

**Stillwaters PCA**  
**643 Coatesville Road**  
**West Grove, PA 19390**

**Overview:**

Stillwaters PCA is seeking a solo pastor to continue shepherding our congregation. Stillwaters' next pastor should be a man who preaches the word through a mix of exegetical and topical sermons. This man should have a well grounded prayer and devotional life and as a "permission giver" this man should set the example for the other leaders within the church. Open and clear communication with persons of diverse ages and backgrounds is of high importance as well. The candidate's beliefs must also be consistent with the Westminster Confession of Faith, and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms.

**Stillwaters' DNA: Who We Are**

**Community:**

Stillwaters PCA is a community of believers committed to knowing and growing our relationship with Jesus Christ, with each other, and with new friends that the Lord will bring to us. We are a small (75-100 congregants) church, tucked away in the Chester County countryside on twelve acres of farmland. We gather on Sunday mornings for a joyful celebration of worshiping our Lord together with hymns, praise songs, prayer, and hearing biblical teaching from the absolute truth of God's Word. We are a transparent congregation, not afraid to share our brokenness and our deepest prayer concerns with our brothers and sisters in Christ, knowing our needs will indeed be prayed for. We are committed to evangelism within our church family and local community. We support various local missionaries and ministries both financially and experientially. We love serving together intergenerationally, as families and singles, as we model a servant's heart to our children. We have accomplished this through our annual Live Nativity production, packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, filling baby bottle banks for Chester County Connect Care, partnering with Urban Promise, and collecting supplies for local food banks. Our deacons work closely with the mercy ministry, assessing needs and finding ways to be the hands of Christ to our hurting friends, to offer the grace we have received.

**Relationship:**

One of the traits that makes Stillwaters unique is the feeling of "family" when you walk through our doors. We are committed to developing strong and genuine connections within our church body. Fellowshiping and learning together are important parts of who we are. Our men's ministry plays a vital role in our church. The goal of this ministry is to develop men into leaders and mentors, first to their families and then to others. We believe getting men involved in the church will naturally result in their families getting involved. A women's Bible study and various small groups are also offered as we seek to grow spiritually, personally, and together. Additionally, our men's and women's ministries enjoy yearly get-away retreats.

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**Discipleship:**

Our heart cry is for our children and youth to grow to love the Lord Jesus, to have a life fully committed to following Him and to be prepared to stand for Jesus in a harsh, unbelieving society. Our children face a constant onslaught of negative influence from society and they need to have a firm foundation on which to build! Our children and youth ministries aim to invest heavily in the discipling of our children to give them a solid foundation in order to defend their faith. We strive to accomplish this through Children's Church, Christian Service Brigade, GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior), Kings Kids, and VBS.

Along with the young disciples program, Stillwaters has developed men's and women's ministries with the goal of building men and women up. To accomplish this, we focus on one-on-one mentoring and our small group discipleship ministry which includes young families, empty nesters, women's groups, and other inter-generational groups.

**Our History**

2001: 'Cornerstone Presbyterian Church began work to be "a church that plants churches." Pastor Tony Stephens was hired as their church planter. Taking a small group of people with him, he would go on to plant Stillwaters Presbyterian church.' Quote from Cornerstone's history pamphlet.

2002-2011: Early meetings were in the Stephens' home, a bar, a funeral home, and co-sharing of worship time in a local church.

2011: Purchased 12+ acres of land which included a pond and a partially finished building that was meant to be a retreat space.

2009-Present: Stillwaters has mentored pastoral interns and church planters. Bryan Launer was a worship leader intern. Peter Doerfler served as Assistant Pastor from 2009-2012 and Associate Pastor from 2012-2017 and went on to plant Redemption Hill Church in the Pittsburgh area in 2017. Robbie Schmidtberger was mentored at Stillwaters and went on to plant Iron Works Church in West Chester, PA later in 2017.

The partially finished building in 2011 was turned into sanctuary space and now has a completed worship center downstairs, Sunday school rooms, a conference room, full gymnasium and pastor's office upstairs.

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**Our Vision**

As a discipling church our desire is to help people of every age grow deep in relationship with Christ and one another, which leads to fruitful service in the church and in the community. We study the Word of God together and encourage one another to follow the Word of God.

**Desired Strengths**

Stillwaters congregation values the following in our search for our next solo pastor:

- SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF MEMBERS: Pastor shares members' struggles regarding the Christian faith, with opportunity provided for individuals and groups to reflect on beliefs, concerns, doubts regarding Christian understanding of the spiritual dimensions of life.
- PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD: The word of God is preached with urgency and conviction, bringing it to bear on the changing needs of individuals, the community, and the world. High priority of pastor's time placed on sermon preparation.
- CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP: Emphasis placed in developing fellowship, helping members to know one another; groups encouraged which give members the opportunity to love and support one another.
- EVANGELISM: Pastor and congregation share faith in Christ as personal Savior in total lifestyle; seek to lead others within and outside the Church to accept Jesus Christ; congregation is informed, trained, helped to establish effective evangelism programs for the church.
- TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY: Pastor accepts an active teaching role, interpreting and teaching the Scriptures, theological concepts, history of the Church and current events; provides instruction for Church Officers; educational leaders, and confirms new members.
- WORSHIP LEADERSHIP: Pastor and Session work to develop a rich worship life, educating the congregation for meaningful participation.

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**Specific Job Requirements - to fulfill the position of Solo Pastor, the pastor must:**

- Possess a seminary degree and be ordained, or working toward ordination, within the PCA
- Preach weekly and communicate with church staff, including review of the church calendar
- Prepare bulletin/worship service information and communicate with church secretary, music director
- Complete pastoral visitation, seeking to work through the congregation on an annual basis
- Moderate Session meetings
- Attend Deacon's meetings
- Communicate with Ministry Leaders and schedule Ministry Leaders' meetings as needed (semi-annual; quarterly??)
  - In particular a meeting late Spring/early Summer in prep for Fall kick-off
  - Attend individual Ministry meetings in a supportive/encouraging role
- Oversee website updates as needed
- Conduct New Member classes as needed
- Attend church functions/outreach events as a support to these endeavors
- Be prepared to counsel members/attendees such as wedding, grief, marriage or to recommend those with needs to qualified Christian counselors
- Lead annual elder retreats
- Develop strategies for further unity within the church
- Oversee or delegate child protection policy
- Attend all Presbytery meetings
- Serve on a committee of Presbytery
- Conduct himself and his household in a manner worthy of Christ and giving no cause for slander from outsiders ("...that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world..." Phil.2:15)
  - Quickly working through any conflict situations as directed by Scriptures (personal &/or corporate); working with Session and/or Presbytery Committee (as needed)

**Compensation Package Range:** \$75,000-\$86,000

**How to Apply:**

All candidates must submit their MDF along with a resume to the Stillwaters Pastoral search committee at: [SPCCandidate2025@gmail.com](mailto:SPCCandidate2025@gmail.com) . If you already have a current MDF on file at the PCA, it is not necessary for you to request one from us. If you do not have a current MDF on file, ways to obtain one are described below.

1. The preferred method is to request a blank MDF directly from the PCA. To do so, please follow the link below and follow the subsequent procedures regarding completion and submission: <https://www.pcaac.org/pastor-search/pastors-open-to-a-new-call/>.

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