



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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February 6, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Thanks to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting last Sunday. It was great to discuss the works done by all of our staff and ministry teams in 2021. Congratulations to the 2022 Nominating Committee: Vicki Heitsch, Karen Matthias, Crystl Whitmire, Malcolm Wilfong and Jeff Williams.

Check out *The Chimes* for information on the Synodwide Celebration of Service taking place in July (*see page 3*). This gathering is happening in lieu of the Synod Assembly this year. All are welcome to attend.

Feel free to reach out to me via email at mlccouncilpres@yahoo.com with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have. Your Congregation Council represents YOU! We want to hear from you.

Greta Willis, Congregation Council President

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

SHOW YOUR TEAM SPIRIT AND HELP THE HUNGRY

TODAY (2/6) and next Sunday, February 13, show your team spirit by bringing in your non-perishable food items for the Patchwork Pantry. In the spirit of the Super Bowl we will have a bin for fans of the Cincinnati Bengals and another bin for the fans of the Los Angeles Rams. The team that fills their bin with the most food donations will be declared Muhlenberg's "Souper" Bowl winner. All donations go to Patchwork Pantry and help our neighbors in need.

Remember the pantry is also in need of paper products (towels, wraps, food storage bags, toilet tissue, etc.), cleansers (dish, laundry, all purpose), diapers, and all types of personal hygiene products.

LAY COMMUNION MINISTRY

Lay Communion Ministers will be blessed and sent forth this morning.

YOUTH MEETING

Today (2/6), 2:00 – 4:00 pm our middle school youth will gather to study the Third Article of the Apostle's Creed and have some fun together! Today's gathering will be hosted by the Moyers family at their house. If you would like to be on the email list, contact Pastor Alex.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

DO YOU WANT TO BE A SHEPHERD?

The Care Committee has a “Shepherd” ministry. Muhlenberg members are divided into geographical areas, each having a Shepherd or co-Shepherds (*fellow members who live in that area*). We work to build connections and relationships, and get to know each other as well as support each other when needed.

If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Care Committee members Linda Morrison or Sandy Randolph, or consider joining the Annual Meeting of current Shepherds via Zoom **TODAY (2/6) at 1:00** by clicking [HERE](#).

John 10 says, “I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and I'm known by my own; even as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep.” Zoom in to learn more!

DEADLINE TODAY



We give thanks for the life of Katie Ray who died January 17. If you would like to send condolences to the family, you may place cards in the basket at the ushers' table today. Please also feel free to share any remembrances including photos, written memories, etc. by sending them to info@muhlenberglutheran.org, today, and we will share them with the family. They would love to hear your stories and memories of Katie!

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW (2/7), 7:00 pm** via [ZOOM](#). Negotiating the journey of eldercare together...we listen, we laugh, we cry, and we hope you'll join us! For details, contact Jennie Warner (476-2020 or mjwarner1@aol.com).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88053197319?pwd=cUFVeVAzdXhTSDgxUXFBV3gzemhUZz09>

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Join us **each Wednesday at 10:30 am** for Bible study via [ZOOM](#):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

COMFORT MAKERS

Thursdays through April 7 anytime from 8:00 am - noon! For details, contact Linda Morrison (glenm778@comcast.net or 383-5085).

PIANO RECITAL AT MUHLENBERG

Our Music Ministry Accompanist Linlin Uta will present a piano recital **THIS Friday, February 11, 7:00 pm** in the sanctuary. Linlin will perform works by five composers ranging from



the baroque music of J.S. Bach to contemporary work of Lowell Liebermann. This recital is in partial fulfillment for the Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree. Linlin is currently a DMA candidate at JMU. This concert is free and open to all. Face masks will be required for all attendees.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MISSION MOMENT

February 27 Local and Global Mission will host Church World Services (formerly Refugee Resettlement) for a *Mission Moment*. One of the goals of our Strategic Plan is to “Know our neighbors and serve together with them.” Save the date and plan to hear more about the important work Church World Services is doing and how we can serve with them.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

CREATION CARE TIP

You can have an impact on the environment simply by supporting eco-friendly businesses. Have dinner at a restaurant that uses local ingredients, shop at a boutique that sells organic cotton t-shirts, or stay at a hotel that uses solar energy. Some of these businesses give 1% of their profits to environmental causes. Go to onepercentfortheplanet.org.

DESIGN OUR BULLETIN COVERS

Do you have artistic gifts or an eye for photography? Your gifts can help tell God’s story! One of our congregation’s strategic initiatives over the coming year is to “Become a Congregation of Storytellers.” While our lectors and Biblical Storytellers do a wonderful job of proclaiming God’s story each week in worship, there are other means of storytelling. Whether you use your own art, photography, or any other visual medium, you have the opportunity to use your gifts to design our Sunday worship bulletin cover! Storytellers of all ages are welcome to sign up [HERE](#) to claim your favorite stories from the Gospel of John. Have questions? Contact Christian Perritt at perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE NEWS

PERSONNEL UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that Jeff Williams will be serving as our Interim Sexton following Chip Bayer's retirement. He will be serving part-time and working hard to keep our facilities spick-and-span. We are also grateful for Jim Doyle, our evening Sexton, who is increasing his responsibilities during the interim time as well.

Also, we have received several applications for our Administrative Assistant position. Interviews will begin soon, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Click [HERE](#) for the position description and application instructions.

Our search for a Finance Manager continues. If you or someone you know may be interested in exploring this opportunity, you can find the job description and application instructions by clicking [HERE](#).

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

SYNODWIDE CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Mark your calendar for the Synodwide Celebration of Service in conjunction with Power in the Spirit at Roanoke College **July 15-16**. Unlike Assemblies, congregations are not limited in the number of people you can send to the gathering. Participants can arrive on July 14 and attend all the Power in the Spirit events or come on July 15 for the Synodwide Celebration only.

Registration will open in April. We look forward to seeing you at the first in-person gathering of the entire Synod since 2019.

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

1/23	8:30 Holy Communion.....	40
	11:00 Holy Communion	50
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	58
	Total Views this Week	373
	Hours Viewed this Week	99.1
1/30	8:30 Holy Communion.....	37
	11:00 Holy Communion	56
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	58

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Below is the final 2021 report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through December 31, 2021			
	Year to Date <u>Actual</u> (thru 12/31/21)	Year-End Totals Budget (thru 12/31/21)	Year-End Totals 2020 Actual (thru 12/31/20)
Gifts/Offerings	\$594,704	\$867,332	\$651,830
Other Gifts & Revenue	\$150,894	\$99,230	\$87,897
Total Revenue	\$745,598	\$966,562	\$739,727
Total Expenses	\$844,361	\$966,562	\$814,339
Income/ Expenses	(\$98,763)	\$0	(\$74,612)
Testamentary Gift	\$79,095	—	—
Gov. Subsidy (Payroll Protection Prog.)			\$85,989
(Deficiency)/ Surplus	(\$19,668)	\$0	\$11,380

*Information not available this week.
Please see next week's issue of The Chimes.*

To give online, scan here →



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

February 7-13, 2022

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

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| Mon | 2:00 pm | Weekly Staff Meeting |
| | 7:00 pm | Eldercare Support Group
via ZOOM |
| Tues | 6:30 pm | Celebration Singers |
| | 7:00 pm | Gloria Dei Ringers |
| Wed | 10:30 am | Wed. Morning Bible Study
via ZOOM |
| | 6:30 pm | Sanctuary Choir |
| Thu | 8:00 am | Comfort Makers |
| Sun | Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Extended Food Collection Sunday | |
| | 8:30 am | Holy Communion in person |
| | 9:45 am | Christian Formation Classes |
| | 11:00 am | Holy Communion in person
and Livestreamed via
Facebook and YouTube |

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:*

depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496

Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran)

MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Printed sermons are available on the table in the Gathering Area and upon request from Linda Depoy in the church office.

Devotionals for January-March 2022 are available from the Connection Center or the Connection Box.