



Saint Paul's Possibilities

October 17, 2025

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Family,

I see you.

I see you reading this request to share your Christmas story and thinking, "Oh, someone else will do it. Someone with a better story. Someone who's a better writer. Someone whose Christmas memories are more interesting than mine."

And here's what they told us in seminary (yes, they actually teach this!): When pastors make a general "cattle call"—which feels like an appropriate phrase here on the farm—most people let themselves off the hook. "Surely someone else will respond," we think. And so... crickets.

But when pastors ask people individually? People say yes.

The problem? Asking 37 people individually is extremely time-consuming, and (spoiler alert) you all know none of us have that kind of time. So, most church leaders make the general ask and hope for the best, while most congregations comfortably settle into the habit of non-response.

But here's what I really want you to know: Your story matters.

I don't care if it's about the year the Christmas tree fell over, or the time your mom burned the turkey, or the quiet moment you realized what Christmas really means after experiencing loss. I don't care if it's funny or sad or simple or dramatic.

Someone in this congregation needs to hear YOUR story.

Someone will read about your Christmas morning tradition and think, "Oh, we could do that!" Or "our family used to do that." Someone will read about how Christmas has changed for you over the years and feel less alone in their own journey. Someone will see themselves in your memories and feel more connected to you and this church family.

Your story—the one you're discounting as "not that important"—might be exactly what someone else needs to read this Advent.

So here's my "cattle call" (again):

Would you write a 250-400 word reflection about either:

- Your favorite Christmas memory, OR
- What Christmas means to you today

You can include a Scripture or prayer if you'd like, or we can add one for you. We're creating an Advent and Christmas devotional booklet for our church family—something you can use at home, share with loved ones, or read together around the table.

Here are the details:

- Due date: November 9 (to Donna in the office)
- Publication date: November 30 (First Sunday of Advent—you'll get to take one home!)
- Goal: 37 devotions to take us through Advent and Christmas
- How to submit: Email admin@spuccfarm.org or drop it off at the church office.

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
The Bender Family
Paula Cooper
Wayne Cuer
The Engle Family
Al & Ruth Henry
Tom & Priscilla Lanks
Ed & Eileen Prowant
Ben Spickler
Dave & Barb Wagner
Tommy Ward
Debbie Williams
Russ & Donna Wynn
Unspoken Requests

Still thinking "someone else will do it"?

Nope. I'm asking YOU. Yes, you—the one reading this right now.

Your story is a gift. Will you share it?

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim

P.S. If you're worried about your writing, don't be. We'll help with editing if needed. And if you'd rather tell me your story and have me, capture it, I'm happy to do that too. Just call or email me. I'd love to hear your story. And actually, the story matters more than the polish.

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.



The Farm Report

November 8 @ The Farm! What a day we have planned ... here are need to knows:

~Last day to pre-order quarts of soup is Friday, October 24.

~Last day to drop off items for the barnyard sale is Sunday, October 26.

~Soup makers, bakers, and crafters are still needed. Please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall.

~The Barnyard Preview Sale is Wednesday, November 5, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

~On November 8, lunch will be available with flights of multiple home-made soups, BBQ sandwiches, hotdogs, baked goods, and drinks.

~Fresh Christmas wreath orders will begin on November 2 supporting music ministry.

~All proceeds from the soup, bake, craft, and barnyard sale support Saint Paul's local missions and food pantry.

**barn yard preview
SALE!**
furniture, household
items, tools, and more!
**Wednesday
November 5
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg

Saint Paul's @ The Farm
**SOUP, BAKE, CRAFT, &
BARNYARD SALE!**

COME AND JOIN US IN OUR FELLOWSHIP HALL

- ~ enjoy a lunch featuring a bowl or "flight" of a variety of home-made soups ~
- ~ a BBQ sandwich or hotdog, and drink ~
- ~ shop great crafts ~ pick up some home-made baked goods ~
- ~ order a fresh Christmas wreath ~ check out great "barn yard" sale items ~
- ~ and pick up your pre-ordered quarts ~

For pre-order quarts of soup (\$10)
(ham & bean, chicken corn, vegetable beef, chicken tortellini)
visit spuccfarm.org (use QR code to order online)
or call 570-568-1433 by Friday, October 24



All proceeds support Saint Paul's UCC local mission & outreach serving our neighbors



Family Night Fun and the Winner is!

Join us Sunday morning when the winner will be announced for our Family Night Pumpkin Carving Contest.

Voting is complete but check out all the talent.



October 26 @ The Farm!

What a day we have planned! Invite your friends and neighbors and help spread the word. Your help is needed to welcome and serve our guests, cook hot dogs and s'mores, pour cider, and man the pumpkin patch. The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.

Our 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. Supplies are always needed which help fill both our emergency pantry and our outdoor free pantry. A huge thank you for recent \$250 donation to purchase much needed supplies to fill our shelves.

Remember & Give Thanks.

Please join us in the many ways we get to celebrate, remember, give thanks, fellowship and serve in the month of November, the last month of the church year. First, we will celebrate All Saints' Sunday with Communion on November 2, a day to remember all the saints gone before us over the last year. On November 9 we will gather for Family Night and on the 16th, we will gather for our Fall Annual Meeting immediately following worship when we will vote on the 2026 Budget and elect new members to Consistory all before gathering around the tables in Fellowship Hall for our Thanksgiving Luncheon. On November 23 we will celebrate and observe Christ the King Sunday. November 26 is Word Wine & Wisdom with November 29 the Hanging of the Greens, here at the Farm. If those things aren't enough, what about joining us for Fresh Express on the 13th & (Tuesday) the 25th or Friends Who Breakfast November 5th & 19th. Any way you cut the pie, it's still delicious.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...
 Timothy Adams - 10/21
 Chip Eschbach - 10/21
 Betsy Pullen - 10/21
 Delilah Sample - 10/22
 Beth Vincent - 10/23
 Riley Gill - 10/25
 Lorren Huff - 10/25
 Candy Locke - 10/26
 Piper Dressler - 10/27
 Ethan Cree - 10/28
 Patty Wagner - 10/29
 Cathy Ward - 11/1
 David Sauter - 11/2



Happy Anniversary to ...
 Sergio Marques & Allen Fasnacht - 10/24
 Lisa & Bill Bernard - 11/2

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

Upcoming Worship

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: A. Mahon, D. Spear

October 26 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost
 Monstrous Love Sunday!
 "Raindrops, Whiskers, and Monster Trucks"
 Joel 2:23-32; Luke 18:9-14
 Worship Leader: Jen Arnold
 Lector: Kate Schaeffer
 Acolyte: Nelle Parker
 Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan
 Breakfast Sponsor: Hogan-Palazzo Family
 Flowers Sponsor: Available
 Offering Counter: S. Brown, D. Spear

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

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 10/12/2025

Attendance: 138

LIVE Attendance: 711

Virtual Reach: 10,539

Christian Education: 89

Plate Giving:	1,829.00
Loose Plate:	244.00
Online Giving:	885.75
Operational Total:	2,958.75
Restricted Giving:	825.00
Total Giving:	3,783.75

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. **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**).



on October 15 at Silver Moon having a grand time eating, drinking coffee, sharing stories, and smiling! Clockwise from left...Carol Snyder, Terri Kremer, Harriet Zeyn, Marianne Zeyn, Georgia Heckman, Marie Weaver, Cyndy Kister, Merle Kay Englehart, Joan Weaver, Tim Longan, Bonnie Stevenson, Justin Kozick, and Penelope Shetler. Tina Longan snapped the picture as she really doesn't like to get her picture taken!

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. 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" 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 Office Contact: 570-568-1433 / admin@spuccfarm.org
Pastor's Email: PastorTim@spuccfarm.org
Church Website: <https://www.spuccfarm.org>