



ELCA

The CHIMES

MUHLENBERG: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S GRACE

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church strives to be a Wellspring of God's Grace in Jesus Christ.

Open ✚ Authentic ✚ Relational ✚ Serving

Published Weekly by Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

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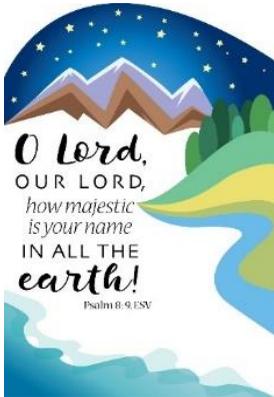
Senior Pastor Lauren Eanes: eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org Associate Pastor Alex Zuber: zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org



January 1, 2023

NAME OF JESUS SUNDAY

NAME OF JESUS



For the earliest Christians, Sunday, the day of the resurrection, was both the first day of the week and the eighth day, a new time, a day somehow outside of normal time. The practice of celebrating a church festival for a full eight days goes

back to the sixth century. In the past, this eighth day of Christmas commemorated also Jesus' circumcision, his entry into observant Judaism. Since this eighth day is January 1, the beginning of the secular calendar, an emphasis on the name of Jesus is appropriate: we begin another year in Jesus' name, under his name, through his name.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed Monday (1/2) in observance of New Year's Day.

FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

We will collect non-perishable food items for Patchwork Pantry (1/1) in the Gathering Area. No glass jars please. The Pantry is also in need of paper products (paper towels, wraps, food storage bags, toilet tissue, etc.), cleansers (dish, laundry, all-purpose), diapers, and all types of personal hygiene products. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Make checks payable to Muhlenberg, noting "Patchwork Pantry" on the memo line.



LAY COMMUNION MINISTRY



Lay Communion Ministers will be blessed and sent forth this morning. They bring communion to homebound members once a month. If you are interested in receiving home communion, or if you are interested in serving as a Lay Communion Minister, please contact Pastor Lauren or Linda Morrison.

NO SUNDAY CLASSES

There will be **no Sunday Christian Formation classes New Year's Day (1/1)**. We look forward to welcoming you back when classes resume Sunday, January 8 at 9:45 am.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 10:30 am

This class gathers each week to look ahead to Sunday's lessons and dive deeper into God's word. Led by Pastor Lauren, we meet via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

COMFORT MAKERS

Thursdays, 8:00 am - noon

We resume this week in Wayland Hall. Contact Linda Morrison (lindamm778@gmail.com or 540-383-5085) for details.

PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING CIRCLE

Saturday, January 7, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Join us in the Gathering Area to create a prayer shawl through knitting or crocheting. No experience necessary; we'll teach you basic stitches! For more info or to request a prayer shawl for someone, contact Jackie Wells (jswells62@verizon.net or 540-434-6283).

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY RETURNS

January 8, Between Services

Stay a few minutes after the 8:30 am service or come early to the 11:00 am service! We're pleased to report the coffee pot in the Gathering Area has been repaired!

EPIPHANY PARTY AND CHILI COOKOFF

Sunday, January 8, 2023, 4:30-6:30 pm

Fire up your crockpots!

Christmas isn't over yet!

Join us for an Epiphany

Party and Chili Cook-Off,

Sunday, January 8, 4:30 -

6:30 pm in Wayland Hall

and the Nielsen Room.

Plan to enter your favorite

chili recipe - regular,

white or vegetarian for the Muhlenberg Great

Chili Cook Off! **Bring Chili, Salad, Bread, or**

Dessert to share. We also need volunteers to

help, so please contact Barbara Roadcap

(bbroadcap@gmail.com or 540-830-1896) if you're

able to pitch in. We will vote for our favorite

chili with change or cash offerings for each

contestant. Proceeds will go to support People

Helping People!

After dinner we'll share in Epiphany traditions

like Chalking the Door and Burning of the

Greens, so **bring a branch from your**

Christmas tree or wreath to place in the fire.

Join us as we enjoy fellowship on a cold winter

night! Invite friends and family too — the more

the merrier!



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thank you, Muhlenberg, for your help in welcoming our neighbors for a Community Christmas Dinner. Over 100 guests were served a lovely Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Thirty-one volunteers were present to help cook, plate, and serve the food. A very special "Thank You" to Linda Morrison and Barbara Roadcap for planning the menu, purchasing the food and making sure that everything was cooked to perfection. Many more of you who couldn't be present on Christmas Day donated cookies, gift cards, and small items for our prize table. The games played were a huge hit and enjoyed by everyone young and old. We made some new friends and strengthened our ties with Our Community Place and Open Doors. Thanks to you, Muhlenberg, our Community Christmas Dinner was a joyful event.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WELCOME TO MUHLENBERG!!

January 15, 9:45 am

If you are new to the Muhlenberg community, or have been here awhile but would like to learn more about the congregation, please join us for a Welcome to Muhlenberg event Sunday, January 15 at 9:45 am. Meet leaders, hear about ways to get involved, and take a tour of our campus. We'll also share information about membership. If you're interested but unable to attend, please contact Pastor Lauren (eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-434-3496) so you can receive an invitation to our next event later in the spring.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

ANOTHER CHURCH PHONE UPDATE

The reason our phone system has been out for several weeks is because it is a 15-year-old PBX system that is no longer supported by the phone manufacturer and our service contractor cannot get parts. After much research, we have signed a contract with Comcast for a Voice Over phone system. This new system will be an upgrade and provide additional features, allowing our staff to serve members and the wider community even better. We hope to have it installed this week.

In the meantime, **our temporary solution is working well. Please DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL our main number (540-434-3496) anytime.** If we are unavailable or you call after hours, you can leave a voicemail message and Liz or Linda will be glad to pass your message along to the appropriate person.

CREATION CARE TIP

Make a New Year's resolution to be even more eco-friendly in 2023. What steps can you take to further reduce your impact on the earth this year? Plan in advance for big projects like installing solar panels or establishing a green roof. Be sure to make a toast to congratulate yourself for all of the changes you made last year!



FROM OUR FINANCE MANAGER

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES



Earlier this fall, we asked the congregation to let us know if you would like to order a booklet of 2023 offering envelopes. For those of you who replied and asked for these, offering envelopes are ready for pick up. You will find your offering booklet in the Gathering Area on a table just ahead of the main entrance, against the stairwell railing. They are arranged in alphabetical order to make it easier to find your envelopes. They will remain out for pick up over the next two Sundays of 2022.

After today (1/1), you can pick up your offering booklet from the church office or call me to make other arrangements. If you didn't order a booklet but would like one, please let me know. Thank you!

Jane Eanes, Finance Manager

The **weekly deadline** for routine articles for *The Chimes* is **Thursday at 8:00 am**. Requests for a series, inserts or full-column articles should be made two weeks in advance. Submit information to Parish Administrator Linda Depoy: (depay@muhlenberglutheran.org /540-434-3496) Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran)

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

12/18	8:30 Holy Communion	97
	11:00 Holy Communion	81
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	28
	Total Views this Week	109
	Hours Viewed this Week	139.8
12/24	2:00 Holy Communion	13
	4:30 Holy Communion	157
	6:30 Holy Communion	117
	6:30 Wellstream Worshippers.....	39
	9:00 Holy Communion	69
12/25	10:00 Holy Communion	50
	10:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	26

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Thank you for your generosity in November as we saw an increase in gifts and offerings and are hopeful that will continue in December and the new year. As the end of the fiscal year approaches, I believe Muhlenberg is in a position to finish the year with a balanced budget if expenses remain stable and gifts and offerings increase this month. Please prayerfully consider Muhlenberg for additional year end contributions.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through November 2022

	2022 YTD Actual	2022 YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$470,929	\$581,167	\$529,634
Total Income	\$585,087	\$704,711	\$614,904
Total Expenses	\$579,562	\$799,558	\$716,028
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$5,525	\$(94,847)	\$(101,124)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 10,251.50
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 469.43
Total Giving	\$ 10,720.93



To give online, scan here →

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

January 2 - 8, 2023

If viewing electronically, you can click the links below to access meetings and services.

Mon	Church Office Closed (New Year's Day Observed)
Tues	6:30 pm Celebration Singers 7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed	10:30 am Bible Study via Zoom 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir
Thu	8:00 am Comfort Makers
Sat	10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle
Sun	Ephiphany Sunday 8:30 am Holy Communion in person 9:45 am Christian Formation in person & via Zoom 11:00 am Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube 4:30 pm Epiphany Party & Chili Cookoff



Each week, we will lift up five households from our congregation in prayer. Our prayer families for this week are:

Lola Heffner

Paul and Vicki Heitsch

Jean Helmick

Aaron, Christy, Hannah and Faith Hill

David and Peggy Hill

Please note: if you notice an unintentional omission in our list or prefer your name not be listed, please contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (540-434-3496 or depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org)