



Saint Paul's Possibilities

May 8, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

Have you ever woken up in the middle of the night, wide awake? Thinking what just happened? I woke up at 3:30 a.m. Wednesday morning with a hymn on my mind. Not really a big surprise there.

It was recently pointed out to me by someone that between 3 and 4 a.m. is considered the “witching hour.” The time in which many spiritual traditions believe the spiritual veil is thinnest, making it a common time for dreams or sudden awakenings related to spirits, significant of people who have died in our lives to be communicating with us because we are meant to learn from them or get closure.

Well, a 3:30 a.m. awakening Wednesday morning points to someone special on my mind. And for those of you who know him and know me, you will not be surprised it was a hymn on my mind the moment I awoke.

The hymn: “Taste and See.”

And after about 20 minutes of lying there with this hymn running through my head, I got up and went to my computer and pulled up the full lyrics.

...Taste and see the Lord has been good to me.

...my soul shall glory in the Lord, for God has been good to me.

...through all of my troubles I have been set free.

I immediately thought of Pastor Ed. Maybe it was him waking me up, reminding me, though he said to me as late as Sunday night, he still had work to do, that it was ok, for God had been good to him, he often reminded me, and undoubted himself, of that fact.

It was an honor to be his pastor to get to sit and listen to his theological musings in Bible Studies twice a week, when Eileen was able, she used to join. I had heard his feelings and disappointments, some of the church and some personal for not being able to serve more and do more. We heard his sadness and his joy.

On Sunday night he had lamented having to miss, a board of ordained ministry meeting, and was hoping to be able, in a couple of weeks, to bring the message for Pentecost for us and was looking forward to a new prayer ministry with Chaplain Kate, here at the church.

We were gifted with something at Saint Paul's something no one else before had been gifted with and that was a retired Ed and Eileen. We got to experience their jabs at one another, Eileen's “oh Ed” and his frustrations and constant admirations of her. Five years ago, the Prowant's quickly became a part of our beautiful faith family.

Eileen connected with our music program and even played and sang beautifully in our talent shows, inviting me to sing a duet with her at one time. And Ed, in a moment of personal reflection used to encourage me and offer words of support whether for a sermon or for the way we were handling the business and the direction of the church, he would often say, “now this is church.” It felt like we were meeting the approval of a learned and wonderful old preacher and that was encouraging in itself. He touched our hearts, all of our hearts, deeply.

Please Pray for

Laurie Anderson
Linda Beaver
John & Stephanie Bondhus
James Bowman
Traci Eschbach
Patti Faux
Rebecca Foote
Jayce Heckman
Robin Huffman
Jack Knelly
Family of Ed Prowant
Chuck Schworer
Amanda Unzueta
Tommy Ward
Family of Barclay Wilson
Joan Yeziorski
All service personnel
Unrest in our world

On Sunday morning, May third, just 30 hours before his final heart attack, I got to do something I didn't often get to do, I got to share communion with Ed, because he didn't feel stable enough on his feet that day to stand and offer the bread, so I got to serve him. I will forever be grateful. As I placed the broken body in his hands and shared the words of radical extravagant love, Ed looked me in the eye and said one last time "Thanks be to God." He had come to taste and see.

So, when the lyrics came to mind when I awoke at 3:30 Wednesday morning, and I got up and read the full hymn lyrics, the words turned a light on for me, and I could hear Ed saying, even though he had shared his personal and professional trials, his laments about their losing children, his and Eileen's health, as soon as I read those lyrics: to taste and see, Ed's words came flooding back to me, "through all of my troubles I have been set free," taste and see. I get it. He had been set free.

Selfish as I am for myself and our community of faith, for Doug and Janice and the grandchildren, for wanting to hold on to Ed, we need to hear these words and remember God has been good to us to share Ed with us, and we too should remember when we taste the goodness in what God has done for us, we shall see he has been set free.

So may we give thanks for Ed, and every time we partake in communion, may we taste and see what Ed lived his whole life believing: that through every trial and joy, God has been good to us. Thanks be to God.

Be good to you, be good to one another, and may we forever taste and see and know God's goodness, even or especially at 3:30 a.m.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim

The Farm Report

15 Days To Finish Strong. The Keystone Conference 50 Days of Easter Food Challenge! Resurrection isn't just something we celebrate on Easter Sunday. It's something we live every single day when we choose to share what we have with our neighbors who need it most.



On Easter Sunday, April 5, we began the Keystone Conference 50 Days of Easter Challenge—and you have shown up in beautiful, generous ways. Families collecting food and toiletries for fifty days. Cans stacking up. Boxes filling. Neighbors being fed. This is what resurrection looks like when it walks out of the tomb and into our community.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Kim Ritter - 5/11

Marie Weaver - 5/13

Finnley Moyer - 5/14

Kevin Styer - 5/14

Cindy Myers - 5/15



Happy Anniversary to ...

Dean & Nancy Haven - 5/10

David & Kelly Kazibwe - 5/12

And now, with just *15 days remaining*, we want to celebrate how far we've come—and invite you into a strong finish. Across Pennsylvania, all 512 congregations in the Keystone Conference are participating in this challenge together. It's the first conference-wide effort of our new two-year initiative to "Grow the Table Wider" and help end hunger in our state. What better time to begin than Easter? What better way to live out the resurrection story than by feeding our neighbors—sharing Christ alive in us and in our communities?

Every item you've donated supports our own emergency pantry and both Little Free Pantry locations—here at the church and at Lewisburg Pharmacy. Your generosity means our neighbors who are food insecure, no matter the reason, can find dignity and help when they need it most. This isn't charity. This is discipleship. This is the resurrection made real.

So, here's our invitation for these final 15 days:

Let's sprint to the finish.

Grab an extra box of pasta when you're at the store. Pick up toiletries. Toss in canned goods. Bring them to church or drop them in the Little Red Wagon out front or the baskets here up front. Let's show our community—and ourselves—that there is enough for everyone if we but share our resources with one another.

Because when we sit down around tables in our Fellowship Hall, when we open our doors as a food pantry, when we support a neighbor's pantry or meal program, we are living proof that the table is wide enough. That love is abundant. That resurrection is happening now.

Fifteen days left. Let's finish strong. Let's grow the table wider together. And if you've forgotten the list or missed a week or two, above is the full list one more time.

April 5-11: Canned Fruit

April 12-18: Canned Vegetables

April 19-25: Cereal / Cake Mixes

April 26-May 2: Pasta and Sauce

May 3-9: Boxed Potatoes, Rice, Stuffing

**May 10-17: Peanut Butter, Jelly,
Cooking Oil, Shelf Stable Milk**

**May 18-24: Dish Soap, Paper Products
(Towels, Toilet Tissue, Tissues)**

May 25-June 1: Personal-Sized Toiletries



Here are some great ways to connect with your faith family in the coming weeks:

**May 17 following worship
Mother's Day Luncheon in
Fellowship Hall**

**May 22 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Word, Wine, and Wisdom
at Union Cellars**

**May 24 at 5 p.m.
Our Annual Challenger Baseball
picnic at the Mifflinburg Field on
8th Street**

**June 14 at 5:30 p.m.
At the New Berlin Field, it's flags
and ice cream. Come celebrate
these athletes, and share
something sweet together**

**June 21 at 10:30 a.m.
Our worship service this day will
be held at Central Oak Heights
followed by a picnic and games!**

Before the Parades Pass By. This year your Saint Paul's family will be participating in two annual parades. First, the Union County July 4 Veteran's Parade on Saturday, June 27, at 10 a.m. Second, is the 50th Annual Milton Harvest Festival Parade on Saturday, September 19, at 1 p.m. Each parade this year will be celebrating our country's nation's semi quincentennial—250 years.

To prepare for the parades, if you would like to walk, ride, or be on the parade route cheering us on, we invite you to wear your Saint Paul's apparel. We are taking special orders for Saint Paul's t-shirts in two different colors with our church logo on the front and "Be The Church" language on the back. Sign up to order during church on Sunday morning or by the church office.

And don't forget, beginning June 3, we will start building our float on Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings plus some evenings leading up to the parade. No experience necessary—just bring enthusiasm and your willingness to create something beautiful together. There's something sacred about building something by hand with your faith family.

Upcoming Worship

May 10 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

"What's Your Story?"

1 Peter 3:13-16a; John 14:15-21

Worship Leader: Niki Weber

Lector: Barb Wagner

Acolyte: Rhett Sample

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: Joni Shoemaker

Flower Sponsor: Frank Wetzel

Offering Counter: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

May 17 ~ Ascension Sunday

"Pray It Is So"

Acts 1:6-14; John 17:1-11

Worship Leader: Niki Weber

Lector: Dennis Burns

Acolyte: Finn Rosboschil

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsor: Rhonda Newton

Flower Sponsor: Available

Offering Counter: A. Mahon, D. Spear

May Usher/Greeter Team: Bill & Lisa Bernard, Louise Litzy, Joanna Johnson, Tracy & Scott Baylor, Reba Rohrer, Chris Warner, Kim Ritter

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**; 4th to 8th Grade **Pathfinders**; and 9th Grade to Age 99 **Travelers**. 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**” 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. 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 5:15 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 Sharon and Miss Ashley and they bless our worship time once a month with their selections.

Featured picture this week: During “Time with Our Children” last week, Miss Colleen connected all the children with the string from a ball of yarn ... telling the story of our connectedness through our faith.

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 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. 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 May 14 & 28. 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 and assist on select months with monthly distribution there on the 3rd Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Stewardship

Gifts & Offerings ~ 5/3/26
Attendance: 160 (3 visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 1,206
Virtual Reach: 22,209
Christian Education: 44

Plate Giving:	3,977.00
Loose Plate:	277.00
Online Giving:	<u>1,574.50</u>
Operational Total:	5,828.50
Restricted Giving:	<u>350.00</u>
Total Giving:	6,178.50

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

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