

**Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain  
who build it...** Psalm 127:1a

## Ministry Opportunity:

### The Table

**Every Wednesday Evening**

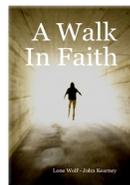
Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

## Announcements:

**New Choices/New Options** Free Career Development Program

This is a FREE intensive Career Counseling, Personal Growth, Job Readiness, and Computer Training program for those preparing to return to work due to life circumstances or looking to improve their opportunities in the job market. The program is open to single parents, displaced homemakers, and people in transition. Childcare reimbursement available. Program Services include: Computer Training - Skill and Interest Assessments - Job Placement Assistance - Self-Esteem Development - Peer Support - Career Testing - Job Search Skills - Resume Writing - Interviewing Skills - Career Counseling  
If interested please contact Pastor Kork.

We have a new published Author among us. We have just published **John Kearney's** first book, "**A Walk In Faith.**" Please see the church office to order your own copy of this excellent book. And please congratulate John on a job well done—for God's glory!



## Your Prayer Reminders:

**We are always collecting items for the Women's Center.** Please bring small soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, washrags, towels, lotions, disposable razors, large plastic zip lock bags, etc., to Tabernacle for blessing others in need.

Thank you for your prayers while we address the growing problem of homelessness here in Pottstown. We are hosting the shelter in the Parish House this month and still looking for volunteers for this ministry. This collaborative is called **The Ministries at MAIN Street.** To volunteer please see Pastor Kork.

*Please continue to remember Melvin in your prayers. He is recovering and we are confident that he will be coming home for good, very soon.*

*Zenona is in the hospital in Fort Washington, PA. Please pray as to how you can help her in her struggles.*

## Your Prayer Notes:

**Next week... psalm 29, isaiah 43 .1-7,  
luke 3 .15-17, 21-22, & acts 8 .14-17**

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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



**"He restores my soul . . .  
surely goodness and mercy will follow me"** Psalm 23

1st Sunday after Christmas  
The Week of December 31st, 2006

**treasured things of heart  
where do I go to find God...?**

**"Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I  
must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand  
what he said to them. lk 2 .49**

## Our Mission

To pursue God's heart and mission of building a worshipful faith community within the Pottstown area, through good works and home churches; recognizing Jesus as King of the universe, and worshipping Him privately and publicly because He is worthy.

## [Worship]

### psalm 148

1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! 2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! 4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. 6 He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, 8 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! 10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! 12 Young men and women alike, old and young together! 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. 14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

Please also read 1 samuel .2-18-20, 26  
& colossians 3 .12-17

## [The Scripture]

### luke 2 .41-52

41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." 49 He said to them, "**Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?**" 50 But they did not understand what he said to them. 51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

### [Think & Pray...]

**Reflection:** A 12 year old? Answering his parents with such thoughtfulness and confidence in *who* he is? What manner of *child* is this? It is very interesting how Jesus is always drawn to his "Father's House," and in this instance seems little more than shocked that Mary and Joseph would not have naturally understood where he'd be. One can only wonder what the dialog was between the "teachers" and Jesus, that "all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. (47) Perhaps his character and passion for redirecting Israel back to its calling.

Our Colossians reading teaches us to "clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience (12), and love (14); letting the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, being thankful (15), and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in our hearts, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God (16), doing everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." (17)

**Consider:** Were these characteristics already present in the boy, Jesus? Perhaps this is what "his mother treasured... in her heart." lk 2 .51b