

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 2010/2011 Shelter Season is being planned, and we are still working at fund raising, laundry, and cleanup while readying to begin again in November. We are working Friday mornings at 9:00 am to prepare the Intake Center. 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 **Economy of Love**

Creating a Community of Enough



Free Movies Under the Stars, with our Friends at Zion's.

Free Refreshments so bring the family and your friends! Every Friday at 8:30 pm

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Franny's friend Tony; for the Brackens; for Fay in her heartbreak at the loss of her son, and strength for their family; 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 to 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:

August 29, 2010: Proper 17 (Year C)

Psalm 81.1, 10-16, Jeremiah 2.4-13,

Luke 14.1, 7-14, & Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16

Get in touch with us at:

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still waters
home churches & worship center



August 22 = 2010

Shaken, Not Stirred...

Or, When BIG voices ignore the Small Voices of God

Worship

Psalm 71.1-6
Jeremiah 1.4-10
Luke 13.10-17
Hebrews 12.18-29

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

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



[Service]

Tonight...

Scripture Reading ::

Jeremiah 1.4-10

Focus Film ::

"Alright Down Here"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Hebrews 12.18-29

Focus Film ::

"Sabbath Poor"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*Psalm 71.1-6, Jeremiah 1.4-10,
Luke 13.10-17, & Hebrews 12.18-29*

The Scripture ~

Shaken, Not Stirred...

Or, When BIG voices ignore the

Small Voices of God

But the leader

of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?"

Luke 13.14—15

Reflection Film ::

"Simple Commands"

Benediction ::

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

[Journaling Worship
your talking points notes...
for this Week's Church Discussion]
✂ puffed up with importance

✂ who is my daughter?

✂ broken voices speaking loudly

Meditation:

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God."
Luke 13.10—13

Reflection:

"Jesus heals a crippled woman, provoking criticism from Pharisees who, perhaps threatened by Jesus' growing popularity and power, accuse him of breaking Sabbath rules. Jesus' response is quick and severe; he exposes their hardness of heart by asking, 'ought not this woman ... be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?' Jesus rejects the rigid interpretation of the law and insists instead on the spirit of the law - that the Sabbath provides liberation and renewal for all."

- Michaela Bruzzese

"False spirituality shrinks from broken humanity, retreating into air conditioned tombs called sanctuaries. Jesus embraces broken humanity, lifting it into the perfect healed praise of the blessed community." - John D Zeigler



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 71.1-6

[Worship]

1 In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. 2 In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. 3 Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. 4 Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. 5 For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth. 6 Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

Consider:

[Words]

The God of the gospel is one who heals. The healing narrative in Luke is a case study: Jesus does the healing work of God for "a daughter of Abraham," thus evidencing God's abiding fidelity to the old Abrahamic promises. It is only a surprise that the disabled woman counts among the family of Abraham.

The opposition to Jesus can't reach beyond their "sacred duty" of Sabbath to the transformative generosity exhibited by Jesus. They reckon their Sabbath observance to take priority over urgent human need. But Jesus, with an illustration about animal care (verse 15), inverts the order of things. Healing takes priority over observance. No wonder they left the meeting embarrassed over their punctilious requirements.

The juxtaposition of healing and Sabbath in Isaiah is dominated by the repeated conditional "if." The community is urged to look beyond "pursuing your own interests on my holy day" (verse 13). Jesus is always looking beyond his own interests to the interests of the needy. The issue is a reordering of religious priorities. In Hebrews 12 the issue in dispute is cast as Mt. Zion (site of joy) and Mt. Sinai (site of obligatory scruple). These texts imagine a gospel freedom for those who open their faith to the disability of the world. —Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Hebrews 12.18-29

18 You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, 19

and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. 20 (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. 25 See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! 26 At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." 27 This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; 29 for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Question:

"*The Sabbath was made for man*" Jesus said. We tend to view that as a great gift to us; giving us needed rest from labor—God's generosity to us, *Personally*. However, in our leisure, and even our religious observance of Commandment Keeping, we often become unwitting "lords" of the Sabbath, seeking service from others, helping us to remain good and loyal to the law, and our version of new covenant.

What is wrong with this picture...?

Just who do we remember the Sabbath for (keeping it Holy)? Who's voice does God hear in the gospel story? Good people who have it all together? How secure is your covenant?

*Also, read for yourself this week,
Luke 13.10-17 & Jeremiah 1.4-10*