

# Saint Paul's Possibilities

May 3, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

Have you ever had an experience or wondered: Is there room for me in this faith or even faith family/church? Not if you have it all figured out. Not if you believe the right things or act the right way. But just... room for me?

I was reading a book this week, and the author named this exact longing. She said: "I thought about God, even though I didn't talk about God. I didn't have big theological questions about the Trinity or the virgin birth, or the end of the world. I just wanted to know if there was room for me in this faith built on and in community."

I read that and thought: How many people come through our doors asking the same question—with their guard up, not quite expecting to find a place?

Here's what I know: Jesus kept it simple. Love one another. Everything else grows from there.

And here's what I believe we're called to do: Create a space where anyone—new here or been here forever—can explore faith, wrestle with doubt, ask hard questions, and know they won't be pushed away or judged. That takes all of us.

Everyone who walks through our doors has a framing story. Some are just beginning to trust again. Some are seeking for the first time. Some are asking if they belong. Our job is to answer yes before they even finish the question. The only caveat is, as long as we all respect and honor that this is safe space for all.

I encourage you this week:

Welcome the stranger. Get to know the people you don't yet know. Offer someone a seat beside you in worship or at your table. Listen more than you speak. You might learn something. They might encounter Jesus in your kindness.

Let's show everyone who comes through our doors: there is a place for you. No matter your story, no matter what brought you here—you are welcome. This is a safe place for all.

May your week be filled with grace as we journey together.

*Please Pray for*

Laurie Anderson  
Linda Beaver  
John & Stephanie Bondhus  
James Bowman  
Traci Eschbach  
Patti Faux  
Rebecca Foote  
Jayce Heckman  
Robin Huffman  
Jack Knelly  
Chuck Schworer  
Amanda Unzueta  
Tommy Ward  
Joan Yeziorski  
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.*

*Peace and Blessings, Pastor Tim*

## HC Spirit Camp

*In the Wilderness*



Sunday, July 26 - Saturday, August 1

**Sunday - Saturday**  
Elementary - Grades 3-5  
Middle School - Grades 6-8  
High School - Grades 9-12



**Sunday - Wednesday**  
Getting Started - Grades K-2  
Intergenerational Camp

**Wednesday - Saturday**  
Camp of the Heart -  
different abilities  
Heart and Soul Camp - Adults



For more information or to register go to [HCSpiritcamp.org](https://HCSpiritcamp.org) or use this code!



# The Farm Report



## Fostering Sun

Here are some great ways to connect with your faith family in the coming weeks:

May 17 following worship  
Mother's Day Luncheon in  
Fellowship Hall

May 22 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Word, Wine, and Wisdom  
at Union Cellars

May 24 at 5 p.m.  
Our Annual Challenger Baseball  
picnic at the Mifflinburg Field on  
8<sup>th</sup> Street

June 14 at 5:30 p.m.  
At the New Berlin Field, it's flags  
and ice cream. Come celebrate  
these athletes, and share  
something sweet together

June 21 at 10:30 a.m.  
Our worship service this day will  
be held at Central Oak Heights  
followed by a picnic and games!

## **Before the Parade Passes By...There's Work to Be Done!**

Picture it: Saturday, June 27. Market Street in Lewisburg. Our Saint Paul's float rolling past with colors, music, and joy—celebrating 250 years of American heritage with baseball, apple pie, ice cream, hot dogs, and something even more meaningful: our own veterans leading the way. This is our moment to show up for our nation's semi quincentennial, and we need you. There's something for everyone.

- **Build with us** on Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings throughout June, plus some evenings leading up to the parade. No experience necessary—just bring enthusiasm and your willingness to create something beautiful together. There's something sacred about building something by hand with your faith family.
- **Walk with us** through town. Wear our parade shirt (new this year!), smile at the crowds, and let your presence say: We're here. We're grateful. We're community.
- **Honor our veterans** by standing alongside them as they celebrate the nation they've served.

Before this parade passes by, don't let the moment pass you by. Come build. Come walk. Come celebrate with us. See you in June.

## **A Tradition Returns...Father's Day at Central Oak Heights.** Mark your calendar: Sunday, June 21.

Worship at 10:30 a.m. under the open-air tabernacle at Central Oak Heights. And then—picnic lunch, yard games, swimming, and the kind of day that reminds us why we're here. This tradition started back in 2017, and we're thrilled it's returning.

**Here's what the day looks like:** After worship, we're firing up the grill for hot dogs and hamburgers. Bring a picnic side to share—it's the old-fashioned way of saying "I'm part of this community." Then come ready to play: sack races, cornhole, horseshoes, ladder ball, maybe even wiffle ball if we're feeling ambitious. The pool will be open for anyone who wants to cool off.

It's the kind of day that builds memories—the kind that seven-year-olds talk about for years, that grandparents remember with joy, that reminds us what it means to be church together. No performance. No pretense. Just faith family, food, games, and laughter in the sunshine.

Celebrate Father's Day with us this year. Whether you're a father, you miss one, you're grieving one, or you're simply grateful for the men who've shaped you—this is a day to belong, to rest, and to remember that you're part of something bigger.

Worship starts at 10:30 a.m. Bring a picnic dish. Bring your competitive spirit. Bring your whole self. See you at Central Oak Heights, 78 Heritage Road, Lewisburg (accessible from 15 Southbound only – go to West Milton exit and come south on 15 from there).

## Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

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

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

# 50 Day Food Challenge



Please place your items in the little red wagon or in the baskets at the front of the Sanctuary so we can keep up with a count for the challenge. Your gifts matter in so many ways.

**April 19-25:  
Cereal / Cake Mixes**

**April 26-May 2:  
Pasta and Sauce**

**May 3-9:  
Boxed Potatoes, Rice, and Stuffing**

**May 10-17:  
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cooking Oil,  
Shelf Stable Milk**

**May 18-24:  
Dish Soap, Paper Products  
(Towels, Toilet Tissue, Tissues)**

**May 25-June 1:  
Personal-Sized Toiletries**

**Breakfast Is Served? No, Really, Breakfast Is Served.** We have a good problem. Our Sunday breakfast gatherings have grown so much that we can't keep up. What started as a generous way to welcome people before worship has become a beloved community ritual—and we're running out of eggs, so to speak. So we're trying something new.

Here's what's changing for May: Our family volunteers will still bring breakfast and our kitchen team will be serving breakfast directly from the kitchen. The Coffee Bar will still be stocked with extras as available, and the whole setup is designed to make it easier on our volunteers and make sure everyone gets fed.

After May, we'll shift to our summer refreshments on the porch—lighter fare, easier on everyone as we move into warmer months. But coffee will still be ready at 9:45 every Sunday morning. This will also allow us time to retool for Fall, still offering breakfast, hopefully for more people.

Here's what matters most: To everyone who has shared breakfast with us this season—who showed up early, who brought food, who made space at the table—thank you. You've done something sacred. And to everyone who's gathered around those tables seeking belonging, warmth, and a moment of peace before worship—thank you too. Community happens around the tables. And we're grateful to all be in this community together.



**Many Hands Make Light Work!** Eight volunteers showed up last week to paint around The Farm. Eight people who could've done something else with their day, came to help Jen and Bob prepare space to welcome a new tenant here at The Farm. They were just being the church. And we're doing it again. Here's the next opportunity: **Saturday, May 9th. 9a.m. to noon.** Come for coffee and donuts at 8:30 while the sun's still low. Stay for the work—weeding, edging, spreading mulch, sprucing up our Farm home for spring. There's something good about working side-by-side in the soil, getting your hands dirty together, watching a

neglected corner transform into something cared-for. Finish with pizza at noon and the satisfaction of knowing you helped prepare this space—where we worship, where we welcome, where we gather—for the seasons ahead. No experience needed. Bring your tools if you choose and just show up ready to work and laugh and be part of something that matters. You are needed here. See you Saturday. Our next project coming up will be to help create our new pavilion! See Jen Van Horn for more information or to volunteer.

## news and events TO WATCH FOR

- Weekly Quiet space for prayer, reflection, contemplation and to just be. Chaplain Kate is leading logistics to help make this happen.
- Cottage Meeting schedules to open with space for 10 to 14 people in each meeting led by Consistory.
- Small Group opportunities organized by Nicole Cuer.
- A late August celebration of Pastor Tim's ordination.

## Upcoming Worship

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,

Drew & Autumn Faust, Donna Spear

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsor: Kathy Showers

Flower Sponsor: Doug Hagerman

Offering Counter: A. Henry, D. Spear

May 10 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

"What's Your Story?"

1 Peter 3:13-16a; John 14:15-21

Worship Leader: Niki Weber

Lector: Barb Wagner

Acolyte: Rhett Sample

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: Joni Shoemaker

Flower Sponsor: Frank Wetzel

Offering Counter: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

May Usher/Greeter Team: Bill & Lisa Bernard,  
Louise Litzzy, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade **Explorers**; 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Pathfinders**; and 9<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, we enjoy **Family Night** beginning at 5 p.m. On the **3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday and Silver Moon Restaurant (9:30) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. On the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

*Featured pics this week: Gwen and Noah's expressions tell it all at our Autism Awareness Family Night this month and Molly and Nelle having a blast playing ball on opposing teams but cheering each other on!*

## *Stewardship*

Gifts & Offerings ~ 4/26/26

Attendance: 135

LIVE Attendance: 873

Virtual Reach: 6,618

Christian Education: 34

Plate Giving: 2,587.00

Loose Plate: 221.00

Online Giving: 786.79

Operational Total: 3,594.79

Restricted Giving: 447.00

Total Giving: 4,041.79

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



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

50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg, PA 17837  
Church Office Contact: 570-568-1433 / admin@spuccfarm.org  
Pastor's Email: PastorTim@spuccfarm.org  
Church Website: <https://www.spuccfarm.org>