

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

Ministry:

The Table

Is discontinued until Spring 2010

Washington & Chestnut Sts.

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown

7:00 to 9:00

MAIN Street Shelter

January's Host Church is ZION's UCC

Fund raising and shelter cleanup efforts are still underway, along with many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

Norman Vanderlick has moved to a group home in Harleysville. Please consider writing him a note love and encouragement while he settles in.

His new address is: 140 Crescent Ln, Harleysville, PA 19438

We will be trying to coordinate bringing him to dinner, church, and singing once a month. Pray and see where you might fit in assuring him of our love for him.

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

2010 Season has begun. We are still working at fund raising, laundry, and storage, and we are still in need of overnight staff. Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Pastor Kork or Ron Caulk for details, and remember to thank God for the host churches!!

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week and:

The dear people of Haiti, devastated by the earthquake. Grace Brethren International Missions, in Partnership with Convoy of Hope and The American Red Cross, is working on a plan to assist those hurt by this disaster. They have already begun this work and YOU can help in prayer and as we collect monetary gifts to aid our FGBC in emergency relief and recovery efforts. Please, seek God as to your sacrificial involvement of Christ's love to our neighbours in crisis.

Pray for our friends in Lower-Bucks County, who have begun to shelter their suburban homeless friends.

Remember Helen's knees and her ability to come to Tabernacle; employment for many of us; Ron's health difficulties and his daughter's pregnancy; our Grater family, who's elderly father has been diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer; for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and the future of Still Waters.

Also, pray for our shelter friends, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation.

Please, also keep all of us in prayers; as we seek rest, and to be graceful to those who misunderstand us, our mission, and judge us out of ignorance.

Next Week's Scriptures:

January 24, 2010: 3rd Sunday After Epiphany (Year C)

psalm 19, nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10,

luke 4.14-21, & 1 corinthians 12.12-31a

Get in touch with us at:

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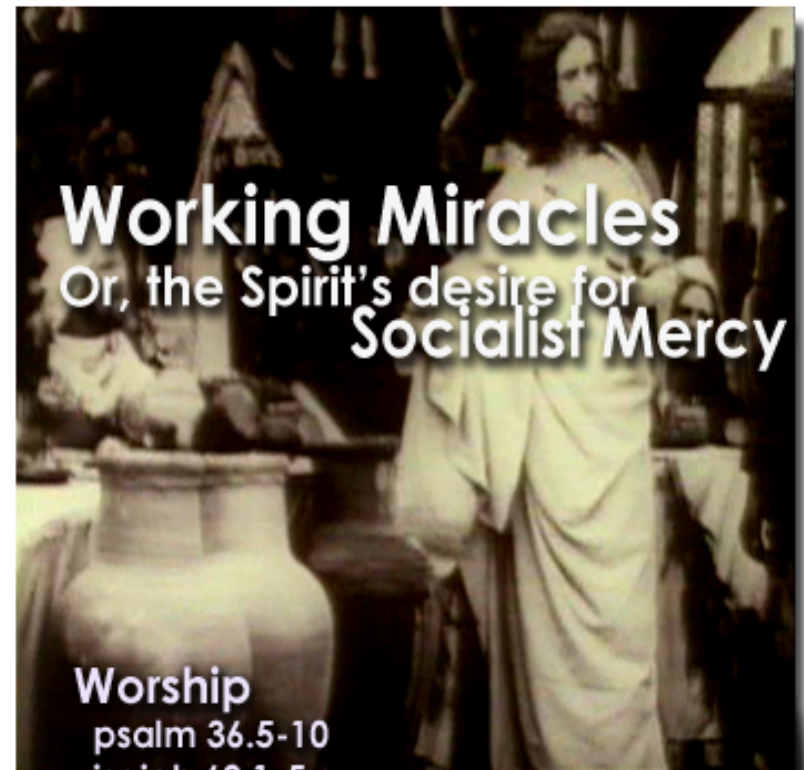
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January 17 - 2010



Working Miracles
Or, the Spirit's desire for
Socialist Mercy

Worship

psalm 36.5-10

isaiah 62.1-5

john 2.1-11

1 corinthians 12.1-11

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

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

[Service]

Tonight...

Focus Film ::

“ Pray for Haiti ”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 36.5-10

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Isaiah 62.1-5

Focus Film ::

“ Wedding at Cana ”

The Scripture ~

Working Miracles Or, the Spirit's desire for Socialist Mercy

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew),..

John 2.5-9a

This week's Lectionary:
psalm 36.5-10, isaiah 62.1-5,
john 2.1-11, & 1 corinthians 12.1-11

Focus Film ::

“ Sabbath and the Poor ”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

[Journaling Worship
your talking points notes...
for this Week's Church Discussion]
✚ marriage and rescue

✚ there are miracles, and then there are
MIRACLES!

✚ commitment to a miraculous Spirit

“

Meditation:
Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. John 2.11

Reflection:

There is a Communion benediction from Central America, based on a prayer from St. Teresa of Avila, which starts: "Christ has no body now on Earth but yours." When water changes to wine, we know the Spirit is at work, animating us to be Christ's body in the world—working for the healing not just of nations, but of the whole planet.

—Malinda Elizabeth Berry



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 36.5-10

[Worship]

5 Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. 6 Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD. 7 How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. 8 They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. 10 O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Consider:

[Words]

As the early Christian community struggled to define itself, countless issues arose that challenged its identity at every turn. The community had to decide, once and again, what it meant to be Christian, in faith, action, and creed. As Paul describes, many concerns arose regarding the charismatic gifts of the spirit. The Corinthian community, apparently overwhelmed by members who spoke in tongues, was excluding other charisms. Paul thus had to reinforce the importance of every gift and contribution to the community, saying that "there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone" (1 Corinthians 12:6). Since the source of every gift is God alone, each must be respected, honored, and practiced in the community equally. His advice also cautions the Corinthians—and us—against making one gift more important or powerful in the community. Preaching is as important as administration, and

public representation is as important as counsel. Each gift should be valued and represented equally in our communities.

John, too, treats the issue of signs as a means of revealing the presence of God. For John, it is crucial that Jesus perform a sign at the beginning of his ministry to confirm—for the disciples and for us—that Jesus is indeed the Messiah. Jesus is the one capable of bringing God's living Spirit directly into human history and into our lives. His first sign, the changing of water into wine, is also his first action following the calling of the disciples, and with it John conveys the transformative power of God.

Jesus' actions also confirm the words of the psalmist, who describes God's food and drink as endless, as the very source of life and light: "They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light" (Psalm 36:8-9). The one who makes water into wine also makes human flesh into sacrament, if we, like the disciples, are willing to leave everything and follow Jesus. **Michaela Bruzzese**

[Scripture]

1 Corinthians 12.1-11

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2 You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and 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.