



Saint Paul's Possibilities

October 22, 2026

News & Ways to Engage

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

We all need each other. There, I said it.

Grab a warm cup of coffee (or tea), take a deep breath, and sit with me for a few quiet moments.

Earlier this week, I caught a passing remark from a speaker who simply said, “We need each other.” Those four words have stayed with me ever since. It sounds so plain on the surface, but the deeper you look, the more profound those words become. We were never created to navigate this life as lone wolves. God did not fashion us to be completely self-contained, isolated islands of self-sufficiency. From the very beginning, we were made for relationship, designed to live in holy, gentle interdependence with one another. That circle of mutual care begins with the people closest to our dinner tables and expands outward to encompass our neighbors, our wider community, and the stranger down the road. In God’s economy of grace, no one is outside that circle of care.

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
Baby Elliott
Don Emory
Patti Faux
Rebecca Foote
Sharon Foust
Sherri Gill
Ellie Guerrero
Al Henry
Darryl Kline
Shoemaker Family
Jared Simmer
Chuck Schworer
Warner Family

I found myself thinking back to a mission trip years ago that taught me this lesson in a way I have never forgotten. Our team was assigned to help muck out a home that had been devastated by catastrophic floodwaters. When we walked inside, the destruction was overwhelming. The water line reached nearly to the ceiling, leaving behind layers of thick, foul mud, ruined drywall, and piles of soaked possessions that could not be salvaged.

As we pulled down waterlogged insulation and shoveled silt out of what had once been a cozy living room, someone on our crew spotted an old kerosene lamp buried beneath the muck. It was completely caked in dried mud, but one of our volunteers carefully took it outside to the wash bucket. She sat there patiently with a rag, wiping away the dried mud, cleaning the glass chimney, and polishing the base until the whole thing looked almost brand new.

A day or two later, the elderly homeowner came by to check on the progress of her house. When she walked through the door, our team handed her that clean, shining kerosene lamp. The moment her hands touched the glass, tears welled up in her eyes. She softly told us that the lamp had been a treasured wedding gift from her grandparents more than fifty years ago. To see it sitting there—intact, gleaming, and pulled from the wreckage—felt like a holy resurrection of memory in the middle of total ruin. In that moment, surrounded by stripped studs and bare scraped floors, we stood in a circle and wept together.

She began to tell us the story of her home. She pointed around the bare rooms and painted a picture of the life she and her late husband had built there. Everything had been arranged with their grandchildren in mind. When we looked out into the backyard, we could still see the metal remnants of an above-ground pool where the kids had splashed on hot summer afternoons, and the weathered frame of a swing set resting against the back fence.

The physical conditions of that week were hard. It was sweltering hot, dirty, and exhausting. We had only the water we could haul in by hand and only the electricity we could draw from a noisy generator out back. Our trip was only seven days long, and we knew we could only touch three houses in modest ways while the full restoration of that neighborhood would take months, if not years.

Yet what happened in that broken house went far beyond drywall and shovels. You might think, looking from the outside, that she was entirely dependent on our labor. But the truth is, our team was every bit as dependent on her. We needed her courage, her hospitality, her stories, and her grace. Her encouragement lifted our spirits when our muscles ached; her willingness to let us into her sacred grief opened our hearts. That week, we didn’t just work—we cried together, laughed together, and prayed together around that polished lamp.

That is the beauty of holy interdependence. Sometimes we step into a situation believing we are the strong ones arriving to offer help to someone in need, only to discover that the people we came to serve are the very ones who offer us light, perspective, and deeper faith. Needing one another is not a sign of failure or weakness; it is the way God knit humanity together. We give what we have, we receive what others offer, and together we become whole.

As we look toward Tuesday, November 3, our country will once again head to the voting booths. In our culture right now, there is so much noise, anxiety, and harsh rhetoric pulling people apart. I know that within our own church family, people arrive with diverse life experiences and perspectives. You may identify as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, a Green Party member, or you may resist every label altogether.

Yet before any political affiliation, we belong to God, and we belong to one another. Faithful civic participation does not ask us to abandon our convictions, nor does it ask us to ignore our own families. Rather, it invites us to bring our deepest Christian values into the public square—to weigh the wellbeing, safety, and dignity of our neighbors right alongside our own. It calls us to reject contempt, fear, and divisive speech, choosing instead the humility of Jesus, who always kept his eyes on the vulnerable, the hurting, and the forgotten. As we were reminded Sunday in Dave's message, the foundation that holds all things together is our love for God and our love for our neighbors.

When you fill out your ballot—whether at home or at the polling place—may you carry that spirit with you. May you remember the homeowner, the neighbor, the family struggling to make ends meet and care for a loved one, and the stranger you run in to in the grocery store.

Let us be people who carry the kerosene lamp into dark places—polishing away the mud of cynicism, sharing our light freely, and holding fast to the truth that we are always better, stronger, and more faithful when we walk together.

With love, gratitude, and a warm cup of grace, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

It Takes a Village—It Takes a Church. This past weekend gave us many opportunities to be the church. On Friday evening, twenty family members and friends gathered for Word, Wine, and Wisdom. We shared conversation about faith, our individual pathways, and the questions that shape us. We had church right where we were—not because we were in the sanctuary, but because we were together, listening, sharing, and making room for one another.

That same evening, volunteers began preparations for 32 quarts of chili and 32 quarts of ham and bean soup for the Faust family and friends who gathered to celebrate the life of Drew Faust's father, Dave. On Saturday, volunteers returned to prepare the space, set up the meal, and welcome approximately 75 family members and friends.

Then, early Sunday morning—some as early as 6:00—volunteers began arriving again. They helped prepare the church for worship, ready the grounds for our annual Monstrous Love event, and welcome hundreds of neighbors and families. Throughout the day, people passed out candy, grilled and served hot dogs, made s'mores around the campfire, and helped create a joyful, welcoming place for our community.

Together, we were the church.

And the weekend continued. Early Monday morning, our sexton, organist, kitchen volunteers, staff, and others prepared to welcome the Covert family as they gathered with family and friends to honor and celebrate Mark's life. Afterward, there was a meal, more fellowship, and then more work: cleaning up, resetting the space, and preparing the church for whatever ministry would come next.

This is what we mean when we talk about being the church.

Church happens here every day—not only during worship, but also in the preparation, the welcome, the shared meals, the grieving, the celebrating, the cleanup, and the quiet acts of service that often happen without much attention. No one person or small group can do all of this alone. It takes all of us.

To every volunteer who gave time, energy, creativity, care, and compassion this weekend: thank you. You represented our entire faith family, and through your service, people experienced something of God's welcome. The event itself matters, but so does everything that makes the event possible. Church happens in the hours before people arrive and in the work that continues after they leave. It happens when we step beyond our usual routines and make room for someone else.

So the next time you wonder what it means to be the church, perhaps consider taking one small step. Sign up to help. Show up when you can. Bring a dish. Welcome a neighbor. Stay a few minutes to clean up. Offer your gifts, your presence, or your prayers. You do not have to do everything. But each of us has something to offer. Because church is not simply a building or an event. Church is what happens when we gather, serve, welcome, grieve, celebrate, and care for one another. And when we do those things together, we discover again that it takes a village—and it takes a church.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...
Chadrick Bastian - 10/31
Susan Bastian - 11/1
Cathy Ward - 11/1
David Sauter - 11/2
Sergio Marques - 11/3
John Waldron III - 11/3
Trayce Cassidy - 11/6
Terri Kremer - 11/6



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

Happy Anniversary to ...
Brooke Swartz & Samantha Spence - 10/31
Bill & Lisa Bernard - 11/2

Upcoming Worship

November 1 ~ All Saint's Sunday
"Promises, Promises"

Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Richard Armstrong; Acolyte: Delilah Sample

Flower Sponsor: Saint Paul's; Kitchen: Tina Longan

Breakfast Sponsors: Cuer, Hogan-Palazzo

Communion Assistants: Kate Schaeffer, Heidi Hagan,

Kelly Kazibwe Zziwa, Carol Oberlin, Autumn Faust

Offering Counters: E. Fisher, D. Spear

November 8 ~ 24th Sunday after Pentecost
"Expectant Hopefulness"

Psalms 70; Matthew 25:1-13

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Chris Arnold; Acolyte: Finley Cree

Flower Sponsor: Foust/Sholley

Breakfast Sponsor: Rosboschil, Shirk

Kitchen: Kathy Showers

Offering Counters: K. Showers, D. Spear

November Usher/Greeters: Bill & Lisa Bernard, Louise Litzky,
Joanna Johnson, Tracy Baylor, Tyler & Emma Hott,
Frank Wetzel, Kim Ritter, Chris Warner

Shop Local @ The Farm! Annual Soup, Bake, Craft & Barnyard Sale is happening, next Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Early Bird Barnyard Sale: Wednesday, November 4, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

When it comes to shopping local, it doesn't get much closer to home than right here at The Farm! Mark your calendars and invite your friends, family, and neighbors for our annual Soup, Bake, Craft, and Barnyard Sale supporting our church missions, along with fresh Holiday Wreaths benefiting our Music Ministry. Plan now to come, enjoy lunch, browse our craft displays, shop the Barnyard Sale in the actual barn, and take home delicious treats for the family.

Here is what you have to look forward to:

~ Warm Soups & Take-Home Meals: Join us for lunch and enjoy a bowl or a sample flight of our homemade soups. We'll also have fresh quarts available for purchase on sale day—perfect for dinner that evening or to tuck in the freezer for a quick, comforting meal during the busy holiday weeks ahead!

~ Baked Goods & Crafts: Browse a wonderful assortment of homemade baked goods and handcrafted items made with love. (We still have room for additional craft donations and baked goods if you'd like to share your kitchen or crafting talents!)

~ Barnyard Treasures: Discover unique finds in our Barnyard Sale, with an early-bird shopping opportunity on Wednesday, November 4, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

~ Fresh Holiday Wreaths: Beautiful, fragrant fresh Christmas wreaths are available once again for \$22.50, complete with your choice of bow. Wreath orders are being accepted now through the church office to help adorn your home for the season.

While you are here, we encourage you to take a walk around the grounds and visit our neighbors at The Shops at Brookpark for your holiday gifting and personal care needs:

- Executive Level Limited for fine menswear and classic accessories
- Rail Trail Tack for all of your riding and equestrian needs
- Brookpark Pets for quality food, treats, toys, and training aids for your dogs and cats
- The Swirl Shop and Day Spa for gift certificates and holiday pampering
- And, the classic Colonial Candlecrafters... let Kathy help you get ready for the holiday season ahead.

Sale Day at The Farm is always about more than just shopping—it's a wonderful opportunity to eat, share fellowship, reconnect, and simply be together as a community. Come kick off the holiday season with us, bring a friend along, and enjoy a day filled with hospitality, good food, and great company!



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

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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. From 10 to 1:25, please enjoy breakfast, coffee, and fellowship then worship begins at 10:30. 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.

Christian Formation @ The Farm. **Faith Connections** classes for all ages run from 9 to 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings, with Miss Colleen and Miss Krysta leading our children and Nicole and Dale Cuer offering a Prayer Workshop for adults. Additionally, 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.

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 British Baking Company right here at Brookpark Farm or from the Farmer's Market across the bridge 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 and Movement @ 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 5:30 to 6:30 and plays for worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. **The children practice** from 9:45 to 10:05 each Sunday and bless our worship time twice a month with their selections of music and movement. This group is led by Sharon Styer and Ashley Rosboschil.

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. The next distributions are November 12 and Tuesday, November 24. 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. Our next cooking date is November 23, from 1 to 4 p.m. See Terri Kremer with questions. Saint Paul's also has a "Little Red Wagon" which you will find on the porch at the entrance to our sanctuary. This is where you can drop off shelf-stable food



items to help keep our emergency food pantry stocked. As well, if you wish to donate grocery or gas gift cards to help our neighbors in need, you may drop those in the offering plate during worship. Our current needs include: Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, Chef Boyardee cups, Instant potatoes (boxes), Canned, boxed, or cup soups, Peanut Butter, Shelf-stable or powdered milk, Cereal, Knorr's Noodle and Sauce Mix, Knorr's Rice Side Dishes, Ramen Noodles.

Stewardship

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

Gifts & Offerings ~ 10/25/26

Attendance: 192 (14 Visitors)

LIVE Attendance: 951

Virtual Reach: 21,903

Christian Education: 49

Plate Giving: 5,775.00

Loose Plate: 345.00

Online Giving: 2,373.79

Operational Total: 8,493.79

Restricted Giving: 3,843.50

Total Giving: 12,337.29



You Are Invited!

**Soup, Bake, Craft & Barnyard Sale
for Missions**

**Saturday, November 7, 2026
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

- come for lunch and shop great crafts
- pick up some home-made baked goods
- order a fresh Christmas wreath
- check out great "barnyard" sale items
- pick up your pre-ordered quarts

Shop, Taste, and Support our Community

Saint Paul's @ The Farm

50 Brookpark Circle, Lewisburg

**YOU ARE WELCOME ...
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

**BLESSING
OF THE
ANIMALS**



4 P.M.

**FAMILY NIGHT
ALL AGES**



**WITH POTLUCK
DINNER
5 P.M.**



**Saint Paul's @ The Farm
Annual Fall Meeting &
Thanksgiving Luncheon
Sunday, November 15, 2026**

Annual meeting to approve the 2027 budget and consistory members then roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, and stuffing provided. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share! See you around the tables in Fellowship Hall.