



Saint Paul's Possibilities

October 2, 2026

News & Engagement

Powered by Grace and Coffee

a weekly reflection by Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Faith Family,

Sunday, October 4, we will join with millions of Christians around the globe to celebrate World Communion Sunday.

If you've ever wondered where this special tradition comes from, its story is as moving as it is timely. In the autumn of 1933, right in the painful depths of the Great Depression, a Presbyterian pastor in Pittsburgh had a wonderfully simple idea. Facing a community burdened by economic hardship, fear, and deep isolation, he invited neighboring congregations across town to share communion together on the exact same Sunday at the exact same hour. His hope wasn't to debate theology, compare church rosters, or argue doctrine. It was simply to offer a tangible sign of shared hope—a sacred reminder that in difficult times, no one walks alone.

That spark quickly grew, and by 1940, as the shadow of World War II began fracturing nations, the wider church promoted the practice worldwide. It became a deliberate, courageous response to division and rising fear—a living reminder that what unites humanity in God's grace is far deeper than any border, language, or culture that might separate us.

Here at The Farm, as we prepare to gather around the table this Sunday, I find myself reflecting on what this day means for us right now.

It is easy for communion to feel like a comfortable, familiar routine we do inside our church walls. But at its heart, the table has never been about keeping things safe or exclusive. It is a living reminder of who Jesus is and how he calls us to live every day of the week. Jesus never spent his ministry drawing circles to keep people out; he spent his life pulling up extra chairs. He touched the untouchable, fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and showed us a love with no strings attached. He continually built a bigger table.

Centuries before Jesus, the prophet Isaiah dreamed of God's house being called a house of prayer for all peoples—a place where the outsider and the wanderer would always find belonging. The Apostle Paul echoed that same vision when he reminded the early church that we are many unique members, but one single body in Christ. We don't all have the same gifts, and we certainly don't all look alike, vote alike, or see everything through the exact same lens. And thank goodness for that! Unity has never meant uniformity. Real Christian unity doesn't require us to agree on everything; it calls us to share compassion, lay down our defenses, and roll up our sleeves to care for one another.

When Jesus described what true discipleship looks like in Matthew 25, he didn't give us a doctrinal quiz. He reminded us that whenever we feed the hungry, offer drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe those in need, care for the sick, or visit the forgotten, we are loving him.

That is who we strive to be as a faith family. Transforming the world doesn't require a massive, complicated program. It starts simply and quietly when each of us chooses to love the person right in front of us. The neighbor walking through a season of grief. The family quietly carrying financial worries. The coworker feeling overwhelmed. The stranger whose life looks completely different from our own.

As we break bread and share the cup this Sunday, let's make it a recommitment of our hearts. Let us choose to be one: one act of genuine kindness, one listening ear offered without judgment, one warm welcome, one meal shared, and one hand extended across a divide. I am so deeply grateful to share this journey and this table with you.



With love and gratitude, Pastor Tim



The Farm Report

Mifflinburg Girls Field Hockey: Showing Up for One Another!

How do you measure the heart of a community? Sometimes it's not in grand gestures, but in the quiet, consistent presence of young people who understand what it means to serve. The Mifflinburg Girls Field Hockey Team has shown us exactly that—three times already this season. Before school even began, they were here helping with Fresh Express. Then, when our faith community came together to pack Wildcat Packs for elementary and middle school children facing food insecurity, they were here again. And just last week, after a full day of school and competition, they returned once more to help with Fresh Express when we needed extra hands. They arrived with smiles, with kindness, with a spirit of genuine service that reminded us all what it means to care for one another. These young women are remarkable. Their servant hearts, their team spirit, their willingness to show up for our community—it's a beautiful witness to what it means to live out faith through action.



Now it's our turn. The Mifflinburg Girls Field Hockey Team is having an outstanding season. They're currently undefeated under the leadership of Coach, Emily Stauffer and Assistant Coach, Kelly Kazibwe Zziwa. These athletes are playing hard, competing with excellence, and representing our community with pride. We'd love for you to join us in the bleachers cheering them on. Their upcoming local games include: Thursday, October 1, @ Milton, 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday, October 6, @ Lewisburg, 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 13 @ Home, 6:00 p.m.; and Thursday, October 15, 6 p.m. @ Home. For their full game schedule, visit the Prayers and Love page. When we show up for these young women—when we fill the stands with familiar faces and voices—we're sending a message: We see you. We believe in you. To us, you are family. That's what community looks like.

That's how we love one another. See you in the bleachers!

Upcoming Worship

October 4 ~ World Communion Sunday
"One!"

Isaiah 56:3-8; I Corinthians 12:12-27; John 17:20-23

Worship Leader: Kelly Kazibwe Zziwa

Lector: Art Schaeffer; Acolyte: Mason Dressler

Communion Assistants: Dave King, Frank Wetzel,

Barbara Wagner, Jessica & Scott Mathias

Flower Sponsor: Available

Breakfast Sponsors: Council, Eschbach

Kitchen: Tina Longan

Offering Counters: J. Van Horn, D. Spear

October 11 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost
"Do That"

Philippians 4:1-9; Psalm 23

Worship Leader: Kelly Kazibwe Zziwa

Lector: Rhonda Newton; Acolyte: Kyra Richard

Flower Sponsor: Available

Breakfast Sponsors: Kister, Hogan-Palazzo

Kitchen: Kathy Showers

Offering Counters: P. Emory, D. Spear

October Usher/Greeters: Don & Peggy Emory, Amy Mahon,

Deb Frei, Jen & Chris Arnold, Donna & Gary Bennett,

Sue Mahon, Drew Faust, Betsy Pullen

Lewisburg Football: Breakfast—It's What's for Dinner!

There's something beautiful about showing up for our young people with a warm meal and a simple message: *We see you. We believe in you. We're here for you.* Thursday afternoon, October 8, Saint Paul's is doing exactly that. We're preparing and delivering a meal for the Lewisburg Football Team—and we'd love for you to be part of it. Leading this effort is Jen Arnold, one of those remarkable school parents who shows up year after year with genuine care for every student in our community. Jen embodies what it means to be involved and invested—not just in her own kids, but in all of them. She's a living example of Saint Paul's commitment to serving our neighbors at every level, in every way.

Want to help? It's easy. Reach out to Jen on her "Prayers and Love" post or contact her directly to find out what's needed—whether that's helping prepare the meal, contributing food, or lending a hand with delivery. This is the Saint Paul's way: rolling up our sleeves, showing up with a hot meal, and letting our young athletes know they matter.

That's how we love our community. See you Thursday!

A Pink-Filled October! From the soft pink glow of autumn evening skies to pink-clad sports teams, outfits, flowers, and adorned storefronts across our community, October offers beautiful reminders that pink is the color of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Pink is a symbol of health, hope, resilience, and survival.

This month is a sacred time to remember those we have lost, hold in our prayers the families touched by breast cancer, honor our survivors, and celebrate and encourage those who are currently fighting.

While breast cancer rates have increased slightly in recent years by about 1% annually—and 1.4% per year among women under 50—there is also tremendous reason for hope. Thanks to early detection and advancing treatments, breast cancer mortality has declined by 44% from 1989 through 2023. When caught early at a localized stage, the five-year relative survival rate is over 99%, and more than 4 million survivors are living across the United States today.

So, we want to remember, honor and acknowledge with this year's: Wear Pink Sunday & Octoberfest Luncheon. On Sunday, October 18, we invite everyone to wear pink in memory of those lost, in honor of our survivors, and in joyful celebration of those currently fighting. That same day, we will gather for our Octoberfest Luncheon! The church will provide brats and kraut, mashed potatoes, and rolls. We invite you to bring a favorite family side dish to share as we celebrate fellowship, community, and hope around the table.



Monstrous Love – It Takes Us All! If you're thinking "Monstrous Love" is just for kids, you're right. But aren't we all kids at heart? Jesus often called his followers "little children"—what a beautiful reminder that wonder and joy are things we're invited to keep alive. Picture it: monster trucks, a pumpkin patch, hot dogs, popcorn, decorated trunks, and your welcoming faces as we celebrate with the children and their families. Here's how you can help:

- Set up a trunk and hand out treats
- Wear a costume and be a joyful presence
- Donate candy or supplies if you can't be there in person

Last year, we welcomed 250 children to the Farm. That's what Monstrous Love is really about—a community that opens its doors and says to our neighbors: You belong here. You matter. Here you are our family. It takes us all. Whether you're there in person or supporting from afar, your presence transforms this day into something truly special. Dig into your inner child and plan to be here. Let's show our neighbors what it means to be a community that loves well. See you at Monstrous Love Sunday!

Annual Hayride and Chicken Barbecue. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us for our Annual Hayride and Chicken Barbecue on Saturday, October 10, beginning at 4 p.m. at Northhill Orchard in Winfield. We will gather for an afternoon of wonderful fall fun. Sign up today and come celebrate the season with us!

- Chicken barbecue, hotdog roasting, and s'mores around the campfire
- Scenic hayrides through the orchard and flower fields
- Visits to the pumpkin patch and feeding the animals
- Games and activities for children of all ages



Celebrations

Happy Birthday to ...	Masen Dressler - 10/6
Jeannette Gill - 10/2	Brent Sample - 10/7
Kadence Gill - 10/2	Jeanie Council - 10/8
Cora Kazibwe Zziwa - 10/3	Deene Mathias - 10/8
Andrew Dressler - 10/6	Susie Gearhart - 10/10

Happy Anniversary to ...	
Jon & Heidi Hagan - 10/2	
Beth Vincent & William Hawkins - 10/5	
Dennis Burns & Deb O'Hara - 10/11	

On the Journey Together

*Saint Paul's
@ The Farm
is open to all
God's beauty
in this new
fall season.
Won't you
join us.*



Sundays @ The Farm. At 9 a.m. our coffee is brewing, and the nursery and sensory rooms are staffed and open. **Faith Connections** classes for all ages run from 9 to 10 a.m. From 10 a.m. to 10:25, 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** beginning at 5 p.m. (First one is October 11) 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.

**Get Your
Flu or
COVID
Shot
Free**

**Sundays
in October**

**9:45-10:15 am &
15 minutes
after church**

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 5:30 to 6:30 and plays for worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The **Children's Choir** practices from 9:45 to 10:05 and 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 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 October 8 and 22. 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 Monday, October 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. See Terri Kremer with

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 ~ 9/27/26
Attendance: 147 (4 visitors)
LIVE Attendance: 828
Virtual Reach: 7,356
Christian Education: 34

Plate Giving: 1,802.00
Loose Plate: 300.00
Online Giving: 1,268.63
Operational Total: 3,370.63
Restricted Giving: 402.00
Total Giving: 3,772.63

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. **The current needs for our food pantry are: cans of soup, boxes of mac and cheese, and bottles of juice.**



Saint Paul's @ The Farm
Soup, Bake, Craft & Barnyard Sale
Saturday, November 7, 2026 ~ 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
See bulletin insert for all the details!