



# SAINT PAUL'S NEWS

welcoming saints and sinners since 1900

June 16, 2021

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

## “Stepping on Toes”

Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Dear Church Family,

I was looking for a text this week and stumbled across this one that I really love from I Peter 4, verses eight to 11: *“Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God’s words; if help, let it be God’s hearty help. That way, God’s bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and God will get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!”*

I read this text and thought of how we approach helping others. We are fortunate to say the least, in how we have so many opportunities to help others and ways to be the church. Sometimes though we are hesitant to share or jump in and help do, because, well, we are afraid of “stepping on toes.”

“I don’t want to step on anyone’s toes.” Sometimes as a pastor I hear people say, “Well, I would help, but I don’t want to step on anyone’s toes if someone else usually does that.” I have to admit, at first, I found that to be a very odd saying as I had never thought of church being that way. I thought you just put out an invitation to do things and if someone was inclined to help, had the gifts to share, well, then they would help without concern for “that may be someone else’s territory or job.”

I guess Saint Paul’s is somewhat unique in that there weren’t really too many things going on that were “owned” or “done” by someone for years. I hear stories though that there were times when one person or a group of people “owned” or did this or that, like the famous one about the “ladies in the kitchen.” And who was allowed in or to work on meal plans or utensil organization projects. Believe

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me, that story of old was not just about Saint Paul's. That story was about many churches over the years. However, I still don't get not just welcoming everyone who wants to help. If there's a way something needs to be done, share it and the more the merrier (and as Ms. Betty used to say, "Many hands makes light work").

As Saint Paul's finds a new normal, in a new space, I am reminded that this place is pretty special, that there are not a lot of "owned" projects. That people can bring their ideas and wishes and plug in where they feel led. That if someone is asked to lead a project, they don't have to worry about stepping on someone else's toes, that if someone is asked if they want to help, the ask is genuine, and that if you see something that needs to be done, don't be afraid to step up and offer to do it or just do it.

Here's what I hope we are sure of: the Holy Spirit moves in and through us all to use our gifts and talents in a multitude of ways. As we come back together, I pray the ways you are being called and led will be fed and nourished in this place. I pray that you will find a place to plug in and help be the church and I pray that as you do, you meet with no resistance or feelings of ownership. There are no toes to be stepped on. There are just things to do together.

That's why I think when I read the second Peter text I smiled, to see all the beautiful gifts to experience all the beautiful talent and want to help. We are truly blessed.

When we were touring 1125 Mahoning to see how we would fit, I discovered a hand-written sign in a Sunday School room that read, "Love God, Sin Boldly" – Martin Luther. The quote is attributed to him from 1521. It has come to mean, don't be afraid to put your love of God into action. Serve one another without hesitation. My prayer as we come together again, is that we do just that. We put our "toe stepping" fears aside and do whatever needs to be done to be the church, whether it's changing a light bulb, taking out the trash, stepping up for a project when the call comes out, or serving in the community. Together we show the radical love of God, when we plow forward with our gifts and of time and talents.

I close with this from Proverbs 11, verse 25: "*Generous persons will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.*" Be generous of your time, your talents, your gifts, whatever you may offer of yourselves in whatever way, do it boldly for that's the way I understand it to be the church.

See you around the church.

Peace,  
Pastor Tim

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## In Our Daily Prayers...

Dick Albright  
 Gary Baker  
 Dick Bettleyon  
 Judy Bettleyon  
 Nancy Cochran  
 Gail Earnest  
 Gladys Fawcett  
 Family of Fred Greenawalt

Greyson Greenawalt  
 Steve Harding  
 Mina Hoover  
 Mary Rose Knelly  
 Cindy Lloyd  
 Katy Mahon  
 Tammy McCarty  
 Sandy Merritt

Cindy Mohr  
 Laura Prager  
 Jane Scurfield  
 Shreck Family  
 Alecia Snyder  
 Ruth Spear  
 Family of Richard Wesner  
 Donna and Russ Wynn, Sr.



## News from Home...

**It is official.** We will be offering fellowship and worship at 1125 Mahoning Street from now through May of 2022. In order to have enough space to operate with events and worship as well as planning for special events, a lease for the property at 1125 Mahoning Street has been signed. During this time, we will be actively seeking a more permanent solution to space issues. To reinforce earlier communications, this is not a permanent move. The lease we've signed is a not-for-profit lease, meaning we are responsible for our own insurance and the utilities we use and no other monies are being required of us to use the space. Also, to reiterate, we will be maintaining our building at 433 High Street, keeping it clean, neat, and in working order. We are working on a lease with another church with a much smaller congregation to use that space and will be offering them the same lease we have entered into with Christ Lutheran and the Milton Lutheran Parish.

**Church Work Days.** There are two church work days being scheduled, both include food! First, on Tuesday evening, June 22 (next Tuesday) at 6 p.m., we will meet at 1125 Mahoning Street to reset the rooms and prepare for the Pasta and Performance Dinner and Talent Show, and make room to bring more of our belongings from 433 High Street into the space. We'll also be setting-up space for Christian Formation, kitchen use and organizing areas of the building. Then on Saturday, July 11 at 9 a.m. we will gather at 433 High Street to move things we will need out and work on clean-up.

**Masks, Social Distancing, Offering Plates, Communion, Hymnals, Divided Pews, Coffee Hour, and more...** What can we now expect when we come to worship at Saint Paul's?

**Covid-19 Restrictions Lifted.** Effective with Tuesday evening's Consistory meeting, considering the CDC and PEMA recommendations/guidelines, the Consistory has updated all policies related to COVID-19. These updates will be monitored monthly and changes made as necessary to always, first and foremost protect the health and safety of all our brothers and sisters.



**Taking Down Names:** Instead of pew pads for knowing who is here and keeping up with attendance, we will continue to have someone at the door taking names. We have found that it is a great way for people to get to know one another and put faces with names as well as tracking attendance. If you want to volunteer as an usher or greeter for this or other duties, please reach out to Donna.

**Masks:** we will ask/expect for those choosing or unable to be vaccinated, or not carrying the virus antibody to continue to mask. As well, you may mask if that is the way you feel most comfortable.

**Social Distancing:** we will ask that you respect one another's personal space, if you want to give someone a hug or handshake, just simply ask them if it is ok first.

**Offering Plates:** we will continue to leave offering plates at the doors and provide time for reflection on the gifts you give during a meditative response to the message.

**Communion:** communion will be offered in two ways for now, one, by coming forward for the bread and taking an individual cup; or two by coming forward and taking a prefilled bread and cup chalice which, we have been using. At this time, we will not be offering intinction (dipping of bread in a common cup).

**Hymnals:** hymnals have been placed back in the pews along with tissue boxes, offering envelopes, visitor and prayer cards.

**Seating:** as we return to somewhat normal gathering, pews are all open, again, we just ask that you be respectful of space and possibly ask if you would like to sit with someone or reach out to an usher if you would prefer to be seated alone. Chairs will still be available on the side aisle as well.

**Coffee Hour:** We will start slowly with a coffee hour, occurring after the service with Iced Tea, Water and Lemonade, available under the walkway.

**Exits and Dismissal:** You will be able to exit through whatever doorway feels most comfortable to you. If you choose you may continue to stay seated during the postlude as well.

**Community Research Project...it's on!** (And you can learn more from the Facebook event page: <https://tinyurl.com/tw5h8k82>) Tomorrow, Thursday, June 17, 6 to 9 p.m. Our first, adults-only Community Research Project is happening! This first event be at Whispering Oaks Vineyard in Sunbury, Rte. 61 out of Sunbury (<https://www.whisperingoaksvineyardpa.com>). Live music will be provided by: Prairie Dogma, "a nice blend of the good stuff" beginning at 6:30 p.m. And, Son of a Butcher food truck will be on hand to grab dinner. This will be our first of these, mostly third Thursday, events which are being planned with the help of Lisa Bernard and Amy Rearick. Come on out and enjoy some time in fellowship with your Saint Paul's family. Just one more way of getting reacquainted and newly acquainted with church family.

**"Pasta and Performance!" is next 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 is 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 talent entries is Sunday June 20!**



**VBS...**Vacation Bible School is being planned once a week for five weeks, in the evenings, dinner included, ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, assistance needed, nursery could also be provided, watch for updates, coming soon!

Closing prayer for the day (reshared from Monday, I need it today too):

*My eyes don't want to open quite yet so I'm praying. Somewhere in this new day, may I see your joy in earth and sky and creatures belonging to you. May I accept your holy nudge toward a more open-hearted interaction with folks I sometimes feel don't like me much. Give me courage to feel the sorrow that comes with the day's troubles yet to unfold. Yes, I want to feel the sorrow that breaks God's heart, but I need to feel You underneath me in it, because I can't carry it on my own. Don't let me forget my family, today. Help me to pray for them. Don't let me take for granted those who have loved me the longest in this life, whether they are family or not. Let me bring some laughter into the world today, and join the joy that others have to share. Give me imagination with the texts this week and be my steady editor through all the bright ideas and clumsy cleverness I drag with me on the way to preaching hope and love and your call on our lives. There is so much to do sometimes, Spirit, and I'm sure some of it even matters. I want to trust You and this work entrusted to me. Help me do that today maybe a little more than yesterday. Thank you Spirit for this bed and covers and sleep. Meanwhile, may the coffee be ready soon and my glasses be where I left them. For here is morning and evening will come soon enough, another day. Amen.*

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

Thursday, June 17 – Community Research Project 6 to 9 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)

Saturday, September 18 – Harvest Festival Parade 1 p.m. (SPUCC Float)

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

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/UCx534qz98pw4IEcpsJznLnw>

## Mission and Outreach News...

**Saint Paul's Coffee Club** is an ongoing mission project at Saint Paul's and funds community needs. Check out the organic coffees, teas, and chocolate products from Fair-Trade Farmers on hand for purchase in the display case in the lobby at 1125. 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, order online directly at <https://forms.gle/mV5R4NvUqkH3bbxj6> or fill out an order form at the display. Or call Donna at the office to find out more about supporting SPUC's Coffee Club!

### This Week at Saint Paul's...

**Thurs., June 17** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

**Fri., June 18** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

**Sat., June 19** **Happy Birthday Pastor Tim**

**Sun., June 20** **Happy Birthday Katie Armstrong**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship LIVE Online & In-Person at  
1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

**Mon., June 21** **Happy Birthday Niki Weber**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

**Tues., June 22** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

**Wed., June 23** **Happy Birthday Liam Hagan**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Church Office open

**Upcoming Sunday Worship...LIVE stream and In Person @ 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton**

**June 20, 2021**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Words Matter"*

2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

Lector: Cyndy Kister

Flower Sponsor: Floyd Merritt

Offering Counter: D. Bettleyon, D. Spear

**June 27, 2021**

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Things Money Can't Buy"*

2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

Lector: Richard Armstong

Flower Sponsor: Sue Overdorf

June Worship Leader: Amy Armstrong

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



Earl Fisher

