

Moments of Beauty Week 8 - Visual Art

Thursday, October 29



Pennsylvania landscape by Tom Conrad

When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:9-10

Leftovers are awesome! At least when they are your favorite dish. To have more than one taste of that delicious dish is inviting and comforting. But if company is coming, we start from scratch and make a beautiful first dish. In the laws of Israel, there was provision made for leftovers. They were to be kept for the folks that didn't have enough food to eat. And the extra crops at the edge of the fields were for those folks to come and glean. Because perfection and efficiency are good values in our culture we focus on them a lot. But what if we noticed the beauty in leftovers. In Tom's painting we are at the edge of the field. You can see the barn in the distance and the mature crop is waiting to be harvested. It is beautiful to see the lush ripe crop at the end of the growing season. It is abundance. God is a God of abundance. There is always enough. As we realize the beauty of the earth and the season of harvest, what do you have that someone can glean? Extra food, winter clothing, time to tutor or sit with a friend? Allow yourself to imagine what someone can glean from your abundance. Sharing itself is an amazing and beautiful experience.