Pray...]



them" is actually a play on the Greek word *glossa*, meaning the literal tongue, language, or the capacity to speak. Thus this is the story of being corporately equipped to fulfill the mission to bear witness "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1.8).

The Greek word *kathiz*, translated "rested on each of them" in the NRSV, can also be translated "to sojourn or settle down." The teacher and companion no longer is bound by human limitations—to one time and place. Now the risen Jesus has made his dwelling among and within his followers, through and in whom his life's work continues.

John narrates this indwelling, with breath, linking Jesus' post-resurrection appearance to the fourth gospel's introduction. The everlasting Word, there at the beginning breathing over the waters, again breathes life into flesh, bestowing the recreating power of forgiveness upon his followers.

**Reflection Questions:** *Listen for the different voices all around you. What does it mean to speak with the power of the Holy Spirit in your own language?*

### [The Scripture] 1 Corinthians 12.3-13

3 No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.