

**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

7:00 to 9:00

**Bright Hope Community Home Church**

*Thursday Afternoons*

Myrtle Street, Pottstown

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**Ministry:**

**The Table**

*Every Wednesday Evening*

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

**MAIN Street Shelter**

**On Summer Hiatus Until November**

**Fund raising and shelter cleanup efforts are beginning this month**

**Norman's Game Night**

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

King St Commons, 7:00 pm

**Announcements:**

Shenkel UCC in North Coventry, in their attempt to host our shelter for 2 years now, might be coming to the end of a long road, legally with North Coventry. The ACLU has filed a law suit on their behalf. Our friends at Shenkel have done this reluctantly, not wanting conflict with the Township, but when the world's kingdoms come into conflict with Christ's kingdom and following Him, we must be obedient to our King. Keep them in prayer!

**Your Prayer Notes:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

2008/2009 Season has come to an end and the work of fund raising, laundry, and storage are beginning. Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Ron Caulk for details, and remember the host churches that have extending the love of Christ to all of us in operating the MAIN St Shelter. Thank God for them!!

**Remember in prayer, those requests from last week:**

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

Please remember to thank God that Glenn is home!!

Pray for Michael's friend who's family is enduring a very difficult time, and are in danger of losing their farm.

Please pray for Donna who is lost in the confusion of religion and the thoughts of her mind.

Please, also keep all of us in prayer; 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:**

May 24, 2009: **EASTER 7 (Year B)**

**psalm 1, john 17.6-19, acts 1.15-17, 21-26, & 1 john 5.9-13**

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**still waters**  
home churches & worship center

May 17 = 2009

**Conquering the World**  
Or, cooperating with a  
**Holy Jihad**

**MAKE ME SICK**

Easter 6

**Worship**

psalm 98

john 15.9-17

acts 10.44-48

1 john 5.1-6

**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 ::

“To Rescue Me”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 98

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Acts 10.44-48

Focus Film ::

“Known By Love?”

The Scripture ~

## Conquering the World

**Or, cooperating with a Holy Jihad**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

...for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, *our faith*. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who *believes* that Jesus is the Son of God? *This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies,...*

1 John 5.1,2, 4—6a

This week's Lectionary:

EASTER 6 (Year B)

psalm 98, john 15.9-17,

acts 10.44-48, & 1 john 5.1-6

Focus Film ::

“Abide In Me”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

[Journaling Worship  
your talking points notes...

for this Week's Church Discussion]

✚ fruit & conquest

✚ baptism & terror

✚ a community of truth after hate



**Meditation:**  
*I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."*

John 15.15—17

**Reflection:**

RE: John 15:15 - As we are drawn into a closer relationship with Jesus, we become more "Christ-like"...we become responsible to higher standards and values. Now there is greater humility, compassion, and vulnerability than ever before. John 15.16 - God elects the faithful to be more like Christ, but not for honor or status. We are elected and adopted as part of Jesus' family for servanthood and discipleship. No room for arrogance or superiority in this calling! —Ed Conner

## Psalm 98

[Worship]

1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. 2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. 3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. 4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. 5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD. 7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. 8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy 9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**Consider:**

[Words]

"The Gospels depict Jesus on the eve of his death making clear to his disciples that their ministry is possible only because they no longer belong to the world and its ways. In his priestly prayer to his Father, he says, 'They do not

belong to the world any more than I belong to the world.' It is this not-belonging that is the basis for their mission: 'I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the Evil One .... As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world' (John 17:15-19). In these words, Jesus tells us that the Spirit by whom we participate in the divine life is the same Spirit who allows us to be in the world without being of it.

The world, however, is the place where the Evil One roams. It is the home of the tempter who wants to snatch us away from God and return us to the road of upward mobility. We must face this tempter and deal with him eye to eye. As Jesus was sent by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted, so are we. It may be that the true quality of the spiritual life can only be recognized in the face of our temptations."



- Henri Nouwen, "Temptation: The Pull Toward Upward Mobility,"

[Scripture]

## Acts 10.44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.