



Saint Paul's Possibilities

June 26, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

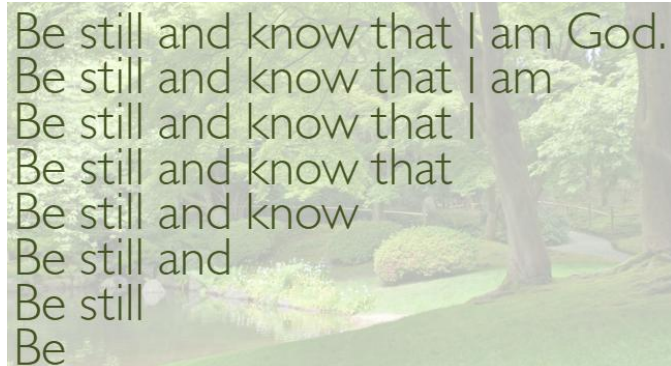
Summer is here, and I've been thinking a lot about what we do with this gift of time. Vacations are wonderful—whether we are resting or just changing the location of our busyness or chaos. What I find myself wondering about though is: Are we truly resting, or are we just changing the location of our busyness and chaos, packing every minute with something?

I'm not talking about trips to the shore or mountains (though those are lovely). I'm talking about something deeper. The kind of rest that quiets your mind. The kind of rest that actually lets you just be, instead of constantly doing.

As your Pastor, I want to model this for you. And I'll be honest—I don't always do it well. However, I'm getting better, because I recognize how great a need it is in my life, and I'm willing to bet yours, too, if we but let it. I mean we live in a world in which we are encouraged to and tend to fill every moment or allow every moment to be filled. So, this summer, I'm committing to a practice I want to invite you into as well: a simple, ancient prayer practice called *subtractive prayer*—a form of centering prayer that helps us reconnect with God in the midst of everything.

While I need it myself, here's another reason I'm asking you to try this: this fall, we're launching an interactive book study focused on different ways to deepen our connection with God and each other through contemplative practices. Think of this summer as your chance to dip your toe in the water. No pressure. No performance. Just a few quiet moments each day.

How it works: Find a quiet moment—start with maybe just five minutes if possible. If you can find a quiet place to sit, great, if not stand and try this. Shut your eyes if you can, then slowly repeat this phrase, removing one word at a time:



Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know that I
Be still and know that
Be still and know
Be still and
Be still
Be

Then sit quietly for at least 60 seconds. Just breathe. Just listen, maybe to just your own breathing. Just be.

That's it. You can do this at home, at the beach, at the lake, on the mountain—anywhere.

Some days it will feel profound. Some days your mind will wander a thousand times. Both are perfectly fine. The practice itself is the gift.

Try it a few times. I know that sounds simple, but there's something about repeating a practice that helps us experience it more fully. The first time might feel awkward. The second time, you might notice something different. By the third or fourth time, you may find yourself settling into it in a new way. Give yourself that gift.

What have you lost by trying? Nothing. But you may gain quiet moments—moments of peace, moments of connection, moments where you remember that you are loved and held by God. I hope you'll join me. Try it once. Try it a few times. See what happens. Either way, nothing is lost—only quiet moments gained.

See you in worship and looking forward to having you walk through this practice with me.

Peace and blessings, Pastor Tim

The Farm Report



Thank you. As usual it has been a busy week around the Farm and that is truly a blessing. This past Sunday during the announcements we heard words of thanks for people who made moving our worship service to Central Oak Heights possible through their gifts of time and talent. It's not an easy task to move an entire worship service, A/V and all, much less plan for choir, a luncheon and do it all in unfamiliar surroundings. However, many volunteer hands made light work of it.

The rest of the week has been no different though and truth be told most weeks are like this. Volunteers show up, people roll up their proverbial sleeves for everything from pulling nails and wiring new outlets (the pavilion is almost completely done) to preparing meals for grieving families to providing groceries for our neighbors through Fresh Express and even when a homeless family arrives on our porch, a volunteer has prepared a food box and we are ready to support them. And, we always have a clean and welcoming environment for us all to worship and be. There is not an event or task around The Farm that isn't touched by volunteer hands. Do you know some people even come and wipe off the chairs and tables on the porch multiple times a week so that no one gets pollen on their clothes and all have a clean place to just share a meal or a conversation.

The next time you notice the flowers blooming on the porch or you get to partake in a great meal, even grab a cup of coffee, or are greeted on Sunday morning on the porch, whether you notice, or not that the tables and chairs are wiped down on the porch, something's been painted or fixed, whisper a prayer of thanks and reach out to volunteer. It seems there's always something to do and that's not a bad thing, because we get to do it together. And together we create a welcoming sacred safe space. So, thank you all.



Stewardship

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) Giving thanks for the time, talents, and resources shared here.

Gifts & Offerings ~ 6/21/26
 Attendance: 125 (5 visitors)
 LIVE Attendance: 1,440
 Virtual Reach: 10,602
 Christian Education: 20

Plate Giving:	1,010.00
Loose Plate:	212.00
Online Giving:	<u>763.65</u>
Operational Total:	1,985.65
Restricted Giving:	<u>115.00</u>
Total Giving:	2,100.65

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Allen Basom - 6/26
 Marianne Zeyn - 6/28
 Krysta Hettinger - 6/30
 Charley Jo Kister - 7/2
 Myrtle Hogan - 7/5
 Emma Hott - 7/5



Happy Anniversary to ...

Patricia & Eric Wagner - 6/30
 Lori & Ken Bennett - 7/1

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver	The Lanks Family
The Belford Family	Katy Mahon
Patti Faux	Chuck Schworer
Rebecca Foote	Courtney Showers
Ellie Guerrero	Amanda Unzueta
Hagan Family	Tommy Ward
Robin Huffman	All service personnel

Updates to our Prayer List are made by calling the church office, filling out a prayer request card located in our sanctuary, or by posting on our prayers and love FB page.

Summer at The Farm: Come Belong. Our 4th summer at The Farm is shaping up to be something special. There's community to celebrate, traditions to honor, milestones to share—and you're invited to be part of it all. Community celebrations coming this summer:

July 12: Wet & Wild Family Night in the Meadow - Cool off, laugh a little, and remember what it feels like to just be together as a family of faith.

July 19: 4th Annual Ice Cream Freeze Off & Pavilion Grand Opening - Following our monthly church luncheon (picnic this month!) You'll want to stick around for this one!

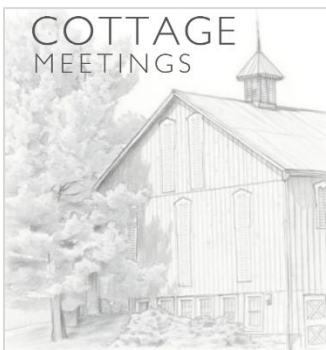
Aug 2: Take Me Out to the Ball Game...Crosscutters - There's nothing quite like a summer evening at the ball park. Bring a friend. Make a memory.

Aug 15: Back to School Chicken Barbecue & Swim - New school year, old friends, and a meal shared together.

August 28, 29 & 30 – A weekend of Peace. This is big. We're dedicating an entire weekend to peace, purpose, and celebration.

- *Friday, August 28: Word, Wine & Wisdom - A special gathering to set the tone for the weekend ahead.*
- *Saturday, August 29: Music on the Porch for Peace - As the summer light fades, we gather for songs, presence, good food, and great fellowship. There's something sacred about music and community under the stars.*
- *Sunday, August 30: Pastor Tim's Full Ordination Celebration - After years of preparation and faithfulness, Pastor Tim was approved for full ordination into ministry. This marks a new chapter for him—and for all of us.*

Join us for a weekend celebration unlike any other, complete with s'mores and the joy of witnessing God's call unfold in our midst. As together we celebrate and honor a weekend of peace—from fellowship to laughter to music and more. Summer at The Farm is about more than events. It's about remembering who we are together and who we are called to be as a community. Mark your calendars. Bring a friend. You belong here.



We Need Your Voice: A Crucial Moment for Saint Paul's. We're about to make a major decision—one that will shape the next chapter of our faith community. And before we move forward, we need to hear from you.

Over the past nine years, we've asked our congregation the same core questions three times. And something remarkable happened: your answer never changed. In 2019, 2021, and again in 2024, you told us the same thing: Grow the table wider. Feed our neighbors. Welcome the stranger. Help address childcare and homelessness. That consistency wasn't accidental. It was the Holy Spirit speaking through all of us together.

Now at our collective decision, we've purchased The Farm to help us live out that vision. And we're ready to transform the barn into our church house—but before we do, we're asking you to discern with us one more time: Is this the right direction? Does this align with our shared calling? This is where Cottage Meetings come in.

Cottage Meetings are intimate gatherings (12-14 people) where we ask the questions that matter most: What drew you to Saint Paul's? What are your hopes and dreams for our future? How can you help? Then we listen—really listen—to each other and to the Spirit. This isn't a rubber-stamp meeting. Your voice matters. Your wisdom matters. Your doubts, your questions, your dreams—they all matter. And there is much to discuss, not just the barn as a church house, there is also small groups, Christian formation for our children and youth, and plans for the entire property, as well as whatever else may be on your mind.

Join us. Multiple dates and times are available so you can choose what works for your family. Sign up this Sunday or call the church office. Cottage Meeting Dates & Times: *Sunday, June 28 at noon; Monday, June 29 at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, July 8 at noon & 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, July 12 at noon; Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, July 19 at 1 p.m.; Wednesday, July 22 at noon & 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, July 26 at noon.*



Summer @ The Farm.

From Sunday, June 7, to Sunday, September 6, coffee is brewed and ready in Fellowship Hall for 10 a.m. and our nursery and sensory rooms are staffed and open. While we do not hold our **Faith Connections**

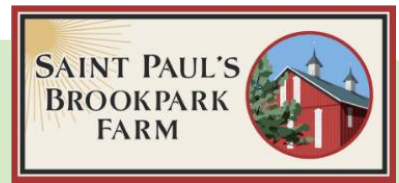
classes during the summer season, Miss Colleen provides a robust and fun curriculum and this year the kiddos will become **Glad Scientists** with a lesson during **Time with Our Children** during worship and continuing with a story and experiment during **Children's Church**. Following worship, please enjoy snacks, lemonade, and fellowship on our beautiful porch. We celebrate **Holy Communion** together on the first Sunday of each month, and **Family Night** is monthly on the 2nd Sunday beginning at 5 p.m. While our Chancel and Bell Choirs take a much-needed respite, each Sunday we welcome musicians for **Special Music**. **Weekdays @ The Farm.** Monday's at 10 a.m. a group gathers for **Monday Morning Reflections**, a relaxing time with Pastor Tim to dig deeper into the scripture from our Sunday service. On Wednesdays is **Lunch with the Pastor on the Porch** from 11:30 to 1:00. Pick up lunch at the Farmer's Market across the bridge from the farm or bring your own and join Pastor Tim. Mid-week, we offer **Wednesday Evening Interactive**, a seasonal book/bible study (returning in September). On the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month is **Friends Who Breakfast**, at Street of Shops (9:45) on the 1st Wednesday and Silver Moon Restaurant (9:30) on the 3rd Wednesday. On the 4th Friday of each month, you can find a Saint Paul's group gathering at Union Cellars Winery for **Word, Wine, and Wisdom**, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Always a fun time as Pastor Tim tosses out a bible word to discuss with laughter and love. **Serving @ The Farm.** Mission and Outreach is an integral part of us "being the church" at Saint Paul's. On the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month, we offer a **Fresh Express Food Distribution** in partnership with the Central PA Food Bank. Volunteers join us from 1 to 5 p.m. at Grace Place @ The Farm as we receive, sort, and distribute fresh food and groceries to our neighbors. All are welcome as we have a wonderful time serving together. Next distributions are July 9 & 23. We also participate in **Community Harvest**, a monthly meal program in conjunction with Bucknell's Center for Community Engaged Leadership, Learning & Research. We cook on the 4th Monday of each month from 1-4 p.m. at St. John's UCC (*next date is July 18*) and assist on select months with monthly distribution there on the 3rd Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Upcoming Worship

June 28 ~ Fifth Sunday after Pentecost ~ "Stop in the Name of Love"
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42 ~ Worship Leader: Sue Overdorf
Lector: Drew Faust ~ Acolyte: Molly Faust ~ Flower Sponsor: Heckman Family
Offering Counters: A. Henry, D. Spear ~ Kitchen Setup: Tina Longan

July 5 ~ Sixth Sunday after Pentecost ~ "Come See About Me"
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 ~ Worship Leader: Lisa Bernard
Lector: Cyndy Kister ~ Acolyte: Emma Hott ~ Flower Sponsor: Pastor Tim & Chip
Communion Assistants: Jen Arnold, Jeanie Council, Rhonda Newton, Donna Spear
Offering Counters: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

*July Usher/Greeters: Don & Peggy Emory, Amy Mahon, Chris & Jen Arnold,
Gary & Donna Bennett, Sue Mahon, Drew Faust, Betsy Pullen*



Brookpark Farm News

There's something sacred about caring for a place—tending it the way a gardener tends soil or a shepherd tends a flock. That's what our Stewardship Team, led by Jen Van Horn and Bob Gift, does daily. Read about some of what we are experiencing.

The Pavilion - A Dream Realized. After nearly a year of planning and hard work, our new Brookpark Pavilion is almost complete! Join us July 19, immediately following worship, for the official opening celebration with a summer picnic and our annual Ice Cream Freeze Off.

We Need You - Next week, we're asking for volunteers to help with final painting and touches. Whether you can spare an hour or an afternoon, please see Jen Van Horn—your presence matters.

Honor a Loved One - We're partnering with a local Amish craftsman for picnic tables (\$220 each). Make a donation in honor, celebration, or memory of someone special. What a beautiful way to bless this space and honor those we love.

Stewardship in Action - Our team is also addressing roof repairs, caring for our old oaks and maples, and supporting tenant projects. Quiet work, but essential.

The Farm is a Gift - And gifts require care. We're grateful for every person who helps tend it. There's always something to do, and there's something deeply spiritual about working together on behalf of a place we love, God's property.