



Saint Paul's Possibilities

October 10, 2025

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Family,

I want to share some wonderful highlights from The Farm this week and express gratitude to those who make our church home so special.

First, Celebrating Five Years with Donna

This past Monday, **Donna Spear**, our Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper, celebrated five years on staff! Through a pandemic, three locations, and two moves, she has provided extraordinary support to our entire congregation—and especially to me. She's implemented new automations, upgraded our systems and Church Data Membership software, and kept everything running smoothly through weddings, funerals, baptisms, new members, Soup & Bake sales, church luncheons, holidays, music programs, and of course worship, to name a few things. During this time, she's also navigated significant personal milestones, not the least of which was defeating breast cancer, the weddings of both of her daughters, and the loss of her mother-in-law. In pure Donna fashion, she accomplished all of this while remaining steadfast in her service to us Saint Paul's @ The Farm!

Please join me in thanking Donna for her faithful presence among us. God has truly blessed us through her, and we pray His continued blessing upon her in the years ahead.

A Summer of Welcome

I also want to recognize those who have made The Farm so inviting this year:

- Thank you to the nearly two dozen families who provided geraniums on Pentecost to honor, memorialize, and celebrate loved ones. These beautiful flowers, planted and lovingly cared for by **Bob Gift**, have welcomed countless visitors throughout the summer.
- **Kathy Showers** gifted and planted the lovely pots on our porch, while **Tina Longin** faithfully watered them all summer long. Tina has also kept the porch clean and welcoming—a perfect space for lunch, fellowship, and Bible Study.
- This fall, **Joanie Weaver** donated corn shocks, and **Ryan Byerly** provided pumpkins, gourds, and hay, creating a warm, seasonal welcome for everyone who visits.

While **Steve Brown** works tirelessly to keep all our spaces clean and inviting, these volunteers add an extra layer of joy and beauty to our church home.

Our New Faith Space

Finally, I want to celebrate the completion of our new "Faith Space"—located through the door behind the piano in the Sanctuary. Under the leadership of **Doug Kister** and **Jen VanHorn**, more than a dozen volunteers transformed a storage area into a beautiful, functional gathering space. Already in use for Adult Faith Connections, this room will serve meetings, Bible Study groups, and as additional quiet prayer space. Thank you to everyone who made this project possible.

I am grateful beyond measure for each person who gives of their time, talent, and heart to make The Farm a place of welcome, worship, growth and love. Together we are the church, together we are community.

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
Patricia Beck
Paula Cooper
The Engle Family
Family of Aiden Ha
Al & Ruth Henry
Noah Kozick
Kasey Milheim
Ed & Eileen Prowant
Ben Spickler
Tommy Ward
Beth Weisler
Debbie Williams
Russ & Donna Wynn
Zimmerman Family
Unspoken Requests

*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.*

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

October, the Month of Awareness. In October we honor and remember both Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness and Breast Cancer Awareness. Both have impacted families among us here at Saint Paul's and thus impact us all.



*Christmas Box,
Angel of Hope
by Richard Paul Evans*

We Pause, We Remember, We Reflect... October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. Miscarriage, stillbirth, and other conditions can cause a pregnancy to end before or during birth. Infant death can be caused by preterm birth, birth defects, and other health conditions. October has been set aside to intentionally honor those who've experienced loss, to eliminate stigmatism and bring awareness of resources for families facing unthinkable challenges and struggling with unimaginable loss to find hope, answers, and a sense of community. While Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is October 15, we seek to help families know they are never forgotten and are not alone.

We Encourage, Celebrate and Remember... October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities to increase awareness of the disease and raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure. In 2025, it's estimated that about 317,000 women and 2,800 men in the U.S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer, for a total of approximately 320,000 people. This makes breast cancer the most common cancer diagnosis in American women and the most common cancer diagnosis overall for men and women. This month is set aside to draw attention to testing, early diagnosis, research and support for victims and families who face this diagnosis. We seek to encourage and remind those diagnosed and their families they too are never alone.



Share Your Christmas Story. As a part of this year's Advent and Christmas celebrations for daily readings, we are looking for 38 individual stories (between 250 and 400 words) of your favorite Christmas memory to be compiled in a booklet and shared. We have received one beautiful story so far and hope you will consider writing and sharing, too. Stories may be sent to Donna (admin@spuccfarm.org) no later than Monday, October 27 so they may be compiled and formatted for the booklet that will be available to all families by November 23. Please prayerfully consider sharing your favorite Christmas story in this way. Questions, please reach out to Pastor Tim. Thank you in advance for your willingness to share in this way.



Barnyard Sale and Soup Pre-Orders! Many wonderful items have been donated for our first "Barnyard Sale" and there's still time for more. Drop off items on Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and Sundays after worship. Wednesday, November 5, will be the "preview barnyard sale" and then again on Saturday, November 8, during our annual Soup, Bake, and Craft Sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Speaking of soup ... pre-order quarts of ham & bean, chicken corn, vegetable beef, and chicken tortellini through October 24 by visiting our website homepage to order online or fill out a paper order form. All proceeds support local missions!





October Events Continue! Sunday, October 12, is our annual **Pet Blessing** in the Meadow at 4 p.m. followed by Family Night with a potluck dinner and **Pumpkin Carving!** Our monthly church meal is October 19 as we celebrate **Octoberfest** and our **125th Anniversary**. Plan now to attend and stay for lunch. Bring a side dish or dessert to share along with brats and sauerkraut which will be provided. Our monthly 4th Friday **Word, Wine, and Wisdom** at Union Cellars is October 24. This is a glorious time of the year to be at the vineyard, and we hope you will join your faith family at 4 p.m. for this time of fun conversation and of course laughter! We will round out October with our 3rd annual **Monstrous Love Sunday** on October 26, featuring our annual Monster Truck display, Trunk or Treat, a Petting Zoo, hot dogs, and more! Start gathering candy and planning your costume for trunk or treat (*sign up in Fellowship Hall to let us know if you will sponsor a trunk this year*). If you would like to provide a bag of candy for the trunk or treat, please drop off at the church office.

New Member Sunday! Our next official New Member Sunday is November 16. If you are contemplating official membership within this faith community or would just like to learn more about us and the beliefs, hopes, and dreams of this community, on this journey, please reach out to Pastor Tim. Call for a specific appointment or just stop by as he is around the church daily Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday and of course most other days, too.

Saint Paul's Little Red Wagon.

A long tradition and one of the ways we offer help in our community is through our Emergency Food Pantry at Grace Place here @ The Farm. You may have noticed the "little red wagon" that sits outside the Sanctuary doors on the porch. If you wish to help keep our Emergency Food Pantry shelves stocked, you may drop off shelf stable items into the little red wagon on Sunday morning or anytime during the week. You may also donate by using an offering envelope on Sunday during worship and labeling it for "Food Pantry" missions. Follow the little red wagon to the back page to see a list of needed items. Neighbors helping neighbors... we thank you for your help in this way.

Upcoming Worship

October 12 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost
 "Are You Taking Those Odds?"
 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19
 Worship Leader: Jen Arnold
 Lector: Morgan Richard
 Acolyte: Charley Jo Kister
 Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan
 Breakfast Sponsor: Faust/Kazibwe/Oberlin
 Flowers Sponsor: The Smallest Gift
 Offering Counter: C. Franciscus, D. Spear

October 19 ~ 19th Sunday after Pentecost
 "And Still..."
 Jeremiah 31:27-34; Luke 18:1-8
 Worship Leader: Jen Arnold
 Lector: Merle Kay Englehart
 Acolyte: Cato Kazibwe
 Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers
 Breakfast Sponsor: Lisa & Bill Bernard
 Flowers Sponsor: Available
 Offering Counter: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

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

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...
 Kathy Rowe - 10/10
 Dean Haven - 10/12
 Richard Armstrong - 10/13
 Barb Koch - 10/14
 Kimberly Adams - 10/15
 Rhett Sample - 10/15
 Jon Hagan - 10/16
 Timothy Adams - 10/21
 Chip Eschbach - 10/21
 Betsy Pullen - 10/21
 Delilah Sample - 10/22
 Beth Vincent - 10/23

Happy Anniversary to ...
 Dennis Burns & Deb O'Hara - 10/11
 Barb & Bob Koch - 10/14
 Sergio Marques & Allen Fasnacht - 10/24



Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know in the church office so that we may celebrate with you!

Have you returned your Church Directory Information and Talent Survey yet? Each year we like to refresh our lists for the ways in which you share your talents in service, fellowship, worship, and Christian Formation with your faith community and to ensure we have updated information for our Church Directory for all of our families. Please take a moment to complete the green survey and return to the Sanctuary Welcome Desk by October 26.

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. Our **Faith Connections** classes run from 9 to 10 a.m. and include Pre-K to 3rd Grade “**Explorers**” with Miss Colleen, 4th to 8th Grade “**Pathfinders**” with Miss Krysta, and 9th Grade to Age 99 “**Travelers**” with Nicole and Dale Cuer. From 10 a.m. to 10:20, 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**” with Miss Colleen 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** together from 5 to 6:45 (October 12). **Confirmation Class** with Pastor Tim and Miss Lisa meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. And, on the **3rd Sunday of each month**, we gather around the tables in fellowship hall for a meal together following worship (October 19 is Octoberfest).

Stewardship

Gift & Offerings ~ 10/5/2025

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

Attendance: 150 (5 visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 636
Virtual Reach: 3,900
Christian Education: 52

Plate Giving:	1,802.00
Loose Plate:	187.00
Online Giving:	727.84
Operational Total:	2,716.84
Restricted Giving:	837.00
Total Giving:	4,237.55

Weekdays @ The Farm. Each Monday at 11:30 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 “**Pastor on the Porch**” from 11:30 to 1. Pick up 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 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. On the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month is “**Friends Who Breakfast**.” This has become 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 (October 15). 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. (October 24). Always a fun time as Pastor Tim tosses out a bible word to discuss with laughter and love.

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 5:15 to 6:15 and plays for worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The **Children’s Choir** practices during a portion of the Faith Connection classes with Miss Ashley and they bless our worship time once a month with their selections.



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** (October 23) 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. (Featured pictures: Miss Emma and Miss Charley Jo helped with our Fresh Express Food Distribution on October 9. God’s little hands are big helpers!) We also participate in

Community Harvest, a monthly distribution on the 3rd Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon (October 18) at St. John’s UCC and in conjunction with Bucknell’s Center for Community Engaged Leadership, Learning & Research. And, Saint Paul’s has a long history of offering an “**Emergency Food Pantry**” that we lovingly refer to as our “Little Red Wagon” giving. The pantry is located in Grace Place @ the Farm and current needs that can be dropped in the wagon are: **Canned fruits, vegetables, and soups, oatmeal, pasta, box potatoes, tuna and hamburger helper, shelf stable milk, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, mac & cheese, tuna, salmon, canned meats, and grocery gift cards.**



Saint Paul's @ The Farm
A United Church of Christ Community

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Church Website: <https://www.spuccfarm.org>