



Saint Paul's Possibilities

April 23, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

Being the Pastor of Saint Paul's is awe-inspiring work. When I stop and reflect on what goes on here daily, I am simply awestruck.

We are celebrating who we are—and who God is calling us to become.

We are:

- A woman who survived breast cancer and now makes it her work to educate and advocate for awareness
- Multiple families with children with autism and cerebral palsy who share one another's journey and offer support
- Former lifetime military service members who bring order, grounding, and commitment to keeping us safe
- Musicians and artists who share the beauty of music through a very expressive vision
- Teachers and professors, coaches and engineers, doctors and nurses
- Lesbian and gay, transgender and straight
- People who have followed Christ their entire lives and people just getting to know the God we profess to know
- Pastors and retired pastors (although I'm not sure that's really a thing)
- Those from big, loud, close families and those who barely know what it means to have a family
- And we are Penn State, but also Ohio State and Pitt and Mansfield too, to name a few

Please Pray for

Laurie Anderson
Linda Beaver
Pat Bender
John & Stephanie Bondhus
James Bowman
Traci Eschbach
Patti Faux
Hafer/Lucente Family
Jayce Heckman
Robin Huffman
Morgan Lucente & Gianni
Katy Mahon
Dan & Peggy Neuhard
Ed Prowant
Amanda Unzueta
Tommy Ward
All service personnel
Unrest in our world

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 are one big group of awe-inspiring, Jesus-loving people—and we love one another, too. We could go on defining ourselves by age, race, physical descriptions, and passions. But this I know: we are all God's children, and we are all welcome here, as long as we keep this a safe, sacred space for all God's children.

We seek to love one another with big love and serve one another in ways we realize may not be a lot to some but mean the world to others. We are called to embody this truth: *"No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here."*

Do you see why I am awestruck by this faith family? Do you understand why it takes many hats and many areas of focus for us to be the church? We are a busy place—and all thanks be to God!

And yet this work—what we are called to do, what we have before us—in many ways feels like it's just beginning anew. Over and over. And oh, how beautiful that is. We aren't here to just check a box and say okay, that's done. We are here to live as people of Christ, being the church Jesus taught us to be.

The work of being the church calls us to have a broad and all-encompassing focus. It calls us to remember whose we are and all we are called to do. Yes, we focus on our families with children with special needs. Yes, we celebrate, honor, and support those with kidney disease or breast cancer and help educate others in ways of prevention and understanding. And yes, we get to focus on those having just an ordinary day.

But we also need to keep our eyes and hearts wide open to how we love and support one another so that we don't leave anyone behind. And that takes all of us—not just a few, not just some, but all. What we are being called to do in this moment may even change over time. It certainly has for me, and I believe it has for us over the past ten years, and it will likely change multiple times more.

As I told Consistory this week, I'm asking you—all of us—to serve and support one another and keep your eyes and ears attuned to how the Holy is moving. While we are not always conventional in the way our parents or grandparents were church, I pray we are always open to following the way the Holy is leading us to be the church. I pray we keep a broad focus on all who come through our doors and allow us to journey together.

So, I ask you to join me, as we head into the middle of spring, to begin thinking about the ways you are being called to serve and we are being called to be the church. Let's listen to our fellow journeymen and women—and consider how we can be the church that the Holy calls us to be.

Again, thank you for all you do and in all the ways you pray, discern, serve, listen, and love one another. For together, we are the church.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim

The Farm Report



Saint Paul's Does Knoebels! What do you get when a big, crazy church family spends an afternoon at Knoebel's Amusement Park? You get a little wet, a little wild, and a whole lot crazy! This year's annual time at the park is **Saturday, May 2, from 1 to 6 p.m.** Plan now to meet at the entrance to the park at 1 p.m. or if you wish to carpool, plan to meet at the church to be able to shove off by 12:15. Last year we had 50+ of our faith family members and the smiles and laughter were on full display as our kids (*of all ages*) rode rides, ate kettle corn and ice cream, and road more rides. The evening will end with dinner at one of the local eating places. And this year we were gifted with ride tickets by a very generous donation. So come, invite family and friends and let's do Knoebels in Saint Paul's style! (Pictured: *The Parker Family Fluming*)

Our Tribute Garden at Saint Paul's @ The Farm. On Sunday, May 24, we will celebrate Pentecost, a time of remembering the Holy Spirit coming down upon the Disciples in their day and for us here today. One of the ways we remember the Holy Spirit's presence is by remembering and celebrating the presence of those gone before us and the saints that surround us today. It has become a Saint Paul's tradition to remember and celebrate by planting gardens of red geraniums around our church. If you would like to sponsor a geranium in honor, memory, or celebration of a saint in your life, order forms will be available in your Sunday worship bulletin beginning next week May 3 or you may order online via the link on our website homepage. The cost is \$5 per pot. The geraniums will be used to remind us of the spirit's presence on Pentecost and then be planted on the church grounds the following week as a reminder for the season as a tribute of the saints both with us and gone before us. Thank you for remembering, honoring, and celebrating with us once again.





Celebrating Our Kiddos in Sports and More! We want to be there to celebrate and cheer on! If your child or grandchild is playing this spring and summer, please add their schedule to our Prayers and Love Facebook page. Tell us when and where—because we want to show up. We want to sit in those bleachers. We want to cheer. We want your kids to know that Saint Paul's sees them, supports them, and believes in them. And, this year's Challenger Baseball season includes two celebrations you won't want to miss. **Sunday, May 24, at 5 p.m.** at the Mifflinburg Field on 8th Street, join us for our annual picnic at the Challenger Game. Bring your family, bring your appetite, bring your cheers. This is community at its best. And on **Sunday, June 14, at 5:30 p.m.** at the New Berlin Field, it's flags and ice cream. Come wave those flags, celebrate these athletes, and share something sweet together.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Linda Beaver - 4/26

Lori Bennett - 4/26

Kyra Richard - 4/29

Sylvia Eschbach - 5/1

Sharon Klose - 5/3

Rhonda Newton - 5/3

Ember Richard - 5/6

Skylar Ritter - 5/7

Kim Ritter - 5/11



Happy Anniversary to ...

Dean & Nancy Haven - 5/10

David & Kelly Kazibwe - 5/12



Churches Fight Hunger in Conference-Wide Eastertide Food Collection.

Article by Donna Jackson | published April 21, 2026 on the ucc.org website.

In part, the article read, "As the last of the Easter morning hallelujahs drifted into the air, members of **Saint Paul's United Church of Christ** quickly began removing the lilies

that graced the chancel with their heavenly-scented message "Christ is risen!" The Easter celebration wasn't over. It was just getting started for the Lewisburg, Pennsylvania congregation as they replaced the flowers with bushel baskets, food carts and moveable metal shelves. The result was a powerful visual boldly proclaiming the Easter response, "He is risen, indeed!" Saint Paul's sanctuary morphed into a makeshift food pantry as part of its "yes" to **Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ's "50 Days of Easter Food Challenge."** "This display is our reminder of how great the need is. Saint Paul's is excited to be participating in this challenge," said the Rev. Timothy Hogan-Palazzo. 512 churches within in the Keystone Conference were invited to collect and donate food to their local pantries during the **Great 50 Days** of Easter, and then report the amounts gathered on the Conference's website. For Saint Paul's Hogan-Palazzo, the 50 Days of Easter Food Challenge couldn't have come at a better time. "The hunger crisis is real — growing," he said. Saint Paul's now serves up to 300 families through their Fresh Express Food Distribution, a reflection of what is happening throughout Central Pennsylvania. "It is getting more difficult for people to get not only food, but any kind of assistance," said Hogan-Palazzo. For the faithful at Saint Paul's, seeing the bushel baskets and pantry shelves on the chancel fill with canned goods and other non-perishables each week is a reminder that there is a tension to these 50 days of Easter of living with the joy of resurrection hope in a world still needing to be healed and fed. As a reminder, the next two weeks items for donation are: **April 26-May 2: Pasta and Sauce; May 3-9: Boxed Potatoes, Rice, and Stuffing.**

Upcoming Worship

April 26 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

"What the Sheep"

Psalm 23; John 10:1-10

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Louise Litzy

Acolyte: Kate Parker

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: Council/Eschbach Families

Flower Sponsor: Priscilla Lanks

Offering Counter: P. Emory, D. Spear

May 3 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

"An Eye Roll Moment"

1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Worship Leader: Niki Weber

Lector: Holly Barbella

Acolyte: Finley Cree

Communion Assistants: Carol Oberlin,

Kelly Kazibwe, Autumn Faust, Donna Spear

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsor: Kathy Showers

Flower Sponsor: Available

Offering Counter: A. Henry, D. Spear

May Usher/Greeter Team: Bill & Lisa Bernard,

Louise Litzy, Joanna Johnson, Tracy & Scott Baylor,

Reba Rohrer, Chris Warner, Kim Ritter

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** beginning at 5 p.m. 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.

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

Gifts & Offerings ~ 4/19/26	
Attendance: 145 (3 visitors)	
LIVE Attendance: 1,128	
Virtual Reach: 12,552	
Christian Education: 85	
Plate Giving: 1,533.00	
Loose Plate: 234.00	
Online Giving: 1,138.11	
Operational Total: 2,905.11	
Restricted Giving: 1,255.00	
Total Giving: 4,160.11	

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

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 April 23, May 14 & 28. We also participate in **Community Harvest**, a monthly meal program in conjunction with Bucknell’s Center for Community Engaged Leadership, Learning & Research. We cook on the

4th Monday of each month from 1-4 p.m. at St. John’s UCC and assist on select months with monthly distribution there on the 3rd Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Pictured is Ryan Arnold, at his Eagle Scout celebration last Sunday with sisters Erica and Makaila. So proud of you, Ryan!



**Saint Paul’s @ The Farm**
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