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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

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281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 ✚ Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: info@muhlenberglutheran.org ✚ Website: www.muhlenberglutheran.org

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



January 8, 2023

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

EPIPHANY



Today we celebrate Epiphany Sunday (observed on the Sunday closest to Jan. 6). Every year on January 6, the twelve days of Christmas come to a close, and the church celebrates the

revelation of Christ to all nations as represented by the magi (wise men) who come to worship Jesus. Many cultures have specific traditions around Epiphany, including gift giving and blessing of homes for the new year. The season after Epiphany starts today and continues until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday.

Traditionally, on Epiphany Christians all over the world take the opportunity to do a house blessing for the new year, chalking an inscription over the door. See this past Friday's weekly email for a blessing you can use at home, or attend today's Epiphany Party to receive a printed blessing and chalk!

The Church office will be closed **Monday, January 16** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday.

CAMRYN PAIGE LINN

Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Camryn Paige Linn, daughter of Kevin Linn & Kristen Runion-Linn and granddaughter of Bob Runion, into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family at the 8:30 service this morning! Camryn's sponsors are Dustin and Carissa Eckelman. Welcome to the Lord's family, Camryn!



FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY RETURNS

TODAY Between Services

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

SUNDAY CLASS LOCATIONS

Pre-K – 5th Grade meet in the Muhlenberg Activities Center [MAC] (behind the church)

These classes meet downstairs in the church:

Grades 6 - 8 ~ Augsburg Room

Devotional Classics High School & Adult Class ~ Nielsen Room

Faith Lens Adult Class ~ Kairos Room

To attend virtually, use this Zoom Link:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84731416878](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878)

**EPIPHANY PARTY
AND CHILI COOKOFF
TODAY 4:30-6:30 pm**



Fire up your crockpots! Christmas isn't over yet! Join us for an Epiphany Party and Chili Cook-Off, **TODAY** (1/8) in Wayland Hall and the Nielsen Room. Enter your favorite chili recipe - regular, white

or vegetarian - for the Great Muhlenberg Chili Cook Off! **Bring Chili, Salad, Bread, or Dessert to share.** 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, 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 day! Invite friends and family too — the more the merrier!

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Monday (1/9), 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Join us via [ZOOM](#) tomorrow evening – all are welcome! You may also join us by phone:

Meeting ID: 833 4118 0538

One tap mobile +13126266799,,83341180538#

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 10:30 am

We gather 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

Meet weekly in Wayland Hall. Contact Linda Morrison (lindamm778@gmail.com or 540-383-5085) for details.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 29, 9:45 am.

Watch *The Chimes* for more information.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

ANOTHER CHURCH PHONE UPDATE

The holidays slowed things down for installing our new phone system, but we hope to have it installed this coming week. In the meantime, **our temporary solution is working well.** Please **DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL** our main number (540-434-3496) anytime.



CREATION CARE TIP

Turn off the tap! You can save 10 gallons of water every morning by simply turning off the tap when you're brushing your teeth, washing your face, or shaving.

FAITH IN ACTION UPDATE

Faith in Action brings Muhlenberg together with 25 other congregations and faith-based organizations to strengthen community networks and address areas of need in our local community. This year, Faith in Action is working on the issues of childcare and transportation in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Join Core Team members from across Faith in Action to hear about the progress and next steps for these two campaigns **THIS Thursday, January 12, 2023, from 6:00 - 7:30 pm** at Otterbein United Methodist Church. Childcare is available, but please register online ahead of time if you plan to make use of that. Contact Pastor Lauren for more details.

YOUTH NEWS

VIRGINIA SYNOD YOUTH EVENT Winter Celebration, January 27-29

The Synod's annual faith-sharing retreat for 9th - 12th graders will take place at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in Lynchburg.

Winter Celebration includes Large Group and Small Group gatherings with lots of singing, energy, comedy, worship, and a presentation on our event theme. You can find more information [HERE](#) and register for the event [HERE](#). **Please register by January 16.**

LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSION

PATCHWORK PANTRY

The Local and Global Mission Committee wishes to thank everyone who donated to Patchwork Pantry this month. We collected 67 pounds of food and supplies for January. Your generosity is appreciated throughout the year.

MINNICK SCHOOL THANK YOU

The Local and Global Mission Committee wishes to thank everyone who donated to our Christmas outreach to the students at Minnick School. On December 14, a team of volunteers from Muhlenberg were able to help 20 students shop for a gift for parents or caregivers in their lives. Your generosity helped make for a wonderful afternoon full of anticipation and excitement.

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. Please lift these up as a part of your daily prayers. To share joy, thanks, or concern (e.g. birth, illness, injury, or death of an immediate family member; thank-you and congratulatory notes, etc.), contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (434-3496 or depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors and editor.

✙ Please pray for Louise Layman and her family following the death of her brother Hensel Lee Armentrout on New Year's Day. Louise, Hensel and their four siblings grew up attending Muhlenberg with their parents. A service celebrating Hensel's life was held January 6 at Johnson Funeral Home. Burial followed at Beaver Creek Church Cemetery with military rites by the Dayton American Legion Post #27.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

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
	Total Views this Week	202
	Hours Viewed this Week	52.0
01/01	10:00 Holy Communion	65
	10:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	24

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)

12/26/2022 – 01/01/2023

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 10,753.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 829.23
Total Giving	\$ 11,582.23

To give online, scan here →



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

January 9 - 15, 2023

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting
	7:00 pm	Ministries Night
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
Sun		Second Sunday after Epiphany
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Christian Formation in person & via Zoom
	9:45 am	Welcome to Muhlenberg Event
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube



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

*Alan Hiner
Lyn Hiner
Cheryl Hoak
Dolores Hoak
Sylvia Hollen*

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)

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: (depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org /540-434-3496) Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran)