

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

As your pastor I get to talk and share a lot, and I realize that is a part of my vocation. However, that is only part of it. Often my favorite thing to do is listen, listen to others tell their stories. Listen to others share how and where God is working in their lives. One of my favorite ways to see and experience this is to listen to our children. This past week, Miss Colleen shared with me how impactful her listening to the children became during children's church. I want to share a portion of her story here today and pray it will touch and inspire you the way it touched and inspired my heart as well.

Here's her story about "doing good."

"I had two children in my Sunday school class this week. The lesson was on Micah 6:1-8—acting justly, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God. We talked about what 'doing good' actually looks like: speaking up when someone is bullied, sitting with someone in their sadness, treating people fairly.

As we colored and sang along to a song about Micah, I realized I'd seen both of these children doing good this very week. One child had spent a night in the Warming Shelter with her family, helping staff the shelter on rotation. When I asked her why it was important to be there, she said simply: 'Helping people be warm on cold nights is important when they don't have any other place to go.'

Another child had welcomed a group to his school who donated new winter coats to students in need. He told me, 'It is important for students to get new coats because it is cold outside, and no one should go without a coat.'

As I wove these children's stories into this bigger story from Micah, tears ran down my cheeks. I feel fortunate to be in a congregation where doing good is modeled so freely—where families teach their children to act justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Some of our students come with their parents and grandparents regularly to help with our Fresh Express program—sorting vegetables, greeting guests, helping prepare boxes of food for families in need. There is a job for everyone.

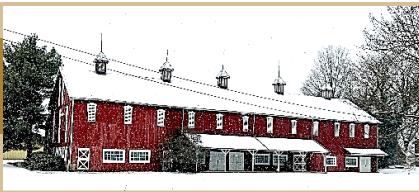
It's easy to get caught up in the flashy things the world celebrates and forget about this steady goodness. But passages like Micah remind us that we need these nudges to get back on track. I am thankful for the prophets in our world today who remind us we are human beings living in an extraordinary world of possibilities. Some of these prophets might even be in second grade."

Thank you, Miss Colleen, for teaching and sharing. Thank you church for leading by example. May we not only listen to the children, but may we act in ways of doing good alongside them. For they truly are second-grade prophets.

With Gratitude and Hope, Pastor Tim

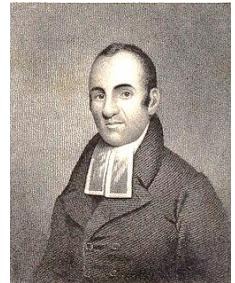
A Couple of Housekeeping Notes. During the recent snowstorm, many of you were unable to receive a copy of a Grace & Coffee letter from Pastor Tim about keeping church as intimate sacred space. We've had several requests to reprint it, so it's included as an insert in this week's worship bulletin and posted on our website.

Also, if you've been wanting to catch his monthly Faith & Reason column in the Daily Item, recent articles are now linked on our website at spuccfarm.org—just look for the "Faith & Reason" link on the homepage.



The Farm Report

Honoring Black History Month... Did You Know? Our UCC Firsts! Here's something we should be really proud of: **The United Church of Christ doesn't just have a diverse heritage—we MADE history by being brave enough to live it out.** While so many churches were silent during America's darkest chapters, the UCC was different. We were trailblazers. We were the ones saying "yes" when it mattered most. And we have the firsts to prove it.



Meet Lemuel Haynes—A Man Who Changed Everything. Picture this: 1785. America is brand new. The Revolutionary War just ended. And **Lemuel Haynes** becomes the first Black person ordained by a Protestant denomination in the entire United States. Let that sink in.

Lemuel Haynes (1753–1833) wasn't just breaking a barrier—he was shattering it. Born to a white mother and an African father, indentured until he was 21, he fought as a minuteman in the Revolutionary War. Then he answered a call to ministry in the Congregational tradition (the denomination that would later become the UCC). And here's the remarkable part: **He pastored white congregations.** In New England. For 30 years in Rutland, Vermont alone. He served churches in Connecticut, Vermont, and New York—challenging racial prejudice every single day, just by showing up and being faithful. He didn't wait for permission. He didn't wait for the world to be ready. He just answered God's call and changed what was possible.

And the Story Didn't Stop There. Decades later, **Rev. Joseph H. Evans** became the first African American president of the UCC General Synod. Another first. Another moment when Team UCC said: *This is who we are. This is what we believe.*

This Is Our Heritage. When you walk into Saint Paul's, you're part of a denomination living out our faith. A denomination that has always believed that God's love doesn't see color—and that the church should be brave enough to say so, even when the world wasn't listening.

Lemuel Haynes didn't have it easy. But he had faith. He had courage. And he had a church family (our church family!) that eventually got brave enough to ordain him, to support him, to let his light shine.

That's the UCC. That's us.

We aren't the same when you're not here—and we're so grateful for the legacy of faith and courage that brought us all together.

~ Looking back on the ministries of 2025 ~

A time of celebration of who we are and who we are called to be.

Sunday, February 22, 2026

following worship ... there will be cake!

Saint Paul's @ The Farm

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
Carol Engle
Traci Eschbach
Robin Huffman
Dottie Leeser
Todd Miller
Cindy Prether
Ed & Eileen Prowant
Chuck Schworer
Tommy Ward
Barclay Wilson
The Wynn Family
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.



Recalculating: A Lenten Journey with Jesus. You know that GPS voice, right? The one that calmly says "recalculating" when you've taken a wrong turn or the route suddenly changes? That's Lent. Here's the thing: **We think we know where love is headed.** We've got our maps. We know the rules. We know who deserves our love and who doesn't. We know what sacrifice looks like. We know our limits. And then **Jesus says something that completely flips it all around.** Love your enemies? The last shall be first? Forgive 70 times 7? Wash feet like a servant? **Recalculating: Join Us on the Journey.**

From **Ash Wednesday (February 18) through Easter (April 5)**, You are invited to join your Saint Paul's family to walk toward Jerusalem with Jesus. Each week, we're exploring a moment when Jesus teaches us something that reorients everything we thought we knew about love. Not because we're lost—but because we're learning. We're being redirected toward something deeper, truer, more beautiful than we imagined.

Palm Sunday. Holy Week. Easter. The whole journey, culminating in the ultimate recalculation: love that leads to a cross, and then to resurrection.

We aren't the same when you're not here. So, come. Bring your questions. Bring your expectations. Bring your willingness to be surprised by what Jesus teaches us about love. **The journey starts Ash Wednesday. We hope you'll join us.**

Meet You in the Gym! Join us on Thursday, February 12, 7:30 p.m. at Lewisburg Area High School for the LAHS Girls Basketball final regular season home game of the year! Join your Saint Paul's family as we cheer on the Green Dragon girls, coached by our own Brent and Mallory Sample. Go Dragons!



Upcoming Worship

February 8 ~ 5th Sunday following Epiphany
"The Work of Christmas"

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 5:13-20

Worship Leader: Drew Faust

Lector: Chris Arnold

Acolyte: Molly Faust

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: The Arnold Family

Flower Sponsor: Church

Offering Counter: E. Fisher, D. Spear

February 15 ~ Transfiguration Sunday
"This is My Son—Now Listen"

II Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Worship Leader: Drew Faust

Lector: Reba Rohrer

Acolyte: Kendrick Swartz

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsor: Fasnacht Family

Flower Sponsor: Pastor Tim

Offering Counter: D. Bettleyon, D. Spear

February Usher/Greeter Team: Bill & Lisa Bernard, Scott & Tracy Baylor, Louise Litzy, Joanna Johnson, Reba Rohrer, Chris Warner, Kim Ritter

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Makaila Huff - 2/9

DeAnna Bystedt - 2/13

David Kazibwe - 2/18

Diana Longan - 2/22

Piper Stahl - 2/28



Happy Anniversary to ...

Carol & Bobby Snyder - 2/14

Jane Rowe & Michael Humphrey - 2/22

Richard & Amy Armstrong - 2/26

Mark & Dianne Covert - 1/28

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

Have you considered sponsoring flowers to be placed in our Sanctuary during worship? We have several open dates for sponsorship. Flowers can be placed in honor, memory, or celebration of a loved one, friend, neighbor or in appreciation for something someone has done for you.

Sign up form is on our website homepage. Or, contact the church office for more information.



**Sunday Evening, February 15
Dinner at 5:00 ~ Talent at 6:00**

You are invited to come aboard for a Night of Talented Adventure ...
... and our 10th Annual
Saint Paul's @ The Farm
Delicious Spaghetti and Meatballs
Dinner!

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. On the **3rd Sunday of each month**, we gather around the tables in fellowship hall for a meal together.

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 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. 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.



Pictured: Celebrating James' 70th birthday with his faith family this week.

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. 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. Next distributions are February 12 and 26. 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

Gift & Offerings ~
2/1/26

“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: 143 (5 visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 1,500
Virtual Reach: 22,132
Christian Education: 42

Plate Giving:	3,582.00
Loose Plate:	307.00
Online Giving:	816.96
Operational Total:	4705.96
Restricted Giving:	670.00
Total Giving:	5,375.96



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

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Pastor's Email: PastorTim@spuccfarm.org
Church Website: <https://www.spuccfarm.org>