



Saint Paul's Possibilities

April 2, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

A few years ago, a family who often attended Saint Paul's moved to New York and for a while would watch our services online. I remember getting a call one Sunday afternoon from one of the parents sharing that they had watched the service that morning as a family and their 10-year-old son had asked what was going on because Pastor Tim had appeared to be excited at a level akin to Easter excitement. I can't for the life of me tell you now the particular message or what was happening in and around the church that brought that level of excitement, however I can tell you that was a wise observation for a 10-year-old and a stark reminder for me: every Sunday was to be like a little Easter, celebrating the resurrection fresh and new each week.

But here's what I've come to realize: every Sunday is Easter—because every Sunday, Jesus is recalculating our lives. Every Sunday we can be refreshed and renewed by being present. That's what we've been exploring all through Lent: how God's grace recalculates our understanding of forgiveness, how Jesus' humility recalculates our ideas of power, how the cross recalculates our definitions of hope. And it doesn't stop on Easter morning. It happens every single week. Every time we gather, Jesus is doing something radical—rewriting our stories, redirecting our paths, reminding us that grace is bigger than we think and love goes further than we imagine. No matter how often we think, I've got this on my own, and something happens and we have to recalculate.

And here's the beautiful, mysterious truth: when you show up, you become part of that recalculation for someone else. Your presence, your voice singing beside them, your handshake, your hug, your smile, your genuine listening, maybe your sharing of a word or sign of hope and an action of love—it might be exactly what recalculates their week, their faith, their hope. The person two rows behind you struggling with a diagnosis they haven't told anyone about yet? You showing up matters. The teenager questioning whether they belong anywhere? You being here recalculates their loneliness. The widow or widower dreading another quiet Sunday morning? Your presence reminds her or him, they are not alone.

I think about the disciples on that first Holy Week. They loved Jesus deeply. But when things got hard, when he needed them most, they weren't there. They missed being present for their friend at his most vulnerable moment—and they nearly missed witnessing the ultimate recalculation: the resurrection itself. Presence matters. Showing up changes everything.

Here is what I want you to know: when you come to worship, you're not just coming for yourself. You're participating in the daily recalculation Jesus offers—for you, and for everyone around you. And here's the grace of it all: when you show up for them, you're the one who leaves recalculated. The grace you give becomes the grace you receive. The love you show multiplies in you. That's what community does. That's what the body of Christ looks like.

This Easter Sunday, and every Sunday after, I'm inviting you to commit to showing up—not out of obligation, but because Jesus is recalculating lives here, and you're part of it. Someone needs you here. And you might just discover that you needed to be here too.

Please Pray for

Linda Beaver
John & Stephanie Bondhus
James Bowman
Culbertson/Stieler Family
Traci Eschbach
Jayce Heckman
Robin Huffman
Dan & Peggy Neuhard
Chuck Schworer
Amanda Unzueta
Tommy Ward
Elaine Waugh
Troy Woodruff
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.

Easter Blessings for Your Recalculated Journey, Pastor Tim

The Farm Report



Challenge Accepted! 50 Days of Easter Food Challenge - A "People of the Table" Mission. Our Keystone Conference has offered as a Conference wide challenge—and we're picking it up with joy! Churches across our conference are being challenged to gather food and necessary item donations between Easter (April 5) and Pentecost (May 24)—50 days of resurrection power transforming into 50 days of feeding and serving our neighbors.

Here's what makes this even more exciting: every donation we collect stays right here in our community. We get to stock the shelves at our Grace Place emergency pantry, the new Grace Place outdoor free pantry, and help our partners at Lewisburg Pharmacy's emergency pantry. When we give, our neighbors eat. It's that simple and that beautiful.

The Real Winners? Our Community. This ministry at our church and all the other UCC Churches across the Conference will be recognized at this year's Keystone Conference's 1st Annual Meeting (June 5–7, 2026)—another beautiful way to celebrate what we're doing together. And the deepest victory? It belongs to the families we serve. Every can of fruit, every box of cereal, every bottle of dish soap is a tangible expression of God's love through our hands.

Here's Our 50-Day Game Plan: Each week focuses on a different need. Bring your donations any Sunday, and we'll make sure they get where they're needed most. Place items in the collection area in the front of the sanctuary, or contact the church office to arrange a drop-off if that works better for you.

- April 5–11: Canned Fruit
- April 12–18: Canned Vegetables
- April 19–25: Cereal
- April 26–May 2: Pasta and Sauce
- May 3–9: Rice, Potatoes, or Side Dish Packets
- May 10–17: Cooking Oil or Cake Mixes
- May 18–24: Dish Soap, Paper Towels, or Toilet Tissue
- May 25–June 1: Personal Sized Toiletries



Challenge Accepted!
50 Days of Easter
Food Challenge

From Resurrection to Pentecost—From Death to Life to Abundance. There's something powerful about this timeline. We begin on Easter Sunday—the day death was defeated and life broke through. We end on Pentecost—the day the Holy Spirit filled the disciples and sent them out to feed, heal, and serve the world.

For 50 days, we get to live that same journey. We get to be people of the table—the ones who set a place, fill a plate, and say, "There's room for you here."

Let's do this together. Grab extra items while you're shopping. Involve your kids and grandkids—let them pick out cereal or canned fruit to share. Make it a family mission. Make it a joy.

If you can only bring items some weeks, that's perfect—every contribution, no matter when or how much, matters deeply.

Because when we gather food for our neighbors, we're not just filling pantries. We're filling hearts. We're showing up as the hands and feet of Jesus. And we're proving that resurrection isn't just something that happened 2,000 years ago—it's something that happens every time love shows up with a can of vegetables and says, "I see you. You matter. You're not alone."

Challenge accepted. Let's fill some tables.

Welcome Home! If you're visiting us for the first time this Easter morning—or if you're still getting to know us—we want you to know something: you belong here. Not eventually, not after you get it right. Now. As you are. That's what radical, authentic love looks like. That's what we're trying to live out here at Saint Paul's @ The Farm UCC.

Here's who we are and what this community is about:

...we've been a part of the community since October 1900, and we've regained our vibrancy. Over the past decade, we've gone from an average of 14 people to over 220 regulars, welcomed 200 new members, and drawn visitors from six different counties. People are choosing to be part of this because radical welcome is real here.

...every second and fourth Thursday, about 24 of our folks serve nearly 300 families through Fresh Express. They're making phone calls, building relationships, becoming a church home for people who might not have one. Some of those friendships go back seven years and our volunteers range in age from 4 to 84.

...this past winter, when people had nowhere to go, we opened our doors completely. Our faith family slept on cots instead of their own warm beds so people could stay safe all night. One man celebrated his 70th birthday with us. A woman found in a collapsed tent was brought here to safety.

...we give an average of 17% of our annual income every year to local mission work. It's not a fluke. It's what happens when you take Jesus seriously.

...we get about 5 to 10 calls a month from folks in crisis—people who need help with food, utilities, housing, gas. We answer those calls.

...we have a Benefit Corporation, Saint Paul's @ The Farm, with its own board of Trustees and church executives managing the property and deepening community work. This isn't casual. We're committed to this for the long haul.

...we have practical welcome built in: a nursery, toddler and sensory rooms, Bible studies, faith formation classes for all ages, choirs, monthly luncheons. All are welcome.

...our next New Member Sunday is May 24, but you don't have to wait to belong.

...Pastor Tim has been walking with us for over nine years now. He lives our story.

All of this flows from one thing: we're learning together what it means to love like Jesus did. To see people. To take risks for them. To welcome them fully. Like Jesus did. So, we mean it when we say: "We're so glad you're here."

Upcoming Worship

April 5 ~ Easter Sunday
"You Have Reached Your Destination"

Luke 24:1-12

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Kate Schaeffer

Acolyte: Cato Kazibwe

Kitchen Coordinator: Tina Longan

Breakfast Hosts: Brad Gill & Lisa Bernard

Flower Sponsor: Church

Offering Counter: E. Fisher, D. Spear

April 12 ~ First Sunday of Easter

"What's It Gonna Take?"

1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Worship Leader: Jen Arnold

Lector: Jeanie Council

Acolyte: Emerson Council

Kitchen Coordinator: Kathy Showers

Breakfast Sponsor: Emory, Arnold

Flower Sponsor: Pastor Tim

Offering Counter: D. Bettleyon, D. Spear

April Usher/Greeter Team: Don & Peggy Emory, Chris & Jen Arnold, Gary & Donna Bennett, Amy Mahon, Drew Faust, Betsy Pullen

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...

Dale Cuer - 4/4

Art Schaeffer - 4/4

Summer Gehrler - 4/9

Chip Palazzo - 4/13

Elias Franciscus - 4/16

Maddie Barbella - 4/17

Jaime Spickler - 4/19



Happy Anniversary to ...

Chris & Sherri Heckman - 4/2

Andrew & Michelle Dressler - 4/16

Stewardship

Gifts & Offerings ~ 3/29/26

Attendance: 155 (2 visitors)

LIVE Attendance: 1,134

Virtual Reach: 13,704

Christian Education: 32

Plate Giving: 3,054.00

Loose Plate: 281.00

Online Giving: 1,624.49

Operational Total: 4,959.49

Restricted Giving: 1,283.00

Total Giving: 6,242.49

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



APRIL

AUTISM

Autism Awareness Family Night

Date: April 12, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM

Join your Saint Paul's family for a special family night to raise awareness and celebrate the amazing individuals with autism in our community!

We will have crafts, games, and sensory activities. The theme for dinner is comfort food with chicken nuggets and pizza - bring your favorite dessert or side if you wish!

Come learn, engage, and show your love for the autism community!

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** from 5 to 6:45. 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.



Pictured above... Did you know that Saint Paul's hosts an annual Easter Egg Hunt with 2,000 filled and colorful eggs? This is just one of the crews who did some egg stuffing this week!

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 9 and 23. 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 10 a.m. to noon. And, Saint Paul’s has a long history of offering an **Emergency Food Pantry** that we lovingly refer to as our “Little Red Wagon” Our needs at this time are for: **Local Grocery Gift Cards to: Aldi, Giant and Weis. Gas Cards: Sheetz, Wawa, and Weis, any canned fruits and vegetables with pop tops, shelf stable milk, small bottles of vegetable oil, and canned proteins and box dinners, i.e. hamburger and tuna helper.** You may drop food items in the little red wagon on the porch outside the Sanctuary door and gift cards may be dropped in the offering plate on Sunday morning or to the church office throughout the week. We thank you for all the ways in which you serve our neighbors!



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