



Saint Paul's Possibilities

March 1, 2024

News & Ways to Plug In

Powered by Grace and Coffee

Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

There is something I have noticed predominantly, lately. Big or small, no matter what is going on here @ The Farm or around this faith community, God is in it. If asked the question is God in everything, I would have said yes, for certain, God is in everything. However, what is becoming increasingly obvious is the overt way in which I am seeing God's presence here among us. Over the past few weeks, we have been able to experience God in so many wonderful ways - present at a wedding, present at Fresh Express, present in the midst of Friday night's laughter and fellowship at Word, Wine, & Wisdom, as well as Sunday morning's worship. God seems present in big and bold ways in the midst of all of those things and it feels good.

However, God's presence was also beautifully present on Sunday evening when a smaller group of us gathered for Youth and Family Night. Oh, we still had 10 or 12 gathered in a circle in the Sanctuary for fellowship and conversation, and five of us gathered in the corner of Fellowship Hall, and another 10 or so gathered in the Children's Classroom, and in each of those places God was present in beautifully peaceful ways.

Conversations with and about God in our lives--our daily lives--our challenges and our accomplishments, groups gathering with conversation and loud laughter and with still small quiet voices too, all had something familiar, a holy presence. I'm not sure why I am surprised by any of this for God has promised it, "where two or three are gathered, there I will be also" (Matthew 18:20). Yet here I stand in awe.

I stand in awe that the Holy moves in this way right here with us. I stand in awe that we are a part of something much bigger than ourselves, and I get to see and experience it firsthand. It

was Anne Lamott who wrote a book on prayer that I still smile about and often think of. In her prayer book, Anne says, "There are three basic prayers we pray: Help, Thanks, & Wow!" It strikes me that those three prayers are alive and well in this faith community and are certainly appropriate over and over every day here in our lives. And I often say all three of them in the same day, sometimes hour (and have been known to say it sometimes within the same 15 minutest of my day here)!

I know that I normally ask, "Where have you seen God?" each week in worship. However, with the Holy's presence so prevalent in so many ways in which we gather, I also wonder if maybe as a part of our daily lives we can more intentionally look for God's presence among us? Make it a Lenten practice to seek to see God in situations.

Have you ever purchased a new (or new-to-you) car and all of a sudden you notice all the others that are just like yours on the road? Maybe our focus on God moments will be like that. The more we notice him, the more we will see him around us. God's presence, God moments, are an amazing gift.

Will you join me and give yourself the gift of intentional "God Moment Awareness" (the first GMA) during this season of Lent? You will never be disappointed, I promise.

*Peace and Blessings and God Sightings Be Yours,
Pastor Tim*

Please Join Us in Praying For ...

Linda Beaver	Paul Shaner
Cookie Breining	Carol Snyder
The Engle Family	Baby Tristan
Gail Ernest	Jaelynn Walker
Greyson Greenawalt	Thomas Ward, Jr.
Al & Ruth Henry	World Peace
Katy Mahon	Mental Health Needs
Those with Life-Long Illnesses	

Updates to our prayer list are made from our Saint Paul's Prayers and Love FB Group, phone calls to the church office, or fill out a prayer card located in our sanctuary.



The Farm Report

Youth & Family News

After gathering with more than two dozen family members this past Sunday evening, we are excited to host our next Youth & Family night on **Sunday, March 10**. Remember, dinner is provided beginning at 5 p.m. There is something for everyone and classes conclude at 7 p.m. Parents, a great group conversation is happening along with fun and educational classes for our children of all ages, so we hope you will be a part of this special time together.

This Sunday, 3 p.m., join us at Hooplas Extreme in Shamokin Dam for an afternoon of fun followed by dinner out. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk and all are welcome. For questions, reach out to the office.



Youth & Family Night has something for everyone. Dale and Nicole Cuer lead an adult discussion; Pastor Tim and Lisa Bernard gather with the youth; while our children learn lessons through stories and crafts with Miss Colleen.

Grace Place @ The Farm

A clean-up crew is needed to wash floors and windows and finish organizing @ Grace Place. Let's gather **Wednesday, March 6 at 9 a.m.** Come clean for a few hours, then grab lunch at the market and hang out for lunch with Pastor Tim. All are welcome and many hands make light work. Our next Grace Place event occurs with Fresh Express, Thursday, March 14. And our next Arts for Mission event will be beginner's yoga with Tracy Baylor. An informational meeting will be immediately following worship on Sunday, March 10.

Our Neighbors' Pantry

In February you provided gift cards for gas, groceries, and emergency necessities not covered by governmental support programs, i.e. WIC. Thank you for stepping up in support of these items for families. Gift cards are always welcome and accepted.

In March our emergency pantry needs are: canned fruits and vegetables, as well as boxed stuffing and pasta mixes. If you are able and would like, you are invited to share in providing these items which may be dropped off at the Little Red Wagon on Sunday mornings for now and soon we will have a drop off at Grace Place as well. All help is appreciated and no help is too small. ...Love is happening here.

Challenger Baseball Program

Eric Wagner manages a local Little League Challenger program. Challenger is an adaptive baseball program that is only for players, of all genders and ages, who have intellectual and physical challenges. Challenger is non-competitive, and ensures participation in baseball activities that has therapeutic results by providing outdoor exercise, socialization, and most important, fun! This program is under the umbrella of Mifflinburg Area Little League and played mostly in New Berlin where they have the most updated ADA facilities in a beautiful, quiet park. However, we accept players from anywhere in Union, Snyder, Northumberland, and Juniata Counties. Patricia Wagner is one of many volunteers as well, and we are looking for players and volunteers alike to sign up if interested! To register, please contact Eric at 570-966-9576 or email haneypark@dejazzd.com. There are a limited number of spots left so please do not wait!

It's Time for Change

Change for the world. If you have not yet retrieved your Coin Box or maybe yours is already full, grab another box by the welcome desk and help us change the world. As is our tradition, we plan the return of the coin boxes during our Palm Sunday celebration, March 24, 2024. Every penny counts and 100% goes toward our annual sharing our love gift with others. One Great Hour of Sharing, part of Our Church's Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to neighbors in need and crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, health care, and emergency relief and rehabilitation to areas suffering from natural disasters. Change can help make a change for our neighbors.

Not to be Confused with Time Change

Next Saturday night aka Sunday morning, March 10 at 2 a.m., once again, the time will change. We spring forward, so at 2 a.m., it becomes 3 a.m. Experts say to try to get caught up on sleep and prepare your body for this change and webmd.com has a list of 14 ways to prepare your body for this change, here are the top three:

SPRING FORWARD
SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH



1. Gradually Transition into the Time Change – To minimize the impact of the switch to daylight saving time, make gradual adjustments. Go to bed (and if you have children, put them to bed) 15 minutes early, starting several days before the change. Make an extra effort to be well-rested the week before the time change.

2. Seek a Little Sunshine – Once daylight saving begins on Sunday morning, step outside and catch some rays after you wake up. The sunlight will help set your body's internal clock, which controls things like your sleep-wake cycle. And head on to church where you can grab breakfast and be ready for worship early. *(Pastor Tim added this last comment)*

3. Give Yourself a Sleep Break After the Time Change – If you feel sleepy after the change to daylight saving time, take a short nap in the afternoon -- not too close to bedtime. Avoid sleeping in an hour longer in the mornings. Your internal clock will adjust on its own in several days.

From our Saint Paul's Prayers & Love Page



You may have heard Doug talk about his friend Haya, a 23-year-old Palestinian woman who is a Kingian Nonviolence trainer with On Earth Peace (OEP). Doug first met her at a couple board meetings they were both participating in, and then she led a 2-hour Intro to Kingian Nonviolence training he took last year. She is such an amazing person, making a difference in the lives of so many with her pursuit of non-violence, and now she and her family are in need of help. The situation in Gaza is dire, and OEP is raising money to help Haya, her two siblings, and her mom evacuate and come to either the US or Canada. It is quite the operation, with a lot of pieces that need to fall into place, including substantial financial support. If you are able to give financially, that would be wonderful, but even if you can't, we appreciate your prayers for Haya and her family, and your support of us as we try to support her and family, as well as the interns, staff, and board of On Earth Peace.



Thank you all! Love, Morgan & Doug Richard

Easter Flowers

You may begin ordering Easter flowers Sunday, March 3. Please use an order form or you may order online from the homepage of our website. Flowers this year are being purchased through Gloria & Bill Lehman's Flower Tent. Flowers being offered this year are **tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, and white lillies for \$10 per six inch pot and hydrangea for \$20.** Thank you for helping to adorn our worship space for Easter by purchasing flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of loved ones. **Deadline to order is Sunday, March 24.**

New Member Sunday

Our next new member Sunday will be Palm Sunday, **March 24.** Should you be considering membership in this faith family community, please reach out to Pastor Tim to learn more.

Celebrations

Mar 3 – Happy Birthday Carol Clewell
Mar 6 – Happy Birthday Tammy Dreese
Mar 7 – Happy Birthday Teagan Sechrist
Mar 8 – Happy Birthday Nancy Haven
Mar 8 – Happy Birthday Ericka Mull
Mar 8 – Happy Birthday Kathy Showers



On the Journey

Sunday Mornings @ The Farm

- ~ Nursery Opens 8:45 a.m.
- ~ Breakfast @ 10 a.m. and following worship
- ~ Worship 10:30 a.m.
- ~ Children's Church (ages 2 to 2nd grade)
- ~ First Sunday Communion

Music @ The Farm (All are welcome!)

- ~ Bell Choir Wednesdays @ 5:15 p.m.
- ~ Chancel Choir Sundays @ 9 a.m.
- ~ Children's Choir Sundays @ 10 a.m.

Christian Formation @ The Farm

~ Family Night 5 to 7 p.m. for ALL ages every 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings, dinner included. (contact: Colleen Franciscus) – Next up: March 10

~ Monday Morning Reflections 11:30 a.m. Gather in Fellowship Hall and dig a bit deeper into this week's texts: Luke 6:32-36 and John 4:1-30.

~ Wednesday Evening Interactive 6:30 p.m. Prayer and Worship are the topics of our Lenten study this week: Join us in Fellowship Hall as we discuss the texts: Prayer: Colossians 4:2-4; Matthew 6:5-15; and I Thessalonians 5:12-22; Worship: Deuteronomy 5:6-11; Matthew 4:23; and Hebrews 10:23-25.

Fellowship @ The Farm

- ~ Weekly Lunch with Pastor Tim 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- ~ March 17 Family Dinner / Irish Potluck after worship (Shepherd's Pie – provided)
- ~ March 13 Friends Who Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Silver Moon Restaurant
- ~ March 22 Word, Wine & Wisdom 4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Union Cellars
- ~ Upcoming Special Events
 - ~ March 3 Hooplas 3 to 5 p.m.
 - ~ March 31 Easter Eggstravaganza Breakfast 9:15, Egg Hunt 9:45
 - ~ April 29 Lewisburg Arts Festival

Serving @ The Farm Mission & Outreach

- ~ Fresh Express 2nd & 4th Thursdays 1:00-5:00 p.m.
- ~ Harvest Meal 4th Mondays @ St. Andrews, Milton 1-5 p.m.
- ~ Emergency Food Pantry is always available @ Grace Place (little red wagon drop off)

Stewardship

Gifts & Offerings February 25, 2024

"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 on LIVE: 636 Virtual Reach: 8,556
Attendance In Person: 142 (10 Visitors)
Christian Education: 80

Plate Giving	\$ 2,197.03
Loose Plate	\$ 254.50
Online Giving	\$ <u>404.52</u>
Operational Total	\$ 2,856.05
General Restricted Giving	\$ <u>340.00</u>
Total Giving	\$ 3,196.05

Upcoming Worship

March 3, 2024 – Third Sunday in Lent

"It's All Wrong"

Luke 6:32-36

Worship Leader: Lisa Bernard

Lector: Frank Wetzels and Amy Mahon

Acolyte: Riley Gill

Flowers: Cathy Ward

Breakfast: Donna Spear

Offering Counter: S. Brown; D. Spear

March 10, 2024 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

"He Didn't Care"

John 10:11-16, 22-30

Worship Leader: Lisa Bernard

Lector: Nicole Cuer

Acolyte: Broghan Gill

Flowers: Tim and Chip

Breakfast: Jen Arnold

Offering Counter: A. Mahon; D. Spear

March

Greeter/Usher Team:

Earl & Terri Fisher

Alaina & Adam Taylor

Kim Ritter

Carol Clewell

Steve Brown

George Mull

We are accepting donations of candy, stickers, or small toys to fill plastic Easter eggs for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday Morning, March 31. Please drop any items off to the church office no later than Wednesday, March 27.

