



Saint Paul's Possibilities

November 21, 2025

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Family,

Below is my letter to our Consistory this week which I would like to share with you all.

Ruth Henry's illness and passing reconnected me with a mutual friend our families had from several years ago. We stayed in touch via email during her illness as she wanted reports on Ruth and Al and then we got to reconnect briefly when they came to the service of Celebration of Life on Saturday. After they returned home to Baltimore, I received an email saying they were "in awe of the church and all the love." She shared how she found what we had here so unique and this is what they missed so much in their lives.

Her note struck me a bit, we are who we are by choice, we get to love and care for one another in the ways we do, by choice. God has given us the opportunity to serve our neighbors in beautiful ways, to love one another, and while we all bring different gifts to the table, God just seems to know what God is doing and offering us. We just need to continually seek and live into all the opportunities we have to be the church.

This all seems to ring true to me. Whether we are serving a family who has lost a loved one, caring for a family facing illness, celebrating a new baby, or simply sharing everyday life together—we do it all from a place of love. We do it with an attitude of "we get to," not "we have to." And we get to do it with people whose like-mindedness isn't based on some socioeconomic or political leaning, instead just that we all get to be the church together, bringing our individual gifts and throwing them in the mix that everyone will realize there is a place here for them if they feel or choose to make this their home, whether they just come here once or all the time.

All this I say to you, not to say "ok, we've achieved it," because I don't know if we will ever fully achieve it, but to say, keep on, keep on welcoming the stranger, speaking to those you may not know, don't just smile and walk by, stop and say hello and welcome. Help the parent of a rambunctious child know that it's ok their child may make noise or lie on the sanctuary floor. Offer the single mother a hand, be there to reassure the parents of an autistic child, "it's ok," because we get to be here and share in our gifts of love and welcome and a journey with one another.

Each month I get to report to you how we are doing as a church and things I get to experience. One of the amazing things I have gotten to experience is when the need became so great over the past month people stepped up in ways more extravagantly than ever. Yes, our operations income is still lagging a bit behind for this time of year, as it does every year, however our missional giving is greater than it ever has been and over the last month has been greater than \$10,400! These are funds we use to feed, house, and support our neighbors, and we are called to do so as extravagantly as we have received these gifts. That's not an easy mindset for some. We receive extravagant gifts, my prayer is that we give back extravagantly, as the Apostle Paul reminded the church at Philippi after they had supported him and so many others, God would supply all their needs, so keep giving radically. All we have to do is continue to use our resources for God's good justice in the world around us, placing our faith and trust in a loving God who cares deeply for us and all our neighbors.

In the coming weeks, you will hear more about our numbers of how the church is doing in annual reports and letters, so for now, let's just focus on all we have to be thankful for, all we get to do, and all those we get to do it for, and give all thanks and glory to a God who loves us all so.

Please make every effort to be here when you can (because we're not the same when you're not here), and not just for you but for one another. To greet those you may not know, to welcome strangers and hopefully help them feel at home, to be a part of the faith community here @ The Farm and share the gifts of love and grace God has already given us so extravagantly, so let's share them with one another and all we meet, just as radically.

Happy Thanksgiving.

In Grateful Service, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

It's So Much More! Over the past six weeks, this community has touched lives in ways that ripple far beyond what we can see. Through soup sales, bake sales, craft sales and a wonderfully creative Barnyard Sale, you didn't just raise money—you actively participated in God's mission of caring for our neighbors.

Let me share something that captures the heart of what happened. Cyndy Kister, brainchild of the Barnyard Sale, sent this note to her team this week:

"I just wanted to say thank you to all you gals who helped make the Barnyard Sale such a success! Amazing! I spoke with Haven Ministry, and they were thrilled with the donations. Doug's truck was loaded to the brim. They've been able to set up housing for 14 families so far this past year and our donations will help with even more. We may never know all the lives we've touched, but we trust, with God's help, we're making a difference. One of the items we took down as a step stool, one little boy living in the shelter grabbed it and was carrying it around with him, it was so sweet."

Here's what that looked like in numbers: 320 quarts (80 gallons) of pre-ordered soup sales accounted for \$3,200. Our day of Soup, Bake, and Craft Sale brought in \$2,600, with another 20 gallons of homemade soup PLUS all the delicious baked goods and beautiful crafts. And the first annual Barnyard Sale netted \$2,400. Moreover, "Phil the Freezer," once again organized by Earl Fisher, raised \$2,200 in the four weeks prior to the sale. That's \$10,400 raised in just six weeks for Missions! And that doesn't INCLUDE the donations of items we then offered to Fresh Express recipients, Haven Ministry, and Dig Furniture Bank!

So, here's the thing—it's SO MUCH MORE than \$10,400, while that in itself is amazing. It's helping families with housing. It's a little boy carrying around a step stool, something so small yet so meaningful to him. Its neighbors fed through Fresh Express and able to get some things for their homes. It's furniture that turns an empty apartment into a home. It's the ripple effect of generosity that touches lives in ways we may never fully know.

This is what being the church looks like. Not just gathering on Sunday mornings, but rolling up our sleeves, cooking soup, organizing sales, loading trucks to the brim, and trusting that as the Holy Spirit moves us, we're making a real difference in real lives.

As we enter this Thanksgiving season, take a moment to appreciate what God has allowed us to accomplish together. And get ready—because I have a feeling the Holy Spirit isn't done with us yet. After all, we get to be Saint Paul's @ The Farm, the church! Happy Thanksgiving!

Advent Intentions. During Advent on three Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., we will gather for an intentional time with our church chaplain Kate Schaeffer. On December 3, 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 and welcome the light in the darkness. On December 10, we will gather in Peace and sit in stillness to the story of the Moon. It is always whole. Finally on December 17, we will 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. Sign up by 11/23 on the sign-up bar in Fellowship Hall so that supplies may be ordered.

Upcoming Worship

November 23 ~ Christ the King Sunday
"This Tells Us All We Need to Know"
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43
Worship Leader: Sue Overdorf
Lector: Frank Wetzel
Acolyte: Cora Kazibwe
Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan
Breakfast Sponsor: Susie Gearhart
Flowers Sponsor: Available
Offering Counter: C. Franciscus, D. Spear

November 30 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent - Hope
"The Journey Home"
Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 1:26-38
Worship Leader: Lisa Bernard
Lector: Shelly Sholley
Acolyte: The Gill Family
Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers
Breakfast Sponsor: Amy Rearick
Flowers Sponsor: Pastor Tim
Offering Counter: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

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





Time to Order! 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> (deadline for Christmas delivery is 11/29) Lands' End: <https://business.landsend.com/store/spuccfarm/>



Saint Paul's @ The Farm
2025 Advent Concerts
 Join us Sundays in Advent

November 30 ~ 7 p.m.
 K. J. Reimensnyder-Wagner
 "Christmas Memories Concert"

December 7 ~ 6 p.m.
 The Pub Rovers
 Traditional Celtic Band

December 14 ~ 6 p.m.
 Shamokin High School
 Brass Ensemble

Dessert Reception following each Concert
 50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...
 Louise Litz - 11/21
 Donna Spear - 11/25
 Jack Ward - 11/25
 Pat Bender - 11/27
 Gary Bennett - 11/27
 Molly Faust - 11/28
 Eileen Prowant - 11-28
 Steve Rowe - 11/30
 Hillary Cree - 12/2
 Doug Richard - 12/2
 Cooper Moyer - 12/5
 Dianne Covert - 12/6



Happy Anniversary to ...
 Robin & Steve Brown - 11/24

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

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
 Paula Cooper
 Mark Covert
 The Engle Family
 Florence Enterline
 Rose Greenland
 Doug Kister
 Tom & Priscilla Lanks
 Dottie Leaser
 Ed & Eileen Prowant
 Michele Pryor
 Ben Spickler
 Scott Tyson
 Dave & Barb Wagner
 Tommy Ward
 Russ & Donna Wynn
 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.



We received a beautiful card of thanks from Carolyn Wuerdeman, with love:

"To all my church family, thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and providing food for Harry and me. What a wonderful church family we have. I'm progressing well and get my staples out on the 17th. I will be glad to get them out. Hope to see you soon."



Journey home
 to The Farm where *hope waits,
 peace deepens,
 & joy rises,
 love is born.*

**Saint Paul's
 @ The Farm**
 A UCC Community
 50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg, PA

Christmas Eve Services:
 4:30pm Family Friendly Service
 10:30pm Music and Candlelight Service
 Find all of our Holiday Service details online.
 Or call us at 570-568-1433.



Upcoming Events

Tues, Nov 25, Fresh Express Food Distribution
 Wed, Nov 26, Thanksgiving Eve Service @ The Farm with Driesbach UCC 7 p.m.
 Fri, Nov 28, Word, Wine, & Wisdom Union Cellars 4:30 p.m.
 Sat, Nov 29, Hanging of the Greens at 9 a.m.
 Sun, Nov 30, Advent 1 Concert "Christmas Memories" with KJ Reimensnyder 7 p.m. Dessert reception at 6 p.m.
 Wed, Dec 3, "Advent Intentions" with Kate Schaeffer 7 p.m.
 Sun, Dec 7, Advent Concert "Pub Rovers" 6 p.m. Dessert reception follows
 Mon, Dec 8, The Smallest Gift Remembrance Service, 6 p.m.
 Wed, Dec 10, "Advent Intentions" with Kate Schaeffer 7 p.m.
 Tues, Dec 11, Fresh Express Food Distribution
 Sun, Dec 14, Advent Concert "Shamokin High School Brass Ensemble" 6 p.m. Dessert reception follows
 Wed, Dec 17, "Advent Intentions" with Kate Schaeffer 7 p.m.
 Thurs, Dec 18, Blue Christmas Service held at Driesbach UCC 7 p.m.
 Sun, Dec 21, All-Church Christmas Dinner 5 p.m.
 Tues, Dec 23, Fresh Express Food Distribution
 Wed, Dec 24, Christmas Eve Services 4:30 & 10:30 p.m.
 Fri, Dec 26, Word, Wine, & Wisdom Union Cellars 4:30 p.m.
 Sun, Dec 28, Children's Christmas Pageant during worship.

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. (Featured picture is Sam and Ben Barbella following their confirmation last Sunday with Lisa Bernard, Pastor Tim, and their parents Drew Barbella and Holly Barbella.)



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. 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.

Stewardship

Gift & Offerings ~ 11/16/2025

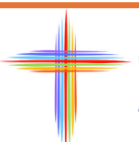
"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) Giving thanks for the time, talents, and resources shared here.

Attendance: 159 (15 visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 768
Virtual Reach: 7,098
Christian Education: 48

Plate Giving:	1,992.00
Loose Plate:	256.00
Online Giving:	1,226.75
Operational Total:	3,477.75
Restricted Giving:	1,709.60
Total Giving:	5,184.35

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.



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>