

**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**

**Tuesday Evenings**

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19456

7:00 to 9:00

**William's Home Church**

**Thursday Afternoons**

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464

2:00 pm to 2:00 pm



**Community Table, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Evening**

Each Month – Check with Church for Transportation Arrangements

6:00 to 8:00

**Norman's Game Night**

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

Locations to be announced

**This Year's Theme:**

*hearing God in 2008*



**Your Prayer Notes:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall.

Pray for Pastor Kenn Cosgrove and Family. They must move out of their home by August 15<sup>th</sup>, and are looking for another.

Please pray for Edythe as she readies to move to a smaller, more manageable home. Pray also for Zenona, that she finds the place that God has for her and that she fully cooperates with His will for her.

Pray on behalf of Hank Hankins who is struggling with insurance and health problems. Also Helen is still having difficulties with her legs and circulation.

Gracious LORD, please protect our brothers and sisters, as you reveal your Love us. Amen.

**Next Week's Scriptures:**

**July 27, 2008 Proper 12 (Year A)**

**genesis 29.15-28, psalm 105.1-11,**

**matthew 13.31-33, 44-52, & romans 8.26-39**

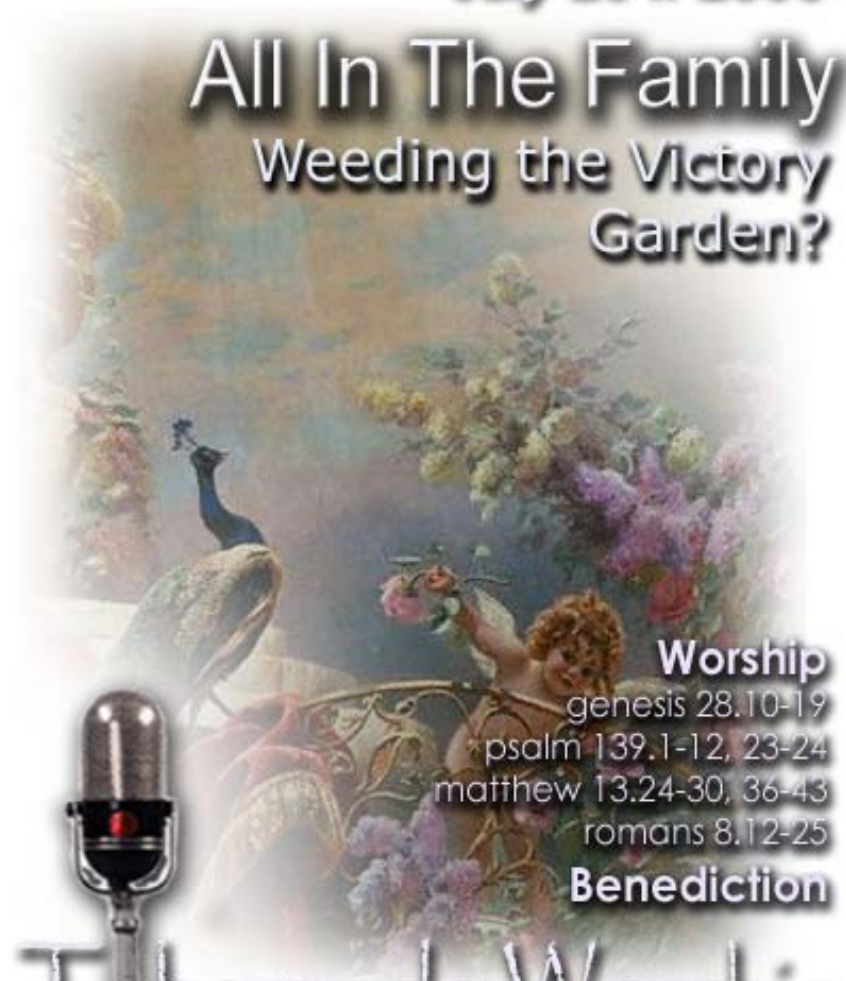
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**still waters** of Pottstown  
home churches & worship center

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

**July 20 :: 2008**

**All In The Family  
Weeding the Victory  
Garden?**



**Worship**

genesis 28.10-19

psalm 139.1-12, 23-24

matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

romans 8.12-25

**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 & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 139.1-12, 23-24

Worship Film ::

“Wait with Patience”

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Genesis 28.10-19

Latter Day Psalm ::

by John Kearney

Focus Film ::

“Name Tags”

The Scripture ~

## All in The Family

### Weeding the Victory Garden?

The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Matthew 13.24b-30

This week's Lectionary:

genesis 28.10-19, psalm 139.1-12, 23-24, matthew 13.24-30, 36-43, & romans 8.12-25

Reflection Film ::

“If You Feel Lost”

Benediction ::

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



## [Journaling Worship your discussion notes... for this Week's Church Discussion]

✧ dear brothers & sisters...

✧ In Jacob, *who* will be blessed?

✧ sibling language



### Meditation:

*Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring."*

Genesis 28.11b-14

### Reflection:

The angels ascending and descending Jacob's ladder make for a meaningful self-guided meditation. Close your eyes, center with slower breathing, and imagine those heavenly beings visiting the human family. Images will slowly emerge. What are they bringing to a hurting world? What are they carrying back for the Holy One to heal or redeem?

Sit in meditation with a sentence first meant for Jacob and another two first shared for the original praxis of the psalmist. Reclaim them as gifts for this day:

"Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go..." (Gen. 28.15). "Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?" (Psm 139.7).



# still waters

home church studies

## Psalm 139.1-12, 23-24 [Worship]

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. 3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. 24 See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

### Consider:

### [Think & Pray...]

"A spirit of adoption": to become one of the family, to be at home. There are relationships in which we're at home, and relationships in which we live in fear. Each of us knows the difference: When our inmost self is affirmed and accepted, we are at home. When we are not accepted, we live in fear, a kind of slavery to someone else's preference, to rules, to caprice. We do not trust because we are not loved.

Paul shows us ourselves and our world trembling on the brink of that knowledge: God knows, accepts, loves, adopts us. We

tend to think of loving as hard work, but being loved is hard work, too, a discipline of trust. And knowing ourselves to be loved is a gift of grace that transforms our lives and makes us, in our turn, channels of love.

In our world only some of us have a right to life. Wealth, education, race, gender, nationality, political expediency—all determine our membership in the family. We haven't realized our own membership; we do not recognize our brothers and sisters. Our lack of vision orphans us.

About the gospel: I wonder if, come harvest, the servants might not discover that wheat and weeds together are culled, each for its own proper purpose. Perhaps at maturity each is seen in its own way to be part of the family.

### [The Scripture]

## Romans 8.12-25

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

