



Saint Paul's Possibilities

November 14, 2025

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Family,

Did you ever hear as a child the statement, "Can't never did anything"?

You know it's still true as an adult?

So often when people are going through things I hear them say, "Well I can't come to church like this until I get myself together" or "I can't tell anyone what's going on, they don't want to hear it from me," or my least favorite, "No one cares. I'll just keep it to myself until I get through it."

It seems our childhood, "I can't" has not only followed us, but embedded in us the mentality of "I can't" and worse yet, not only "I can't, but "I shouldn't" and "I won't." Forgive me for saying so, however this mentality that we often attribute to "being private" or saving others from hearing our story, I find anything but Christlike in its nature.

And I can hear people now say to me, "but Pastor Tim, no one wants to hear it"—whatever the struggle in your life is or whatever you are facing.

Oh, it sounds good. Stay quiet, keep it to yourself, don't over share, the "I cant's" get a lot of support as to their why, as we mature, we grow that support through our own voices in our head that society, and sometimes the church has taught us. And we have several Biblical examples to fall back on; Moses didn't want to lead God's people out of Israel based on his "I can't" or "not me." (Exodus 2-3) He stammered and stuttered. God still called him. Remember the story of Elijah (I Kings 19)? Elijah ran from God's call, ready to die, yet God still called him out and used him to prophesy a new story. Or the story of the Woman at the Well, whom Jesus spoke with, who didn't think she had anything anyone would want to hear about because of her past, but Jesus used her as a great Evangelist. (John 4)

One of my daily devotions this week, had a story about Moses and our "calling." Now before you say, "I don't have a calling," let me remind you everything in our lives is a calling to respond in a Christ-like manner. Especially our challenges. The writers of the devotion went on to say that: Like Moses at the burning bush, God may have called you to do something incredible, and you are asking the same question: "God, why me? I am not enough."

Also, like Moses, we often fail to recognize that God has prepared us for His calling long before we know what that calling is. The day that God makes it abundantly clear, you might be amazed, you might be caught off guard, and you might have a million questions. It might feel like it came out of left field. But not to God, who wants you to understand three things:

- Your upbringing has prepared you.
- Your experiences burden you for others.
- Your mistakes have not disqualified you.

Here's what I'm talking about. While a disease or illness or situation in our lives may feel like we want to cocoon inward until it has passed—there may be someone out there who either: a.) Needs to hear about it to know they are not alone and thus giving you an opportunity to help others, or b.) Allow others who may have faced something similar to walk alongside you with words or a presence that is needed in your life and you don't even realize it. But God has. And here you sit, pushing the "I can't" button of your childhood for whatever reason you - your framing story - or the little imp on your shoulder can conjure up.

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
Beshore/Kister Families
Paula Cooper
Mark Covert
The Engle Family
Rose Greenland
The Henry Family
Doug Kister
Tom & Priscilla Lanks
Dottie Leaser
Ed & Eileen Prowant
Michele Pryor
Ben Spickler
Dave & Barb Wagner
Tommy Ward
Russ & Donna Wynn
Unspoken Requests

I'm not saying stand up on Sunday morning and announce before the congregation, "I have xyz, followed by an ask of anyone else here experienced that, come see me after services today." What I AM saying is, don't let whatever is going on in your life paralyze you from being open and honest with those asking how they can help you or if you are ok. You never know where that will lead, be it to a deep kinship for the moment, the near future or a lifetime. Don't sit alone, don't carry a burden because well I will be embarrassed if others know, so I will sit here and suffer in silence. The answer is still the same, "Can't never did anything."

So often we hold on to things, afraid someone will find out. We tell ourselves, "No one wants to hear that." But look what happened to the lepers, the blind men, the hemorrhaging woman—they reached out to Jesus and found healing. Jesus taught us to be there for one another, and when you put up the "I can't" you take away others' opportunities to serve. The Holy Spirit has a way of connecting us with one another to share and offer the support a faith family is called to give. So don't be afraid to share your story—you're helping both yourself and others."

I close this week with the example of church member Amy Rearick and the group she founded following the loss of her beloved husband, Scott. Amy began a group called "Suddenly Single," designed for women who have lost a spouse. It's sort of a support group—but it's more than that. Much more. It's people with something gut wrenching in common who have been able to connect and understand they are not alone, providing a bit of comfort to one another in a very difficult time in their lives. Some are embarrassed that they may not be handling a loss "the right way"—whatever that is—and they need to know they are going to be ok, with great love and support and understanding that many have come into the group to share.

So, the next time you have something going on in your life and the "I can't" immediately comes to the forefront of your thinking, stop. Take a breath. Whisper a prayer. And don't be afraid to share and explore. For we are all in each other's lives for a reason, and that doesn't need to be in your control.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

Intentional Advent. Have you met Kate Schaeffer yet? Kate is Saint Paul's Church Chaplain and a Board-Certified Spiritual Care Specialist, and you will have a unique and intimate opportunity to get to know her as she offers "Intentions for Advent." This will serve as our Wednesday Evening Interactive during Advent. Sign up by 11/23 on the sign-up bar in Fellowship Hall so that supplies may be ordered.



December 3, 7 p.m. - You Have Hidden Your Face from Us. (Isiah 64:7). Gather in Hope and make a candle to light the journey of Advent. Come for evening tea and time together as we imagine (and share) the emotions of this season. Let's welcome the light in the darkness.

December 10, 7 p.m. - How I Long for All of You. (Philippians 1:8). Gather in Peace and sit in stillness to the story of the Moon. It is always whole.

December 17, 7 p.m. - I am Sending My Messenger Ahead of You, Who Will Prepare Your Way Before You. (Matthew 11:10). Gather in Joy and hear song to make smooth and sturdy our inward spaces, that we may hold the season with less resistance and bear with deeper grace.

Last Day to Order Wreaths! Sunday is the last day to place your fresh Christmas wreath order! The cost is \$22.50 per wreath, which includes a bow of your choice. All proceeds go to support the Gene Gilliom Fund for Music.

Upcoming Worship

November 16 ~ 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
"Rejoice, Give Thanks & Sing"

Isaiah 12:1-6; Luke 21:5-19

Worship Leader: Sue Overdorf

Lector: Rhonda Newton

Acolyte: Piper Dressler

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: Harriet Zeyn

Flowers Sponsor: The Kisters

Offering Counter: P. Emory, D. Spear

November 23 ~ Christ the King Sunday

"This Tells Us All We Need to Know"

Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Rhonda Newton

Acolyte: Cora Kazibwe

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsor: The Parker Family

Flowers Sponsor: The Kisters

Offering Counter: C. Franciscus, D. Spear

November Usher/Greeters: Bill & Lisa Bernard,
Joanna Johnson, Louise Litzy, Reba Rohrer,
Chris Warner, Eric Wagner, Kim Ritter

Soup, Bake, Craft & Barnyard Sale: A Community Win! Our recent Mission and Outreach fundraising event was an extraordinary success, with community spirit shining brightly through incredible participation and generosity. While final funds are still being tallied, early indicators suggest this may be our most impactful event yet. Event Highlights:

- 13 members prepared soup samples
- 14 people contributed to pre-ordered soups
- 320 qts. of soup were pre-purchased, additional sales during and after the event
- Local business owners from Milton participated enthusiastically

Soup Spotlight: Chip's special Chicken Tortellini soup was a standout, while Brad's remarkable Ham & Bean Soup production reached 86 quarts—with 40 extra portions dedicated to supporting neighbors in need.

Community Feedback: Participants have shared overwhelmingly positive responses about the soup's quality and the event's warmth. As Amy Rearick noted, "Numerous messages expressed how delicious all the soups were."

The inaugural Barnyard Sale complemented our soup event perfectly, with bustling food lines and robust sales of crafts and baked goods. And don't forget—Christmas wreath orders are now being accepted!

Special Thanks: Our heartfelt gratitude goes to event leaders Amy Rearick, Lisa Bernard, Cyndy Kister, Carol Snyder, and Shelly Sholley, along with our incredible volunteers and contributors. It truly takes a village, and together our village is being the church. Stay tuned for the final fundraising total in next week's newsletter!

Steve Harvey has Nothing on Us!

Family Night Family Feud was a blast this past Sunday. We ended up with four teams of five competing for the grand prize, "One Thousand Grand," candy bars that is. We laughed at one another and at ourselves. It seems whatever we've gotten into on Family Night tends to be a lot of fun. While we won't have a "family night" like October or November in December, we will return to the Family Night format in January and hope more of you will join us, January 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring a dish to share and join us for an evening of fun!



It's Here! Saint Paul's t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, are now available through Out Shine Promotions in Mifflinburg as well as Lands' End for premium embroidered options including polos, hats, sweaters, jackets, and more. Use the links below or access through our church website or Prayers & Love Facebook page.

Out Shine Promotions: <https://www.ospshirtshop.com/saint-pauls-the-farm>

Lands' End: <https://business.landsend.com/store/spuccfarm/>

A Thank You and Volunteer Opportunity. We received a lovely thank you note from the Strikers Bowling Team which read, "Your kindness has made a significant impact for our team. Thank you for your donation." And, WellSpan Hospice seeking volunteers to offer quality time and share skills in a meaningful way working hand-in-hand with the Hospice team. For more information about becoming a WellSpan Hospice volunteer, call the coordinator at 570-522-2550.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Mallory Sample - 11/16

T. J. Duncan - 11/17

Deann Hansum - 11/17

Chad Kister - 11/19

Louise Litzy - 11/21

Donna Spear - 11/25

Jack Ward - 11/25

Pat Bender - 11/27

Gary Bennett - 11/27

Happy Anniversary to ...

Robin & Steve Brown - 11/24



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** from 5 to 6:45. **Confirmation Class** with 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.



Saint Paul's @ The Farm Annual Fall Meeting & Thanksgiving Luncheon Sunday, November 23, 2025

Annual meeting to approve the 2026 budget and consistory members then roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, and stuffing provided for our all-church Thanksgiving meal. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share! See you around the tables in Fellowship Hall.

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. (**Advent Intentions is December 3, 10, & 17**). 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 (**November 19**). 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. (**November 28**). 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 Sharon and 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 in partnership with the Central PA Food Bank (**next distributions are Tuesday, November 25, Thursday, December 11, and Tuesday, December 23**). 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. We also participate in **Community Harvest**, a monthly distribution on the 3rd Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon 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" Our needs at this time are for: **Local Grocery Gift Cards to: Aldi, Giant and Weis. Gas Cards: Sheetz, Wawa, and Weis, any canned fruits and vegetables with pop tops, shelf stable milk, small bottles of vegetable oil, and canned proteins and box dinners, i.e. hamburger and tuna helper.** You may drop food items in the little red wagon on the porch outside the Sanctuary door and gift cards may be dropped in the offering plate on Sunday morning or to the church office throughout the week.



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 | 11/9/2025
Attendance: 128 (10 Visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 1,242
Virtual Reach: 16,605
Christian Education: 63

Plate Giving:	2,127.00
Loose Plate:	128.00
Online Giving:	541.60
Operational Total:	2,796.60
Restricted Giving:	8,668.50
Total Giving:	11,465.10



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

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