

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

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Thursday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown

7:00 to 9:00

MAIN Street Shelter

We are down for the Summer, But...

Fund raising and Shelter Intake

Center cleanup efforts provide

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.

The 2009/2010 Shelter Season is finished, but we are still working at fund raising, laundry, and cleanup while we endeavor to begin again in November. 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 our host churches!!

New Home Church Series every Thursday evening at The Moyer's



A video curriculum to stir discussion.

Your Prayer Notes:

The Graters lost their father to his battle with lung cancer. Please remember their family as they mourn this awful loss.

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Bruce's health issues; for John Kearney and John Petinados mother's, who both have health difficulties; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Gary's back and sciatica; for the Brackens; for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and 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.

Please keep our church—the future of Still Waters, in prayer during yet another time of upheaval and difficulty while trying to remain faithful to God's calling; the least around us.

Please, also, pray for our shelter friends, who are not connected to us during the summer, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation.

Next Week's Scriptures:

July 11, 2010: Proper 10 (Year C)

Psalm 82, Amos 7.7-17, Luke 10.25-37, & Colossians 1.1-14


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still waters
home churches & worship center

July 4 - 2010

Distracted by Purity



Or, Catering to my
Church Addiction

Hello My name is...
and I'm Addicted to... Self

Worship

psalm 52

amos 8.1-12

luke 10.38-42

colossians 1.15-28

Benediction

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...

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 52

Focus Film ::

"He Holds It All Together"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Amos 8.1-12

Focus Film ::

"Showing Mercy"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*Psalm 52, Amos 8.1-12,
Luke 10.38-42, & Colossians 1.15-28*

The Scripture ~

Distracted by Purity

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Church Addiction

Now as they went

on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10.38-42

Focus Film ::

"Loss & Leadership"

Benediction ::

Revelation 22.12, 14, 16-17, 20-21

[Journaling Worship
your talking points notes...
for this Week's Church Discussion]
✂ Being at the bottom

✂ What is Gospel?

✂ Oh blessed suffering...
choosing a better way

Meditation:

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds." Amos 8.4-7

Reflection:

"The prophets ... railed against Israel's Sabbath practices both because the wealthy spent the day impatiently waiting for the stock exchange to reopen the next morning (Amos 8:5) and because they failed to see that the injustice rampant in their social life could not be reconciled with the piety pretended at the altar (Isaiah 1:13)."

— David R. Weiss



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 52

[Worship]

1 Why do you boast, O mighty one, of mischief done against the godly? All day long 2 you are plotting destruction. Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery. 3 You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking the truth. Selah

4 You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue. 5 But God will break you down forever; he will snatch and tear you from your tent; he will uproot you from the land of the living. Selah

6 The righteous will see, and fear, and will laugh at the evildoer, saying, 7 "See the one who would not take refuge in God, but trusted in abundant riches, and sought refuge in wealth!" 8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. 9 I will thank you forever, because of what you have done. In the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

Consider:

[Words]

The focus of the gospel reading is the awareness that Mary of Bethany has chosen the good part, the one indispensable thing. She has chosen "the Chosen One." The accent is on Mary's utter devotion to Jesus, refusing every alternative or distraction. She is completely focused on the one who is indispensable for her life.

The lyrical affirmation of Paul affirms that the reality of Jesus, in whom "all things hold together," is the one thing needful for a full life. A proper engagement with Jesus is a life "holy and blameless and irreproachable" that is "steadfast in faith" (Colossians 1:22-23). Paul warns against "shifting from the hope promised by the gospel." The faithful refuse to hope in anything or anyone else.

Psalm 52 traces the sharp contrast between two ways of life. There are "boasters" who practice treachery, "love evil", and "trust in abundant riches" (verses 1-7). And the alternative, "the righteous," who trust singularly in God, obey the Torah, and see the foolishness of the boasters who try to save themselves (verses 6-9). Those who trust in

God's faithfulness are like "a green olive tree" that flourishes with much fruit; they end in much thanks.

The sketch of a faithful person runs with consistency from Mary in the gospel to the "holy and blameless" in the epistle to the "green olive tree" in the psalm. In each case, it is a fruitful life grounded in a single loyalty. The polemic of Amos is directed against those who have chosen foolishly and consequently live destructively. The Mary narrative identifies the Chosen One necessary to a viable future. "Steadfastness" is to settle for this single offer of a viable, well-ordered life.

Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Colossians 1.15-28

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. 21 And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him-- 23 provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. 24 I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. 25 I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, 26 the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. 27 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28 It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.