

church in the midst of a storm rowing as hard as we can meanwhile no one considers offering a prayer to the Lord of the Sea. OK, a guilt inducing question: Why is it so hard to get the church together just to pray?

"Be courageous. I Am. Don't be afraid."

These are the words spoken by the Lord of the Church to His Church. These are the words we live by in feast and famine, when life is good and when life is hard, when the biopsy is benign and when the diagnosis is bleak. Fearlessness is the by-product of knowing the identity of the One before whom we bow. Response?



TO ENGAGE

PLEASE SEE SCHEDULE IN FORYER FOR THE HAITIAN PARTNERSHIP

BONNE FETE MAMAN

Happy Mother's Day

Come Celebrate Mother's Day with our Haitian Friends

Sunday May 13th @ 12:30PM

All are invited to bring their Mother for Lunch

In the Gathering Place



PENTECOST 2018

May 20th @ 11:00AM

Group Photo Out Front
Immediately After Service
then

Potluck Dinner in Gathering Place
Grilled Chicken &
Cake and Ice Cream Provided
Sides Provided by the Congregation

Don't forget

Mother's day Luncheon Food Sign Up

CHURCH STAFF

Rob Kazee, Pastor

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9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School

11 AM - 12:30 PM Worship Service

617 16th St. New Cumberland, PA 17070

717-774-6444

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www.facebook.com/tablelifechurch

CHURCH OF

THE NAZARENE


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C H U R C H
T A B L E L I F E



Order of Worship
29 April 2018
Fifth Sunday of Easter

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Sermon Series: Fearless
Scripture Reading: Mark 6.45-53
Sermon Four: It's a Ghost!

We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ
Song of preparation
Prayer of Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

***If you are a guest with us today,
Please take time to fill out a
Connection Card.***

Please visit us on our website,
www.tablelifechurch.org for details of events.
Also you will find, Worship folders, online giving and you can also
send prayer request to the prayer chain.

COMING SOON

April 27-29 Youth Teen Retreat	*****
May 9 Haiti Team Arrives	TBD
May 13 Market Street Breakfast Ministry	7:24AM
May 13 Haitian Mother's Day Sunday Lunch	12:30PM
May 16 Haiti Team Leaves	TBD
May 20 Pentecost Sunday Celebration	11:00AM

[Official Church Calendar ~ www.tablelifechurch.org/calendar](http://www.tablelifechurch.org/calendar)

Sermon Reflection Guide

Mark 6.45-52

Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

When evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by. But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out; for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

Question for Everyone

When faced with a daunting task or insurmountable odds I (1) map out a strategy, create a plan and then execute that plan or (10) I pray as if it all depended on God. Where would you place yourself on this range?

The Other Side of the Sea

I don't know why Jesus had to insist that his disciples set sail for Bethsaida. It could be that the other side of the sea represents difficult encounters with less than hospitable folk, precisely the sort of people Jesus finds not

the least bit intimidating. Jesus seems insistent that his people not get too cozy with their current situation. There is a sea to cross and people to love and a message to declare about the nearness of the realm of God, and of course those pesky unclean spirits that need clearing out. So how cozy are you currently? Any chance your coziness is diminishing your ability to fully follow Jesus?

An Audacious Claim

It is obvious that Mark wants us to hear echoes of Moses' encounter with Yahweh on Mount Sinai when Jesus goes up to the mountain to pray (v.46). But Mark makes it exceedingly clear that Jesus is much more than Moses 2.0. When he comes down he intends to "pass by" his disciples like Yahweh (Exodus 33.19, 22), and has authority over the stormy sea like Yahweh. And if that weren't clear enough Jesus himself says, "I Am" just like Yahweh in that burning bush (Ex. 3.14). Any Ancient Near Eastern Jewish person reading this story would be gobsmacked by the audacious claim of this narrative. Jesus does things and says things that only God could do and say. When is the last time that the authority of Jesus was so fully demonstrated in your life that you ended up, of your own free will by the prompting of the Spirit, in a place that you would rather not have been? Tell the story.

Prayer for the Coming Week

This week, offer this simple prayer: Lord, whom might I include at my table? Does Jesus have the authority to place people at your family dinner table? Will our rhetoric of divine inclusion be more than a slogan in that we find ourselves providing hospitality to folk we would not have previously considered?

Row Harder

What do the disciples do in light of Jesus' apparent absence? They row harder. This is a vivid portrait of the church, not just then, but now. There we are the