



SAINT PAUL'S NEWS

welcoming saints and sinners since 1900

June 2, 2021

“What happens here doesn’t stay here...”

“Wherever We Touch Down”

Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo



Dear Church Family,

Our niece and her fiancé came to visit on their way to their summer jobs in Monson, Maine. As is their tradition, they stopped to visit with friends and family along the way and usually, each place they stop, we each share something with them for their journey. At a friend’s home, before reaching us, a friend had fixed them breakfast and gave them a few plants for their Summer garden in Maine. One of the plants that he gave them looked odd and intriguing to me. The plant looked a little like green onions, but all curled up with twists and turns. We all came to the same conclusion as we looked at them together:

we had not seen or heard of them before but their friend called them Egyptian Walking Onions.

A quick “Rabbi Google” search and viola ...it gets its common name from the way it “walks” across the garden. Instead of flowers, this plant produces topsets, a cluster of bulbils, at the top of the stalk where the flowers and seeds would normally be. The stalks eventually flop over from the weight of the bulbils (if not harvested) and replant themselves, thus beginning their “walk” across the ground. The plants are thought to be originally native to India or Pakistan, then later introduced into Europe by the Romans. A quite fascinating concept, walking onions are supposedly heavy producers when they “walk.” And, as most plants do, they grow best when they fall into well-tilled soil.

I am fascinated by these plants. I just had a conversation with someone this past weekend about how one of the plants in their landscape begins to root wherever it touches the ground and begins a new plant, like forsythia, or blackberry vines. It’s growing season and the plants seem to have something to teach us. I also thought of Paul’s text to the church of Corinth in his first letter, when he compared people and their faith/belief to planning: He wrote in Chapter three verses four to nine.

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“When someone says, “I belong to Paul,” and someone else says, “I belong to Apollos,” aren’t you acting like people without the Spirit? After all, what is Apollos? What is Paul? They are servants who helped you to believe. Each one had a role given to them by the Lord: I planted, Apollos watered, but God made it grow. Because of this, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but the only one who is anything is God who makes it grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together, but each one will receive their own reward for their own labor. We are God’s coworkers, and you are God’s field, God’s building.”

God, as Paul describes it (and as I understand it), is the Master Gardener, and wherever we touch down it should be in a place where we can be nurtured and grow. Of course, I’m thinking about our faith, yet isn’t this true with all of life? Sometimes life gets heavy and we have to sit, fall, or even lay down for a bit. And in the space of taking a break, we begin to grow anew from that space.

If we are nurtured and grow, we either spread the seeds around us which attracts others or maybe we touch down in a new place and begin something anew. This coming Friday will mark four years to the day that I was installed as the Pastor of Saint Paul’s United Church of Christ. I have been nurtured in this space. I have grown and hopefully will continue to grow as the Pastor of this beautiful family and community of faith. I came here as a place to sit down and rest, so to speak, taking time to discern where God was leading. And while I was here on sabbatical, I was nurtured and cared for, and God began to grow in me here.

Life changes and evolves for us, and hopefully wherever we touch down, we can enter rich soil, nurturing space, where we can find encouragement and nutrition to grow, and be faithful to the pursuit of peace in our lives. This peace allows us to offer that same nurturing ground around us for others to find a place of growth.

Many of our family members at Saint Paul’s have come from different places in their lives, many backgrounds of faith, some of no faith connection, and some have been planted here a long time and are nurtured here and help provide nurture for us all. God provides and will always provide somehow, someway, if we but allow it. We are called to prepare the soil, plant the seeds through our own actions, water them with warm welcome, love, and grace, and God will help them grow.

Sometimes being replanted is hard, growing anew is daunting. Yet, if we nurture, encourage, give strength to others, we too can grow and the tapestry of growth becomes like a (and forgive the analogy) bunch of Egyptian Walker Onions all intertwined and growing together. I pray God helps you grow in this garden we call Saint Paul’s. May we bloom where we are planted, may we prepare the soil and water the seeds and grow in God’s great community with love.

Peace,
Pastor Tim

In Our Daily Prayers...

Dick Albright
Gail Earnest
Gladys Fawcett
Eileen Fusaro
Greyson Greenawalt
Steve Harding
Mina Hoover

Amy Keller
Mary Rose Knelly
Cindy Lloyd
Keith Long
Katy Mahon
Sandy Merritt
Tammy McCarty

Family & Friends of Ed Nelson
Oliver
The Prager Family
Tina Reid and Family
Jane Scurfield
Alecia Snyder and Family
Donna and Russ Wynn, Sr.



News from Home...

The choir will join us for one final anthem of the season this Sunday, June 6. Just because choir is over does NOT mean music is over!! We are looking for people to share their talents for worship services throughout the summer. If you are interested, please contact Russ Wynn with a date. The whole summer is wide open! So, if you, or someone you know will share their gifts...please contact Russ.



“Pasta and Performance!” is Sunday, June 27, in the Fellowship Hall at 1125 Mahoning Street. Join us as we celebrate this year’s Talent Show and share in a spaghetti dinner, meatballs and all. This year will be a hybrid talent show including the videos you submitted (with your permission) and live performances. Please contact Russ Wynn as soon as possible to schedule a time slot for your talent. We are looking for all kinds of talent...from all kinds of people! Remember that talent is not necessarily musical - you may be great at writing or reading poetry, maybe acting is your thing, or dancing, or crafting...show us what you've got!!

Deadline for entries is Sunday June 20!

If you like to plan... Here are some upcoming events to add to your calendar:

Sunday, June 6 – Communion
 Sunday, June 13 – Community Dinner at 5 p.m.
 Saturday, June 19 – Gerry Shreck Memorial Service
 Sunday, June 20 – Grayson Greenawalt Baptism
 Sunday, June 27 – Pasta and Performance at 5 p.m.

Sunday, July 4 – Communion
 Sunday, July 18 – Swim Party and Chicken BBQ 4 p.m. (Gill Home)

Sunday, August 1 – Communion
 Sunday, August 8 – Gill Baptisms
 Sunday, August 22 – Back to School Picnic and Swim Party

Sunday, September 5 – Blessing of the Animals
 Sunday, September 12 – Rally Day All Church Potluck
 Monday, September 13 – Monday Morning Preacher Returns at 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesday, September 15 – Family Formation Returns (Dinner, Bible Study, Youth Events, Music)
 Sunday, September 26 – S’mores and a Movie

Faith Formation and Worship News...

Sunday Morning’s with Dave and Friends... Will return Sunday, September 12

Monday Morning Preacher... Will return Monday, September 13.

Wednesdays Theology Mashup... Will return Wednesday, September 15.



Thinking about a Zoom option for a meeting or a faith formation group... all Zoom gatherings are held via <https://zoom.us/>; Meeting ID 570-568-1433; Passcode 0501

We continue to meet for worship at 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, and we will continue to seek ways to worship safely and make wherever we are our home. We put our faith and trust in God the one we follow and serve in the name of and live in to the assurance that “where two are three are gathered in my name, there I will be also.” (Matt. 18:20). We hope you will choose to worship in person with us as you are comfortable and able.

Want to join or are you looking for online worship or a worship replay? Like you can't get enough of Pastor Tim's message (right!)? Replay of services are always available via YouTube or Facebook. Links are on our website homepage <https://www.spuccwm.org/> or below:

Saint Paul's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintpaulswestmilton>

Saint Paul's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx534qz98pw4lEcpsJznLnw>

Mission and Outreach News...

Free Community Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, June 13, 2021, beginning at 5 p.m. The meals will be drive-through and will follow the original meal schedule of June, August, October, December, February, and April. The dinners will operating out of Milton Lutheran Parish's Christ Evangelical Lutheran facility at 1125 Mahoning Street in Milton,

For the meal on June 13, Saint Paul's UCC is providing desserts, while Milton Lutheran Parish is providing chicken corn soup and rolls, and Bethany UMC is providing the salad and dressing packets. Please contact Diane Bettleyon at 570-716-4074 (cell phone) or send her a message on Facebook to let her know if you will provide a dessert. You can drop off your dessert on Sunday, June 13, before church from 9:30 to 10:30 or after church between 11:45 and 1:00. Or, you can make arrangements for Diane to pick up from your house on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Helpers are also need during the drive-through, so contact Diane if you would like to help with this wonderful community mission project.

Fresh Express Food Distributions are on Thursday, June 10 and 24. We thank our amazing FE team headed up by General Al Henry, Lieutenant Earl Fisher, and Captain Beth Vincent, and all are welcome to join this wonderful mission opportunity, helping to keep our community nourished.

Saint Paul's Coffee Club is an ongoing mission project at Saint Paul's and funds community needs. We keep a small inventory of organic coffees, teas, and chocolate products from Fair-Trade Farmers on hand for purchase. These make really nice gifts or treat yourself in the name of giving back. Visit the homepage of our website <https://www.spuccwm.org/> to peruse the products and order online directly at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUFv0I59q0a6qKVatYdF8wy4jQoSA0ZnTh_vN ZvpYwhO-HsQ/viewform

Or call Donna at the office to find out more about supporting SPUCC's Coffee Club!



This Week at Saint Paul's...

- Thurs., June 3** **Happy Anniversary Merle Kay and Jerry Englehart**
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open
- Fri., June 4** **Happy Birthday Irelynn Guinter**
Happy Birthday Joan Helwig
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open
- Sun., June 6** **Happy Birthday Cyndy Kister**
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship LIVE Online & In-Person at
1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847
- Mon., June 7** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open
- Tues., June 8** **Happy Birthday Dick Bettleyon**
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open
- Wed., June 9** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

And a little look ahead: Thursday, June 10, Fresh Express 2 to 5 p.m.
Tuesday, June 15, Consistory Meeting at 6 p.m.
Wednesday, June 16, Staff Meeting 11 a.m.

Upcoming Sunday Worship,,,

LIVE stream and In Person @ 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton

June 6, 2021
Second Sunday after Pentecost
"Family Ties"
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35
Lector: Amy Snider
Flower Sponsor: Available
Offering Counter: R. Newton, D. Spear

June 13, 2021
Third Sunday after Pentecost
"Kin-dom Creation"
Mark 4:25-33
Lector: Robin Brown
Flower Sponsor: Available
Offering Counter: A. Henry, D. Spear

June Usher Team:
Drew Faust
Sue Mahon
Amy Snider
Steve and Robin Brown
Earl Fisher

June Worship Leader:
Amy Armstong

