Saint Paul's Possibilities

November 13, 2026 **News & Ways to Engage**

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

A few weeks ago, we shared the bittersweet news that Donna Spear is retiring, and we remembered together how she first came to us just over six years ago in what could only be described as a true "God moment." From her very first day, Donna fell in love with this faith community, and we fell in love with her. Since that announcement, so many of you have shared tender, heartfelt comments like, "What will we ever do without her?" and "I am going to miss her so much!"

Here is the good news: Donna isn't going anywhere! As she has been reassuring everyone, she will still be right here among us—singing in the choir, playing in the bell choir, and lending a hand around the church. Donna is family, always will be, and we certainly aren't letting her go. Hey, she's a new grandmother and we can all benefit from the glow that brings. She remains a cherished part of our faith family who deserves a great thanks for all she has done and brought to the table.



Today, I am overjoyed to share another wonderful God moment with you. Once Donna made her decision to retire, there happened to be a candidate we both thought of almost instantly—a former Milton High School business student of Donna's and one of the newest members of our own faith family: Susan Bastian.

When I reached out to Susan, as God's timing would have it, she was looking for more hours and had just begun a new job search. She came in to shadow Donna for a day, talked things over with her family, and enthusiastically called us back to let us know she was absolutely interested. Our leadership team gathered and joyfully extended an offer. Susan's first official day will be Monday, November 30, when she will begin working side by side with Donna for training and getting to know all the ins and outs of our church office.

Susan comes to us with wonderful experience, having served most recently as an Administrative Assistant at another area church. In her new role, she will care for the many vital administrative duties of Saint Paul's, which Donna currently handles—supporting myself, our staff, the Consistory, and our entire faith family.

Susan lives in Milton with her husband, Chad. Together, they have two children, Chad Jr., who works for North Shore Railroad in Williamsport and Chloe, who will graduate this year from Milton Area High School. Susan attended Northampton Community College, where she earned a Library Technical Assistant Certificate. Over the years, in addition to being a church administrator for the past four years, she has served as a secretary / library aide with the Milton Area School District and worked as a Digital Literacy Specialist at CSIU.

Susan loves Disney, traveling, caring for her mother and family, singing in the church choir—and, as many of us may soon discover, collecting vintage Pyrex. Her love of Pyrex is one of those delightful details that makes Susan wonderfully, unmistakably Susan.

She brings a warm spirit, a servant's heart, and a genuine delight to everything she does. God has continually blessed our faith community with an extraordinary staff, and we are so grateful that Susan is now part of this amazing team! With Susan's arrival, we are adjusting our church office hours slightly to better serve our congregation and community, beginning January 1, 2027:

Church Office Hours:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday:	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Tuesday and Thursday:	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Susan will be in the office Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Nicole Cuer (Ministry Support Coordinator): Continuing her faithful ministry supporting both the church and Saint Paul's Brookpark, Corporation, will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., coordinating church support alongside Susan.

In all three of these gifted individuals—Donna, Susan, and Nicole—you will quickly see why we believe we are so richly blessed by God through the sharing of gifts and talents with us all.

Please join me in extending a warm, enthusiastic Saint Paul's Farm family welcome to Susan! Keep an eye out for details on our upcoming Retirement Celebration for Donna in late December, and please be sure to offer Nicole a word of thanks for her continued service and dedication. Together, we love and serve the church with the shared goal of creating a sacred, safe space for all of God's children, where love abounds.

With love, gratitude, and great excitement, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

Introducing "Holidays @ The Farm." Over the past several weeks—and truthfully, over the last few seasons—we have had some wonderful conversations about giving our annual Soup, Bake, Craft, Wreath, and Barnyard Sale a simpler, catchier name! As we kept adding new and wonderful elements to the day, the title grew right along with it until it was quite a mouthful. As we stepped back and looked at the big picture, we realized something special: this gathering is really the grand kickoff to our entire holiday season here at Saint Paul's. So, why not bring all of our seasonal celebrations together under one warm, recognizable umbrella? Beginning in 2026, our entire season of festive gatherings will be known as Holidays @ The Farm. Under this shared banner, each distinct event will have its own clear, easy-to-identify name:



- ***The Holiday Market*** *(soups, sweets, crafts, wreaths, barnyard treasures and more)*
- ***Thanksgiving Luncheon & Dinner***
- ***Hanging of the Greens***
- ***The Advent Concert Series***
- ***Children's Remembrance Service***
- ***Blue Christmas Service***
- ***The Christmas Pageant & Dinner***
- ***Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Services***

Having this seasonal umbrella helps both our faith family and our wider community immediately recognize that all of these joyful events are part of one loving, welcoming holiday home. So, in the spirit of our beautiful church family and all the traditions we hold dear, we are delighted to present to you: **Holidays @ The Farm 2026!**

Holidays @ The Farm 2026: The Holiday Market Recap. What an incredible kickoff! This past Wednesday, we wrapped up our first official event of the season, The Holiday Market, and it was an extraordinary success. Between untold gallons of delicious homemade soup, tables overflowing with mouthwatering baked goods, beautiful, handcrafted treasures (from sand art and pottery to shell crafts and holiday gifts), fresh fragrant wreaths, a hearty lunch, and our second annual Barnyard Sale, The Farm was buzzing with joy, fellowship, and neighborly love.



Best of all, thanks to your overwhelming generosity, hard work, and support, The Holiday Market generated over $8,000 for local missions! Every single dollar—100% of the proceeds—stays right here in our local community. These funds allow us to help neighbors facing food and housing insecurity, assist with winter heating bills, provide emergency food relief, and continue building a safe, sacred space for all of God's children. This is what it looks like to be the church in action.

An event of this scale takes a tremendous team of dedicated servants, and we want to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who made it possible:

- *Amy Rearick & Donna Spear for heading up the soup sale, along with every single person who chopped, stirred, cooked, and packaged soup*
- *Lisa Bernard for her wonderful oversight and assistance with the craft area*
- *Carol Snyder for organizing our delicious bake sale*
- *Tina & Tim Longan, along with Terri Fisher for preparing, stocking, and running the kitchen so seamlessly*
- *Cyndy Kister (our Barnyard Sale Mastermind!), along with Terri Kremer and Kathy Showers, for their amazing organizational and oversight skills out in the barn*
- *Shelly Sholley & Jeanie Counsil for serving as our cheerful cashiers for soup, crafts, and baked goods*
- *Amy Armstrong & Gloria Lehman for handcrafting our beautiful bows and managing wreath sales;*
- *And to the many, many volunteers who set up, cleaned up, parked cars, welcomed guests, and lent a helping hand throughout the week!*



Thank you to everyone who baked, crafted, shopped, cooked, and served. You made this year's market a true blessing for our community!

What's Next for Holidays @ The Farm 2026? The season is just getting started! Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for these upcoming gatherings:

- **Thanksgiving Day Family Dinner** *Thursday, November 26 @ 12:00 noon* (Fellowship Hall)
  A warm, welcoming community meal for anyone looking for family and fellowship on Thanksgiving Day. Turkey and trimmings provided!
- **Hanging of the Greens** *Saturday, November 28 @ 9:00 a.m.*
  Come help us deck the halls and prepare our worship spaces for the Advent season.
- **Advent Concert Series Kickoff: Concerts & Desserts** *Sunday, November 29 @ 6:00 p.m.*
  Join us for an uplifting evening of holiday music followed by fellowship and delicious desserts – sponsored by our Consistory.

Watch this space and be sure to check the full calendar of events on our website, on the table tents in Fellowship Hall, or on our **Prayers & Love Facebook page.** And whenever you are able, come join us at The Farm. Invite your friends, neighbors, and family—really, invite them all! Come be part of the joy, fellowship, and welcome of this *Farm Living, Community Serving, Love Sharing faith family*. We cannot wait to celebrate the season with you!

Shout-Outs: Thank You for Helping Us Be the Church. *Welcome to a new weekly feature in our newsletter where we take a moment to celebrate the wonderful folks whose everyday dedication—both up front and behind the scenes—helps Saint Paul's @ The Farm live out our ministry in so many beautiful ways!*

- **To Ashley Rosboschil, Sharon Styer, and our joyful children's choir**: Thank you for bringing your music and movement to worship last Sunday! Wow! It was such a delight to have your energy, smiles, and leadership back in the sanctuary, and we can't wait to see what you do next!
- **To Patty Wagner and our Bell and Chancel Choirs**: What a gift you are to our worship life. Thank you for the faithful rehearsals and the gorgeous, heartfelt music you offer each and every week to help lift our hearts in praise.
- **A special note of thanks to Sharon Styer**: Thank you for your intentional care in selecting gathering music, preludes, offertories, and postludes that connect so meaningfully with the message and scriptures each Sunday.
- **Big gratitude to Bob Gift and Jenn Van Horn**: Thank you for your hard work around The Farm as the weather turns—winterizing our spaces, adding fresh coats of paint, and keeping our property clean, safe, and ready for the cold months ahead.
- **To our dedicated Consistory**: Thank you for the countless hours spent working behind the scenes to keep the lights on, care for the business of the church, and ensure Saint Paul's continues to be a safe, sacred space of welcome and belonging for people from every walk of life.
- **To Steve Brown, our Sexton**: A heartfelt thank you for your quiet, diligent care throughout the week, keeping our church home clean, orderly, and ready to welcome family, friends, and neighbors at a moment's notice.

To all of you—and to everyone who lends a hand, shares a smile, or serves in ways seen and unseen—thank you! Together, this is how we get to be the church.

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. From 10 to 1:25, please enjoy breakfast, coffee, and fellowship then worship begins at 10:30. 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.

Christian Formation @ The Farm. ***Faith Connections*** classes for all ages run from 9 to 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings, with Miss Colleen and Miss Krysta leading our children and Nicole and Dale Cuer offering a Prayer Workshop for adults. Additionally, 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.

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 British Baking Company right here at Brookpark Farm or from the Farmer's Market across the bridge 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.

Music and Movement @ 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 practice*** from 9:45 to 10:05 each Sunday and bless our worship time twice a month with their selections of music and movement. This group is led by Sharon Styer and Ashley Rosboschil.



Serving @ The Farm. Mission and Outreach is an integral part of us "being the church" at Saint Paul's. On the 2nd & 4thThursdays 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. The next distributions are November 12 and Tuesday, November 24. 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 (next distribution date is November 21). Our next cooking date is November 23, 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. Our current needs include: *Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, Chef Boyardee cups, instant potatoes (boxes), Canned, boxed, or cup soups, Peanut Butter, Shelf-stable or powdered milk, Cereal, Knorr's Noodle and Sauce Mix, Knorr's Rice Side Dishes, Ramen Noodles.*

Upcoming Worship

November 15 ~ 25th Sunday after Pentecost
"Active or Passive" Matthew 25:14-27
Worship Leader: Jen Arnold
Lector: Heidi Hagan; Acolyte: Brigid Hagan
Flower Sponsor: Available; Kitchen: Tina Longan
Breakfast Sponsors: Cassidy Family
Offering Counters: D. Bettleyon, D. Spear

November 22 ~ Christ the King Sunday
"Which Came First (Praise or Practiced?)"
Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-45
Worship Leader: Jen Arnold
Lector: Holly Barbella; Acolyte: Mauve Gault
Flower Sponsor: Mathias/Queen
Breakfast Sponsor: Dressler, Available
Kitchen: Kathy Showers
Offering Counters: P. Emory, D. Spear

November Usher/Greeters: Bill & Lisa Bernard, Louise Litzy, Joanna Johnson, Tracy Baylor, Tyler & Emma Hott, Frank Wetzel, Kim Ritter, Chris Warner

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...
Mallory Sample - 11/16
TJ Duncan - 11/17
DeAnn Hansum - 11/17
Dave Downer - 11/18
Dean Hollenbach - 11/18
Chad Kister - 11/19
Chris Heckman - 11/20
Louise Litzy - 11/21
Robert Rufer - 11/21
Megan Lewis - 11/22



Happy Anniversary to ...
Eric & Polly Barrall - 11/15
Derek & Diana Longan - 11/15

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 ~ 11/8/26
Attendance: 159 (8 Visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 1,563
Virtual Reach: 9,555
Christian Education: 42

Plate Giving:	2,932.00
Loose Plate:	259.00
Online Giving:	1,264.33
Operational Total:	4,455.33
Restricted Giving:	8,074.60
Total Giving:	12,529.93

Saint Paul's @ The Farm
A United Church of Christ Community
50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg, PA 17837
Church Office Contact: 570-568-1433 / admin@spuccfarm.org
Pastor's Email: PastorTim@spuccfarm.org
Church Website: https://www.spuccfarm.org