



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



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

April 14, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

EARTH DAY

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE

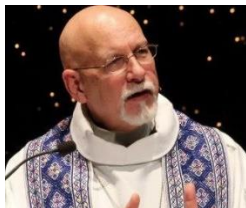
NEXT Sunday, April 21, 9:45 am



Join the Harrisonburg community at Turner Pavilion in downtown Harrisonburg for a celebration of faith, fellowship, and God's creation! Muhlenberg is one of seven congregations coming together for this special event, which will include music, Scripture and reflection, and a celebration of Holy Communion. There will also be supervised activities for children during the service, led by our own Children's Minister Ashley Saunders.

This worship service will take place of all Faith Formation classes next Sunday for children, youth, and adults.

We will have regular 8:30 and 11:00 am worship at Muhlenberg. Former Interim Pastor Mark Radecke will preach at both services; you're welcome to attend worship here AND/OR at the Turner Pavilion!



TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

SEASONAL WORSHIP BOOKLETS

Today we return to using "seasonal worship booklets" that we'll reuse for several weeks. You'll find specific parts of our worship (some hymns, music, and worship participants) listed on page two of *The Chimes* each week.

You are invited to a
Baby Sprinkle!
honoring
The Zubers!

Please join The Young Adult Group in sprinkling the Zubers with love by bringing donations of diapers and wipes to the Gathering Area. Little Baby Nadia is already growing out of newborn diapers, so size 1 and above would be appreciated.

Starting:
Sunday
April 7

Ending:
Sunday
April 28

TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION

PRELUDE

Joyful Praise K. Wissinger

OFFERING

Plenty Good Room (trad. Spiritual) arr. Hart Morris

COMMUNION

Hyfrydol arr. K. Wissinger

PREACHING & PRESIDING MINISTER~

Pastor Lauren Eanes

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Wylie Walton

11:00 ~ Kim Fawley

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Mark Briebl

11:00 ~ Linda Alley

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Gus Kagey

11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak

TORCH BEARERS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle, Bill Whitmire

11:00 ~ Brett Tjaden, Sue Koch

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Gus Kagey, Jim Doyle,
Bill Whitmire, Mark Briebl

11:00 ~ Sue Koch, Cheryl Hoak, Mark Warner

USHERS

8:30 ~ Bob Neumann, Karen Thomsen

11:00 ~ The Perritt Family

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Bill Wightman

11:00 ~ Mark Byerly

MUSICIANS

Linlin Uta, Organist

Gloria Dei Ringers ~ Kath Wissinger, Director

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY (LCM)

Tuesdays, 6:00 pm

We gather for dinner in the Campus Room. It's a free meal and time of fellowship and prayer for any college student. For details, contact Peer Minister Haley Tabor (haleyntabor@gmail.com). If you're interested in supporting LCM or helping to provide a meal, contact Sarah Orem (oremse@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 10:30 am

Led by Pastor Lauren, this study gathers each week to look ahead to Sunday's lessons. Meets via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

FRIDAY CHEW ON THIS

Each Friday in April, you're invited to *Chew on This* with Pastor Lauren. We'll gather at a local restaurant **at noon** for food, fellowship, and conversation related to the previous Sunday's Bible text. Please RSVP to eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org by 8:00 am each Friday to ensure we reserve enough seats.

April 19 Beyond

April 26 Urgie's Cheesesteaks

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WELCOME TO MUHLENBERG!

Sunday, April 28, 9:45 am

Interested in learning more about Muhlenberg or joining our church family? We offer a *Welcome to Muhlenberg* session that provides an opportunity to learn about the mission and ministry of the church. All are welcome to this overview of life at Muhlenberg, which includes a tour of the building and information on the

many ways to get involved in our community. We'll also give details about how to become a member of Muhlenberg, though attending this session doesn't commit you to anything! Come and explore what Muhlenberg is all about **Sunday, April 28 at 9:45 am** in the Sanctuary. New members will be received in worship Sunday, May 5. If you would like to join Muhlenberg, please fill out the information form at the link below. For details, contact Pastor Lauren (eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org).

<https://forms.gle/m5vmdEXbRgH7FAtv6>

THURSDAY MEN'S GROUP

Thursday, May 2, 9:00 am

The Thursday morning *Why Group* has morphed into a monthly men's group! All are welcome to meet the **first Thursday of each month** at Mr. J's Bagels (1731 S. High St.), 9:00 am for fellowship and Bible study. For more information, contact Mark Warner (mjwcarpediem@gmail.com) or Dave Barnes (barnesda09@gmail.com).

MUHLENBERG NEWS

ATTENTION BAKERS!



We need 10 bakers to make two to three dozen frosted cupcakes each for our celebration of Pentecost, **Sunday, May 19**. We will host a gathering following each service as part of our 175th Happy Birthday celebration, and Bishop Phyllis Milton will be with us to help mark this exciting year for our congregation.

If you would like to volunteer, please email Tassie Pippert (pippertl@jmu.edu). Thank you in advance for helping us make this a day to remember. Mark your calendar now for this fun-filled gathering.

May the 4th Be With You!

A gathering of all ministry teams is planned for **Saturday, May 4 8:30 - 10:30am** in the MAC. There will be food, visioning, team-building, & relationship-building among our ministries. **Everyone** is invited to attend and consider being a part of the ministries at Muhlenberg!



Please sign up by clicking the link below or using the Sign-Up Notebook in the Gathering Area.

Sign-Up Link:

<https://bit.ly/3VPOvyP>

CREATION CARE

Research your next big purchase to learn more about its environmental impact. *Consumer Reports* has launched a website to rate items ranging from towels and water filters to refrigerators and cars. In addition to rating their overall performance, special attention is paid to the eco-friendliness of the products. Go to www.greenerchoices.org before making your next big purchase.



MUHLENBERG NEWS (CONT'D)

SECOND EVENING SEXTON NEEDED

Muhlenberg is now hiring! We are searching for a second Evening Sexton to join Jim Doyle in cleaning the facility for Second Home and Harrisonburg-Rockingham Day Care. The person will clean areas used by the Day Care (on the third floor of our main building and the second floor of the MAC). We anticipate this taking about two hours each evening, Monday through Friday. A full job description can be found at muhlenberglutheran.org/jobs. If you or someone you know is interested in a part time job that serves the mission of Muhlenberg, please contact Daytime Sexton Jeff Williams (sexton@muhlenberglutheran.org or 804-931-2274). Please lift up our search in your prayers.

LOCAL & GLOBAL OUTREACH

GREAT COMMUNITY GIVE

April 17, 2023



The **Great Community Give** is a way for local non-profits in our community to be lifted up and fundraise together. Our Local &

Global Mission Outreach Committee continues to support organizations the Great Community Give has supported in the past, including Second Home, People Helping People, Harrisonburg Rockingham Day Care, Minnick School, Patchwork Pantry, Open Doors, Bridge of Hope, Valley Interfaith Action, Church World Service, Our Community Place, and Habitat for Humanity. If you are moved to provide additional support to any of these non-profit organizations or others of your choice, please go to the following website April 17 ...

<https://www.greatcommunitygive.org/>

PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEWS

PROPERTY WORKDAY

Saturday, April 27, 8:00 am

The Property Committee will hold a workday Saturday, April 27 beginning at 8:00 am and hopefully ending by noon. We need your help to mulch all the planting areas around the church campus and clean out the basement of the Ott Street House. We have tools available but you are welcome to bring rakes, forks and wheel barrows. Coffee and donuts will be provided. All are welcome. Bring a friend. We hope to see you then!

For more information, contact Mark Byerly at (msbyerlype@comcast.net or 540-271-1478).

LAWN MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please volunteer to mow and trim the grass on Muhlenberg's campus. During peak season, lawn maintenance is needed



weekly. Less than two hours of your time can make a difference. Bring a buddy and complete the task even faster. Volunteers are needed April - October. All equipment and training are provided, along with flexible scheduling. If you can help, please use the *Sign-Up Notebook* in the Gathering Area or contact Sexton Jeff Williams (text/call 804-931-2274 or email sexton@muhlenberglutheran.org).

SENIOR HIGH NEWS

CONFIRMATION CORNER

From "Five Key Lutheran Principles" by Mark Allan Powell. Here are key principles that Lutherans follow when they study or interpret the Bible.

3a. Scripture Interprets Scripture: Theology of the Cross. Lutherans believe that the death of Jesus Christ on the cross is an ultimate focal point of Scripture that reveals something profound about God's love for us and also about God's expectation for how we are to love and treat others. Jesus calls us to deny ourselves, take up *our* crosses, and follow him (Mark 8:34). The Apostle Paul calls us to have the same mind as Jesus Christ, who "humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross" (Phil. 2:5, 8). Lutherans try to read all of scripture in this light. We believe we are called to love others with unselfish devotion and to do what we can to make the world a better place - loftier goals than simply expanding our own borders or feathering our own nest. In the same vein, a theology of the cross (taught in Scripture as a whole) tells us that God has special concern for the most vulnerable people on the earth (Isa 61:1; Luke 6:20; James 2:5) and that pure religion must be fundamentally oriented toward them (James 1:27).

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GATHERINGS Saturday Evening, April 27

All 9th - 12th grade youth are invited to gather at the home of the Gibsons for a dinner bonfire. Come roast hot dogs, make s'mores, and have fun with the high school youth! Details will be emailed, so let Pastor Lauren know if you're interested in attending or have any questions.

KAIROS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The Virginia Synod will host Kairos for rising 9th - 12th graders, **June 23 - 28** at Roanoke College. To learn more, click [HERE](#). The registration deadline is **April 30**; to register, click [HERE](#). Contact Pastor Lauren with questions while Pastor Alex is on leave.

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.

PATCHWORK PANTRY

The Patchwork Pantry collection total for April is 57 pounds. Thank you for your continued generosity to support those in need.



REMINDERS

FAITHFUL QUESTIONS

We offer the opportunity for you to ask faithful questions! In the pews and at the Connection Center, you'll find light purple cards, where you are invited to ask questions whenever one arises. Any question is welcome! Place your purple card in the Offering Plate or in the purple lock box at the Connection Center. Only the Pastors have access to this box. Questions can also be asked digitally using [THIS GOOGLE FORM](#). If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to the Pastors.



REMINDERS (CONT'D)

CHURCH ENTRY SYSTEM Outside Doors Rekeyed!

All outside doors of the church building have been rekeyed. As you may recall, improving our entry security has been completed in phases. Phase 1 was the installation of the doorbell and entry keypad on one of the east side Gathering Area doors. Phase 2 was to issue PINs to those who routinely need access to the church building so they can gain entry using the keypad.

We completed Phase 3 (our final phase) by rekeying all outside doors to maximize security. **“BCK” and all previous keys that unlocked outside doors no longer work.** If you need routine access to the church and have not applied for a PIN, please contact Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-434-3496). *Please note this rekeying does not affect the MAC. You will gain access to it the same way you always have.*

During the Week

If you do not have a PIN: Come to the Gathering Area doors and press the doorbell (instructions are posted on the door). When the call is answered, please identify yourself, and the door will be unlocked remotely so you can enter. Please note that **the office is staffed Monday through**



Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you arrive outside of those hours, there's still a good chance someone will be here, but please call before you come to be sure. Please do not use the red doors at the back of the building — for security reasons, these doors are reserved for Day Care use only.

BUILDING USE REQUESTS

With the arrival of spring comes an increase in Building Use requests to the church. We are excited for the chance to be a part of building faith and connection, and in our supporting role in the lives of our community.

Not only do we share our space with H-R Day Care and Second Home, but also a variety of other support groups share our campus, mostly in the evenings on weekdays. Last year at this time, we had several requests to use the MAC for overnight guests on mission trips. It's exciting to see our facilities being used in the ways imagined when they were built.

For church meetings/events, we need your help to ensure the room(s) you want to use or a suitable alternative is available. Before you plan a meeting/event, contact Building Use Coordinator Liz Engleking to schedule space.

For non-church meetings/events (e.g. support group meetings or a personal birthday party), an updated Building Use Policy, along with updated application forms, was created in 2022 to account for our post-pandemic world. The policies and forms can be found in the “Building Use Forms” mailbox in the administrative hallway. There are fees associated with using the different rooms available on our campus for non-church events. There is a Fee Reduction or Waiver Request form for non-profit groups.

If you are interested in reserving a space on the church campus, please reach out to Building Use Coordinator Liz Engleking at buildinguse@muhlenberglutheran.org or call the church weekdays, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

CONNECTION CORNER

THANK YOU!



Wow, what an amazing Holy Week and Easter we had here at Muhlenberg! A big thanks to everyone who made this past week possible. From the waving of the palm branches, to the sharing of the meal, to the adoration of the cross, to the loud “Alleluias!,” it was a special time for our community.

Thanks to our **staff** who worked tirelessly to make sure all the details were set; our **choir members** and **guest musicians** whose beautiful musical gifts helped us experience God's presence in our worship; countless faithful **worship leaders** including LAMs, ushers, communion assistants, crucifers, torch bearers, and lectors; our **guest preacher** on Maundy Thursday, Pastor Paul Weber, who brought a beautiful message of love and hope; members of the **altar and flower guilds** who baked bread, changed our paraments, and prepared our worship space so lovingly; **sound operators and live streamers** who expertly help us share our worship far and wide; **Easter brunch planners and servers** who really brought our community together

over some great food; **nursery attendants** and Easter egg hunt assistants who continue to make Muhlenberg a safe and loving place for our youngest kiddos; **Easter photo planners and printers** for providing a much-appreciated gift to all who attended the brunch; **readers** at our Easter Vigil service who faithfully proclaimed the gospel; the **Care Committee** for organizing visits to our members who are homebound; our **office volunteers** who help keep the place running; and the many, **many other people** who have stepped in and done what was needed in the moment, whether that was ... cleaning something up, holding the door open, giving someone a ride home, greeting a new person as they walked in, or simply showing up ready to worship.

What a blessing it is to be together in this community! Thank you, all, for being a part of this *Wellspring of God's Grace in Jesus Christ*.

(And if you're interested in getting involved in any of the up-front or behind-the-scenes ministries named above, either in a formal or informal way, don't hesitate to be in touch! You don't have to be an official member of Muhlenberg to be a part of this community and share your gifts. Jump in! Your presence and participation matters!)

--Pastor Lauren



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

3/28	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday	54
	7:00 pm Wellstream Worshippers	15
3/29	7:00 pm Good Friday.....	54
	7:00 pm Wellstream Worshippers	27
3/30	8:00 pm Easter Vigil	25
3/31	8:30 Easter Sunday Holy Communion	133
	11:00 Easter Sunday Holy Communion.....	215
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	36
	Total Views this Week	234
	Hours Viewed this Week	92.6
4/7	8:30 Easter Sunday Holy Communion.....	65
	11:00 Easter Sunday Holy Communion.....	70
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	40

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Gifts and Offerings were slightly higher than the previous month with expenses remaining similar. The deficit remains comparable to February. You will notice there is less income compared to last year because in 2023 we sold the church van in March, which increased the income and created a surplus in our budget.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through March 2024			
	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2023 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$123,879	\$188,750	\$114,289
Total Income	\$160,517	\$221,194	\$208,509
Total Expenses	\$197,056	\$224,955	\$184,000
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(36,539)	\$(3,761)	\$(24,509)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 21,275.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,804.13
Total Giving	\$ 23,079.13



To give online, scan here →

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

April 15 - 21, 2024

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Congregation Council Meeting
Tues	6:00 pm	Lutheran Campus Ministry
	6:00 pm	Celebration Singers
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed	10:30 am	Bible Study via Zoom
	6:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Fri	12:00 pm	Friday <i>Chew on This</i>
Sun		Fourth Sunday of Easter
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Earth Day Service (Turner Pavilion) (no Faith Formation Classes)
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube



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

Charles, Susan and Sarah Kiser

David & Donna Kiser

Keith & Teresa Kiser

Luke Kiser and Isabella Eyles Kiser

Larry Knott

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)