



Saint Paul's Possibilities

September 11, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

I posted a meme this week from a site called "Grace Works" that stopped me and made me want to shout, AMEN! It read: "They may color through the sermon, fall asleep during worship, or ask a hundred questions. (And yes, some may be on their devices.) Bring them anyway. They don't have to understand faith today. Our job is to plant the seed. God will grow it in God's time. Keep bringing them. Keep showing them. Keep planting."

I have to tell you: I am so very proud of the children in this faith family. Every. Single. One. Of. Them. They are unique, funny, and growing in beautiful ways, and I love them just as they are.

On Sunday, I was reminded of something wonderful when five of our children came to sit in the front rows. Some of them were even caring for the younger ones. Did you know that children often listen better to older children than they do to parents, grandparents, or other adults? And while they may fidget or squirm, they are getting it. They can probably repeat back more of what I said—or what they heard during worship—than some of the adults in the room. And that's beautiful. I believe they are exactly where they should be: in church, on the front row, present and learning (and teaching).

But it doesn't start or stop with worship. Many of our children are here for fellowship with their friends, running and playing and having a great time. But they're also learning and growing as they help us serve our neighbors. Look at how many children come to help with Fresh Express. More than a dozen of them came to pack Wildcat Backpacks on Monday—from three different school systems, working side by side.

And that's cool too! These kids don't all go to the same school or even the same school system. On any given day, we have children from at least six different school systems as part of this family. They play together, learn together, gather around the tables together, and have fun together. Some are self-appointed greeters. Others are quiet and shy. Some hang out in the corner. Others would prefer to be on the chancel, some sit back and help Patty direct the choir from their seats. And it's all good, because they are here, and seeds are being planted.

Our children range in age from newborn to college age. Together, they are a mirror of who we are at Saint Paul's: a diverse, fun, wonderfully crazy big family. And they teach us. They remind us often of who we are, whose we are, and how we are called to live in community.

So, to the parents who worry or fret: let them be. To the parents who question whether the kids even get it, or whether it's important to have them here: rest assured, it matters deeply—for them and for us. Yes, we are planting seeds in them. But they are also challenging us and our way of being the church, they are planting their own seeds. And that's a very good thing.

I want to invite you to show up for them whenever you can. Be it a football game, soccer match, or field hockey game. A dance recital, cheerleading competition, or gymnastics meet. Wherever they are, we need to be there too. And I'm telling you from experience: taking the time to be present, no matter how hard or easy it may be, is a true gift. It's the epitome of receiving when we give of our time and presence. Our presence in their lives plants seeds that will last a lifetime.



Linda Beaver
Diane Buck
Baby Elliott
Merle Kay Englehart
Patti Faux
Rebecca Foote
Sharon Foust
Shirley Franquet

The Gault Family
Ellie Guerrero
Ivy Rosboschil
Lisa Rule
Shelly Sholley
Ben Spickler
Amanda Unzueta
Tommy Ward

So, join me. Be present. Greet the children in this family. Invite them to help. Look for them as ushers, greeters, and helpers. Go watch them on the field or dance floor or wherever they are.

The prophet Isaiah said, "A child shall lead us." And a child did. When that child became an adult, he shared with us in Mark 10 and Luke 18 that we should all be like children—seeking and depending on God with a trusting nature, receiving the kingdom as a little child receives a gift.

So as many seeds as we hope we are planting in our children, I pray we are allowing them to plant seeds in us as well. Thanks be to God.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

1,260 Meals (plus Snacks) in Under an Hour! What did you do for Labor Day this year? On Monday morning, just before 10 a.m., thirty-three members and friends of Saint Paul's gathered to pack 180 meal bags for children in the Mifflinburg School District. Each bag contained two breakfasts, two lunches, and three dinners—1,260 meals in all, plus snacks—destined for 100 elementary and 80 middle-school children who need support when school is not in session. We do this to help ensure our most vulnerable children have meals to eat during the times they need them most. We get to serve others by providing food, and on Monday morning, before the hot dogs hit the grill for our last summer celebration, fifteen kids from Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Milton showed up with parents, grandparents, and friends to do just that. Was it wild? Yes. Was it fun and crazy? Absolutely. Was it a true blessing? Oh, my, yes. So, thank you to Ashley Rosboschil, who graciously agreed to lead this project, and to Autumn Faust for assisting Ashley to help make it happen. And once again, thank you to members of the Mifflinburg Girls Field Hockey team who joined us in serving our neighbors. To all who helped make this way to serve possible, we say with grateful hearts: "Well done, good and faithful servants, well done."



Taking Faith Home—What? Isn't that stuff just for the church on Sunday mornings? Do you talk much about your faith at home during the week? Do you ever sit down together and just explore? Well, here's something we are excited to share with everyone. You'll find a new initiative inside the Possibilities this week, perhaps it already fell into your lap! We know you are busy, often

hustling between activities and work. We hope that since you regularly join us in worship @ The Farm, you have a desire to grow in your faith. Balancing these two things can be tricky and we'd like to help. We'll be including "Taking Faith Home" in the bulletin for the next several weeks. Taking Faith Home is a small, well thought out devotional that gives busy households simple, flexible tools to connect worship with daily life. It is our hope that this will encourage you and your household to carry the message of God's love from worship into your everyday routines, conversations, and relationships.

Wednesday Interactive—A Truly Interactive Experience. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Room. You, yes you, all of you are welcome. We're thrilled to welcome you back to Wednesday Interactive, our immersive study group designed to deepen your roots, strengthen relationships, and draw closer to the Holy. This is a truly open conversation—a sacred space where questions are embraced, voices are heard, and faith is explored together. This year we're beginning with "Awe Walks / Experiences." Each week, you'll be invited to seek out God in ordinary activities throughout your daily life, noticing where the Holy shows up in unexpected places. Then we'll gather to share how you've experienced God's presence among us. It's a beautiful way to discover that the sacred is woven throughout our everyday moments. Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning from our spring gatherings, there's something here for everyone. Come as you are. Come ready to engage. Come expecting beautiful moments of grace and genuine community. We look forward to seeing you.

What's Happening in Sunday Morning Faith Formation & Music?

For the children . . . Our children's Sunday school class will be exploring the lectionary passage(s) for the week using the Faith5 model. We are using the 5 simple steps of SHARE, READ, TELL, PRAY, and BLESS to encourage caring conversation and grow in our faith. It is the perfect environment to learn how to use the Bible and practice spoken prayer with our peers. If your children aren't already participating in our 9 a.m. Sunday morning Faith Formation classes, please know they are invited to join us. Miss Colleen, Miss Krysta, and Miss Katy are all here to help them learn and grow and have fun doing so. Please see Miss Colleen for questions.

For the adults . . . Prayer is mysterious and practical, it is both simple and really hard. Above all else prayer is powerful. Join us this fall for our weekly prayer workshop beginning October 4 at 9 a.m. in the Gathering Room with Nicole and Dale Cuer. This time together is an informal discussion and opportunity to practice prayer.

For the music lovers . . . The Chancel and Bell Choirs have returned to weekly rehearsals and there is always room for more! These groups are the heartbeat of our worship, and we hope you will consider joining one (or both) of these groups. Chancel Choir rehearses Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. and Bell Choir on Wednesdays at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. And watch for information about our Children's Choir.



Brookpark Farm Corporate News. Just a quick update to say that our new tenant **Executive Level Limited**, a men's fine clothing store with a long-established customer base, will be opening next week! We hope you will stop in to meet the owner, Rob Ferguson, and check out his amazing line of men's clothing. We're honored to have him here at Brookpark Farm!



On the Journey Together

Sundays @ The Farm. At 9 a.m. our coffee is brewing, and the nursery and sensory rooms are staffed and open. **Faith Connections** classes for all

Upcoming Worship

September 13 ~ 16th Sunday after Pentecost
"You're In My Way"

Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

Worship Leader: Drew Faust

Lector: Kate Schaeffer

Acolyte: Lucy Rosboschil

Flower Sponsor: Church & Lisa Bernard

Breakfast Sponsors: Nielsen, Franciscus,

Spear, Longan ~ Kitchen: Kathy

Offering Counters: S. Brown, D. Spear

September 20 ~ 17th Sunday after Pentecost
"Let's Be Fair Here!"

Jonah 3:10-4:11; Matthew 20:1-16

Worship Leader: Drew Faust

Lector: Michelle Dressler

Acolyte: Emerson Council

Flower Sponsor: Roxann Deitrick

Breakfast Sponsors: The Arnold Family

Kitchen: Tina

Offering Counters: E. Fisher D. Spear

September Usher/Greeters: Earl & Terri Fisher,
Sue Mahon, Carol Oberlin, Amy Mahon, Steve Brown,
Bob Gift, George Mull, Shelly Sholley

ages run from 9 to 10 a.m. From 10 a.m. to 10:25, please enjoy breakfast, coffee, and fellowship then worship begins at 10:30. Following the "Time with Our Children," during worship, kiddos aged 3 to 2nd grade head back to the classroom for "**Children's Church**" and return to worship following Pastor Tim's sermon. On

the first Sunday of each month, we celebrate **Holy Communion** together. And, monthly on the 2nd Sunday, we enjoy **Family Night** beginning at 5 p.m. (First one is October 11) On the **3rd Sunday of each month**, we gather around the tables in fellowship hall for a meal together.

Music @ The Farm. Our **Chancel Choir**, directed by Patty Wagner with Sharon Styer, pianist, rehearses each Sunday morning from 9 to 10. Our choir averages 25+ singers and there's always room for more! We also have a **Hand Bell Choir** which rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 and plays for worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The **Children's Choir** practices from 9:45 to 10:05 and bless our worship time once a month with their selections.

Weekdays @ The Farm. Each Monday 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** from 11:30 to 1:00. Pick up

Birthday Celebrations

Bill Bernard - 9/11
Deb O'Hara - 9/11
Alexander Shoemaker - 9/11
Drew Faust - 9/12
Chloe Bastian - 9/16
Olivia Hockenbrock - 9/16
Reba Rohrer - 9/16
Lucy Rosboschil - 9/17
Terri Fisher - 9/18
Morgan Richard - 9/18
Elliana Rupert - 9/18

lunch at the Farmer's Market across the bridge from the farm or bring your own and join Pastor Tim. Then on Wednesday evenings, we offer **Wednesday Evening Interactive**, a seasonal book/bible study (starting 9/9). On the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month is **Friends Who Breakfast**, a popular time to gather to catch up over conversation and 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 September 24 and October 8. We also participate in

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 ~ 9/6/26

Attendance: 124 (2 visitors)

LIVE Attendance: 1,083

Virtual Reach: 9,000

Christian Education: 27

Plate Giving: 1,750.00

Loose Plate: 303.00

Online Giving: 965.05

Operational Total: 3,018.05

Restricted Giving: 115.00

Total Giving: 3,133.05

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 and assist on select months with monthly distribution there on the 3rd Saturday

from 9 a.m. to noon. Our next cooking date is Monday, September 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. See Terri Kremer with questions. Saint Paul's also has a "Little Red Wagon" which you will find on the porch at the entrance to our sanctuary. This is where you can drop off shelf-stable food items to help keep our emergency food pantry stocked. As well, if you wish to donate grocery or gas gift cards to help our neighbors in need, you may drop those in the offering plate during worship. **The current needs for our emergency food pantry are: cans of soup, boxes of mac and cheese, and bottles of juice.**

