



# Saint Paul's Possibilities

June 27, 2025

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

In my undergraduate Psychology class, our seats were arranged in a circle as the professor said we had much to learn from one another and it was easier to learn looking at faces than the back of heads. One evening, we came into class, got situated in our usual spots in the circle, and he fired off the first question of the evening without any fanfare or introduction.

“What religion are you?”

And tapped a classmate on the shoulder and said, “go.” That classmate blurted out that he was Catholic. The professor pointed at the next person telling us to keep going, the next person said “Baptist.” Then the next, “Methodist.” The next agnostic. The next Episcopal, Baptist, non-denominational, evangelical, Church of Christ, it really started moving quickly around the circle until all of a sudden the professor shouted, “Stop!” Startled a bit, the room became immediately silent. That’s when he explained the question.

He shared that we had done what most people will do--we explained our affiliation with a group of people. Instead, he said, “Your religion isn’t your affiliation with an organization. Your religion is what you are in your heart 24x7x365.”

I’ve never forgotten that class, that question, the explanation or the discussion we had that night about how what we believe in our hearts is how we act and that deep-hearted belief impacting our action, that is what defines our religion.

This week alone, I have heard three different stories of people struggling with “religion”--when in reality, they are struggling with the actions of others that couch their actions in their personal definition of religion. Instead of seeking to understand and act on their own beliefs, these people have become paralyzed by what others are doing and saying, allowing others to influence their own religion so much they are ready to leave their faith behind.

I would say and have said, “Why are you allowing others to have power over you?” Are you putting other’s definition of God and Jesus above what you know in your heart? Are you allowing others who hide behind religion to define who Christ is for you, or are you living out who you believe Christ to be?

It is sad and even maddening when people couch their actions behind their “religion” to justify killing, war, segregation, ordination of power of one person over another, profit over care for people, marginalization over unity. And I often find myself asking the question rhetorically, “Who are you?” Maybe that is the better question than, “what religion are you?” I mean the answer is the same to either question. Our actions and reactions define who we are.

Do we allow actions of others to fracture and paralyze us and keep us from being who God calls us to be? Preventing our God given gifts to help others? I know more questions, but seriously, “Who are you?” What is your religion? Have you turned to an opinion and entertainment source to fill your mind and heart with religion, or have you rolled up your sleeves and lived out what you say you believe?

I believe the thing that makes me the saddest is both the people who walk away from their beliefs because they have allowed others to define “religion” for them and those that sit by and watch other’s faith deteriorate and don’t reach out to check in with those who may be hurting. “That’s just the way it is,” is not an option, at least it wasn’t to Jesus, nor do I believe it should be to Jesus’ followers. What religion are you?

## Join Us in Prayer for

Linda Beaver  
Gloria Brandt  
Earlene Brasher  
Gary Chambers  
Nicole & Dale Cuer  
The Engle Family  
Greyson Greenawalt  
Celeste Hampton  
John “Tad” Hampton  
Joan Helwig  
Al & Ruth Henry  
Kathy Lahr  
Katy Mahon  
Eschbach/Snyder Family  
Savanah Spacil  
Joanne Oister  
Chuck Schworer  
John Waldron  
Barb Wagner  
Tommy Ward  
Russ & Donna Wynn

*On the Journey Together, Pastor Tim*



# The Farm Report

**Yahoo! It's a Celebration!** Cool and the gang have nothing on Saint Paul's @ The Farm! We know how to celebrate too! First, you are invited to come and help The Kazibwe family celebrate David becoming a United States citizen. The celebration will take place at the home of Carol Oberlin, 629 Walnut Street, Mifflinburg, on Sunday, June 29, with an open house between the hours of 2 p.m. and 9 p.m. There will be drinks, food, and swimming and all are welcome!



**8,500 Reasons to Celebrate!** Your generosity is reason to celebrate! Between four separate fundraisers, one for Go Greg, One for Go Greyson, One for Go Fresh Express and a joint Go Greg / Fill the Freezer event you have generously donated a total of more than \$8,500 for these Mission & Outreach events! Thank you! Because of you, we have been able to provide \$2,800 for Go Grey, \$1,698 to Go Greg, \$720 for a new Freezer, and \$3,443 for Proteins and "Filling the Freezer." What fun it was and is to serve and celebrate our Outreach Ministries and Missions in this way. This faith community never ceases to amaze us in how they support the mission of your faith community, being the church.

**High Gear Summer!** Everyone around the Farm, come on! We have many celebrations to choose from coming up in July for the summer. What's your pleasure? It's time to come together for:

Every Sunday Morning ~ Coffee & Conversation before and after our Worship service

Every Monday Morning ~ Reflections at 11:30 a.m. (a second look at the week's texts)

Every Wednesday ~ Lunch with Pastor Tim on the Porch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

July 2 ~ Friends Who Breakfast, 9:45 a.m. at Street of Shops

July 6 ~ Miniature Golf & Ice Cream – Teen & Young Adult Event

July 10 & 24 ~ Fresh Express (volunteers from 1-5 p.m.)

July 13 ~ Wild & Wet Family Night @ The Farm 5 p.m.

(all are welcome!)

July 16 ~ Friends Who Breakfast, 9:30 a.m. at Silver Moon

July 20 ~ Cookout & Ice Cream Freeze off, Following Worship

***Ice cream makers get those freezers ready for this  
3<sup>rd</sup> annual competition!***

July 25 ~ Word, Wine & Wisdom, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Union Cellars

July 27 ~ Special Teen & Young Adult Event

And...to keep the celebrations going, check out some really special August events as well:

August 10 ~ Take Me Out to the Crosscutters, 4:05 p.m.

August 16 ~ Back to School Chicken Barbeque & Swim, 4 p.m.

Watch Prayers & Love for other possible "pop-up" celebrations!

Let's all celebrate and have a good time!



## Celebrations

### ***Happy Birthday ...***

June 28 – Marianne Zeyn

June 30 – Krysta Moyer

July 2 – Charley Jo Kister

July 5 – Myrtle Hogan

July 5 – Emma Hott

July 6 – Sharon Foust

July 6 – Sue Overdorf

July 6 – Sharon Styer

### ***Happy Anniversary ...***

June 30 – Patty & Eric Wagner

July 1 – Lori & Ken Bennett

July 6 – Christine & McNeil Parker



**Parents, Asking for Your Help.** The Farm is sacred safe space open to all, especially our youngest family members, we need your help keeping it safe and ready to welcome all. To do so we are asking you to help us maintain the following guidelines with notes:

- All rooms are staffed, open and available during worship on Sunday mornings this summer starting at 10:15 a.m.
- Your Sensory Room, Nursery, and Nursing Rooms are always open and should be used by the age or needs appropriate families and children only, always with adult/age-appropriate supervision.
- The classroom is also open. However, depending on the needs / events this room may need to be closed at certain times and never open as a free play area without supervision.
- A new age-appropriate play area is being designed for times outside of worship.

Please help us maintain these safe spaces by keeping each area used by age and needs appropriate children, clean, organized and picked up following use. Additionally, we ask that no one access teaching supplies unless given specific permission by a teacher.

By helping us with these things you help us to maintain welcoming sacred space for all.

**Looking for Something?** Can't remember where you left your insulated cup or maybe your dish from the last luncheon / meal, or maybe, just maybe you forgot your craft or yours or your child's sippy cup or binky... We know you where you might find them... Check out the Welcome Table just inside Fellowship Hall and see if by chance we have it here. Help us find where some of these items may belong.

**A Note of Thanks.** Last week at the annual Challenger Baseball awards banquet, Saint Paul's was recognized for their support of the 2025 Season from the field to the concession stand. It was so wonderful to be a part of this great group of players, coaches, buddies, and families' lives this season. We are grateful we got to share in a part of the journey with all these families. Looking forward to next year already.

**Traveling This Summer?** Take us with you. Our services are live streamed on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. as well as archived so you can watch later in your day, if that is more convenient. *Or if you would be so inclined check out a church where you are vacationing as we always have something we can learn from each other and then come back and share with Pastor Tim your experience.* We have a great tech team who ensures a high-quality viewing experience for those watching online, to help you feel like you are right here with us when you are away or can't be here for any reason. Of course, we always love to have you here in person, however joining us remotely is the next best thing. Sharing Tithes and Offerings over the summer may be done remotely as well. Click on the QR code on the screen during the offering time, set up recurring giving as a part of your Engage account, or register and click the QR code here and save it as a favorite to give either when you are here or while you are away. Your gifts matter and make a difference.



## On the Journey

### Sunday Mornings @ The Farm

- ~ Nursery & Sensory Rooms Open 10:15 a.m.
- ~ Sunday School returns August 31
- ~ Worship 10:30 a.m.
- ~ Children's Church (ages 3 to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)
- ~ Breakfast returns August 31
- ~ First Sunday Communion

### Music Rehearsals @ The Farm

- ~ Bell Choir Rehearsal returns September 3
- ~ Chancel Choir Rehearsal returns August 31
- ~ Children's Choir Practice returns September 7

### Christian Formation @ The Farm

- ~ Second Sunday Connections 5 to 6:45 p.m.  
Join us on second Sunday evenings for dinner, lessons, and crafts for all ages. 7/13
- ~ Monday Morning Reflections 11:30 a.m.  
Gather with Pastor Tim and dig a bit deeper into the week's texts.
- ~ Wednesday Evening Interactive 6:30 p.m.  
Returns September 3.
- ~ Confirmation Class every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 5 p.m. exploring our faith through class and field trips.

### Fellowship @ The Farm

- ~ Wednesday Lunch with Pastor Tim on the porch, 11:30-1:00 a.m.
- ~ Friends Who Breakfast  
7/2 Street of Shops Restaurant, 9:45 a.m.
- ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Word, Wine & Wisdom, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Union Cellars, 6/27, 7/25

### Serving @ The Farm Mission & Outreach

- ~ Fresh Express 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays 1-5 p.m.  
7/10, 7/24
- ~ Harvest Meal 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays @ St. Andrews, Milton 1-5 p.m. Next date TBA
- ~ Emergency Food Pantry is always available @ Grace Place (little red wagon drop off)  
This week's "Little Red Wagon" needs are:  
**peanut butter, jelly, soup, apple sauce, shelf stable milk, canned vegetables, Chef Boyardee canned meals, and grocery gift cards.**



## Stewardship

### Gifts & Offerings June 22, 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: 148

Attendance on LIVE: 1,203 Virtual Reach: 4,367

Christian Education: 35

Plate Giving	\$ 1,887.00
Loose Plate	\$ 211.00
Online Giving	\$ 782.03
Operational Total	\$ 2,880.03
Restricted Giving	\$ 185.00
Total Giving	\$ 3,065.03

## Upcoming Worship

### June 29, 2025 ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*"Am I Missing the Point?"*

Psalm 16; Luke 9:51-62

Worship Leader: Susie Gearhart

Lector: Donna Spear Acolyte: Bo Gill

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Flower Sponsor: Sue O., Georgia H., Allen F.

Offering Counter: C. Franciscus, D. Spear

### July 6, 2025 ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*"Now That is Something to Celebrate"*

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Worship Leader: Sue Overdorf

Lector: Louise Litzy Acolyte: Brigid Hagen

Communion Assistants: Terri Fisher, Louise Litzy,  
Donna Spear, Jenn Van Horn

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Flower Sponsor: Pastor Tim & Chip

Offering Counter: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

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

*Not able to be here in person on Sunday morning? Join us LIVE on Facebook and YouTube. Connect with us online at: [spuccfarm.org](https://www.spuccfarm.org) and follow us on Facebook.*



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

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