



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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April 24, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

A BLESSED HOLY WEEK

What a gift it was to experience our first Holy Week and Easter in the building since 2019. The community gathered with high energy and much joy. We even ran out of bulletins on Easter Sunday—what a great problem to have!

Many, many people helped to make this special week happen. We thank each and every person who shared gifts of music, reading, praying, planning, editing, live-streaming, assembling, setting up, decorating, cleaning, ushering, inviting, welcoming, transporting, Easter egg stuffing, and most of all, joining in worship both in person and online.

When the pandemic first began in March 2020, we thought we'd be suspending in-person worship for a few weeks and we'd be back for a joyous Easter. We had no idea it would take us two years to be able to celebrate Easter Sunday together. We give thanks for the ways our community has joined in faithful worship over these two years and look forward to that which is yet to come for our community of faith. In all times and places, we give God the glory for sustaining and strengthening us through this season!

See photos of Holy Week activity on page 8.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

EASTER & ITS SEASON

Easter is the crown of the church year, the queen of feasts, and as such it lasts for a week of weeks (7 weeks). We invite you to join us each week in Easter as we worship, pray, learn, support and serve together in ministry and mission.

EMERIE CLARE WADE

Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Emerie Clare Wade, daughter of Matthew Wade and Kelly Atwood, into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family at the 11:00 service this morning! Emerie's sponsors are Chase Milner and Rebecca Heselmeyer Milner. Welcome to the Lord's family, Emerie!



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

ATTENDANCE

4/14	7:00 Maundy Thursday Service.....	61
	Live Wellstream Worshippers	32
4/15	7:00 Good Friday Service	78
	Live Wellstream Worshippers	11
4/16	4:00 Easter Vigil Service.....	58
4/17	8:30 Holy Communion	164
	11:00 Holy Communion	152
	11:00 Live Wellstream Worshippers.....	51

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

STAFF MEETING TIME CHANGE

Weekly staff meetings have been moved to **Tuesdays at 1:00 pm**. We make every effort to have volunteer office coverage, but please note calls may not be answered during this time. Please leave a voicemail message, and we will return your call as soon as possible.

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Join us **each Wednesday at 10:30 am** for Bible study via **ZOOM**:

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

MISSION ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

THIS Wednesday, April 27, 7:00 pm

The Mission Endowment Committee is meeting with its financial advisor, Terry Crowgey of CAPTRUST, in the church library to review its portfolio. If you would like to know how the money in Muhlenberg's Mission Endowment Fund is invested, please join us.

If you have an interest in serving on the Committee, please contact Doris Stone (dmstone99@gmail.com or 540-289-5520) and come to the meeting **THIS Wednesday**.

FOOD COLLECTION

Next Sunday, May 1

In the Gathering Area, we collect non-perishable food for Patchwork Pantry. 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.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

NEXT Sunday, May 1

Confirmation, often called Affirmation of Baptism, is a course of learning, discernment, and service for youth from 6th to 8th grade, where they learn what it means to live into their baptisms.

Join us as we celebrate the hard work and faithfulness of our Muhlenberg youth who are choosing to publicly affirm their Baptism this year. **Confirmands will share Personal Faith Statements in the sanctuary during the Christian Formation hour (9:45 - 10:45 am). A reception will follow in the Gathering Area.**

At their Affirmation of Baptism **during the 11:00 am service**, Confirmands are asked to make this promise, made by their parents at their baptism, for themselves: "...to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."

Join us as we celebrate this milestone step and new beginning for **Isaiah Campbell, Ainsley Hargens, Annika Harmison, Kat Kolodinsky, Sam McKeever, Keira Miller, Ryan Moyers, and Billy Perritt.**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PRAY SHAWL KNITTING CIRCLE Wednesday, May 4, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Join us in the Gathering Area as we continue this prayerful ministry and spiritual practice. Whether you knit or crochet, are experienced or just learning, you are invited to join us as we pray and stitch together prayer shawls that will bring comfort, solace, celebration and joy to those in need. “We celebrate our God who knits us into wholeness, who enables us to care for others, who encircles the world in an eternal shawl of love and compassion.” Susan S. Jorgensen, *Knitting into the Mystery*

SECOND HOME YARD SALE

Saturday, May 7, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

You are invited to participate in the community yard sale on Muhlenberg’s campus to benefit Second Home Learning Center. (Rain date: 6/4.)

This is an opportunity to have a personal yard sale and keep the profits, while supporting Second Home through table/space rental fees. We are offering 3 options for rental space:

- Prime for \$40-includes two parking spots and 2 tables. This reservation allows for a parked car, should you need it.
- Regular for \$25-includes one parking spot and 1 table. This reservation allows for a parked car, should you need it.
- Basic for \$15- includes a spot to set up only. No tables provided and no car allowed.

Set up time is 6:00 am. The yard sale begins at 8:00 am and concludes at 1:00 pm. All items need to be cleared by 2:00 pm. To sign up for a table/space, please click [HERE](#). If you have questions, please contact Nadina Pupic at pnharrisonburg.staff@gmail.com. If you want to sell, buy or do both, we look forward to seeing you there!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE WORKDAY Saturday, May 14, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

The Property Committee has scheduled the first workday of the year! The event will be held rain or shine. Projects include painting the nursery, landscaping/mulch, working on the fire escape, and various other important beautification projects. We always appreciate and need your help. If you can attend for only an hour or two, you are more than welcome to participate. Please bring your work gloves, shovel, and/or rake. We look forward to seeing you! Have questions? Contact Property Committee Co-Chair Steve Reich (reichsa@jmu.edu or 540-908-0609).

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR KATIE RAY

Sunday, May 15 after 11:00 am Service

We give thanks for the life of Katie Ray who died January 17. Katie was a member for many, many years. A funeral service was held January 29, and the family is eager to welcome everyone to a Celebration of Life for



Katie Sunday, May 15. We will worship together at 11:00 am, then regather at Purcell Park, shelter #2 to share fellowship, food, and memories of Katie.

If you are able to assist by providing food/drink, helping set up/clean up, or serving at the Celebration of Life, please contact Care Committee Co-Chair Linda Morrison (540-383-5085 or lindamm778@gmail.com).

MUHLENBERG NEWS

DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Our most up-to-date printed directory is available in the Gathering Area today. Please take one per family and review your information. If updates are needed, contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy at depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496. Please especially note the email address we have on file. (see the article from Finance Manager Jane Eanes on page 5 for details).

CREATION CARE TIP



Drip irrigation systems apply water slowly and directly to the roots of the plant, using up to 50% less water than a traditional sprinkler. You can buy simple drip hoses at home improvement stores. Choose an irrigation method that has an automatic shutoff device and a moisture sensor to ensure you're only watering when the lawn really needs it.

ALTAR GUILD MINISTRY

Since 1981, David Hill has faithfully served as our chairperson of the Altar Guild. This June, he will retire after 41 years of dedicated ministry. We're looking for a group of folks who will step up to shepherd this ministry. Please contact Pastor Lauren if you're interested, or would like to learn more.

REUSE/RECYCLE MATERIALS

To reduce paper waste, we are reusing worship booklets and extra issues of *The Chimes* between services. (As always, we encourage you to take *The Chimes* home with you.) Please place materials in the designated basket. We thank Linda Morrison for taking Sunday materials and office paper to the recycling center.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

VBS IS JUST ON THE HORIZON

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be a week in early August (tentatively August 7-13). VBS is such a great opportunity to spend a week really focused on Jesus and community. I need your help. There are two great curriculums on my radar, and I need some input from you and your family on what interests you the most.

The first is **Passport to Peace** from Menno media. Passport to Peace, an interactive curriculum that explores five Bible stories, encourages children to listen to and learn from people who are different, notice the needs of others and seek to help, creatively work to keep everyone safe, and refuse to respond to conflict with violence.

The other is ReNew: the Green VBS from Sparkhouse. Grounded in Jesus' Parable of the Sower, ReNew connects the Bible and creation care for kids with five fun-filled days.

Both offer activities to help us think outside of our community and see the world around us. I would love to hear your input by May 15. Email me at sauanders@muhlenberglutheran.org.

Ashley Saunders, Children's Minister



The kids had a great time at our Easter egg hunt!

YOUTH NEWS

KAIROS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

June 26 (Sunday evening) - **July 1** (Friday noon)
Kairos will be held at **Roanoke College**. Kairos is our week-long faith formation event, offered each summer for youth who will be 9th - 12th graders in the fall. Several times each day, we gather the entire Kairos group of about 175 youth and adults for lots of singing, skits, fun and prayers; then participants gather in small groups that meet throughout the week. Kairos has many special features: event theme t-shirts, Open Mic Talent Show, faith testimonies, comic relief, reflection time, prayer stations, speed friending, t-shirt fashion show, and more!

“Kairos” is the New Testament Greek word for “special time.” It is used whenever God’s people want to talk about a time of change, of renewal, of God’s special work in the believer and the community.

This event is a chance for youth who are already committed to a life of faith to be part of a unique Christian community for an entire week, to have a fresh experience of the grace and presence of God in that community, and to develop habits for discipleship that can be taken home as they live out their baptismal call to be followers of Jesus.

For more information about the event and registration, click [HERE](#).



FROM OUR FINANCE MANAGER

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Starting in June 2022, for those of you who have email, we would like to begin sending your Muhlenberg contribution statements to you via email instead of through the mail.



For those without email, we will be happy to continue providing you with a paper copy of your statement. The reasons for this change are twofold:

- First, this is a much faster and safer way for you as a donor to receive and save your statements. It is easier to retrieve and less likely to get misplaced. It can also be shared more easily with a tax preparer or other financial advisor.
- Second, utilizing email instead of the post office will save on cost and staff time, going hand in hand with our Strategic Plan.

We will be sending statements to your email address we have in our system. If your email address has changed recently, please contact me at the email address or phone number below so I can update your information. Additionally, if for some reason you would prefer to receive a paper statement rather than an emailed copy, please also let me know so that I can make note of this request. Finally, please contact me also if you have questions regarding the first quarter statement that was mailed recently.

Thank you for your cooperation as we make this small change in our financial communication method. And thank you for your generous support to Muhlenberg.

Jane Eanes, Finance Manager

finance@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

IN-PERSON SYNOD GATHERING July 15-16 ~ Registration is Open



In conjunction with Power in the Spirit, the Virginia Synod looks forward to gathering in person to celebrate ministries of service from around the Synod, worship together, and learn from one another.

Everyone can attend. Unlike an Assembly where the number of participants is limited, anyone in the Virginia Synod can attend the Synodical Gathering. Congregations are encouraged to send at least two leaders, but anyone interested can register.

There are **two options for Registration:**

- **On-Campus Housing** includes the event, one-night lodging on the campus of Roanoke College, plus Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. The cost will be \$140.
- **Commuter** includes the event, Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. The cost will be \$100.

You are automatically registered for the Synodical Gathering if you attend Power in the Spirit. Since the Synodical Gathering will be in conjunction with Power in the Spirit and the schedules will overlap, everyone registered for Power in the Spirit (which begins on July 14) will be registered for the Synodical Gathering.

Even if you can't attend the whole gathering, you are invited to be a part of a Festival Worship Service at College Lutheran Friday, July 15 at 7:00 pm.

Click [HERE](#) to register

YOUTH SYNOD ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The Virginia Synod Youth Assembly will be held online **Saturday, June 11, 3:30-5:30 pm.** The youth assembly is for Virginia Synod youth in grades 7-12, and there is no cost to attend. The assembly is planned and led by the Virginia Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Board. For more information or to register, click [HERE](#).

POWER IN THE SPIRIT July 14-16 ~ Registration is Open

What does it mean to be a leader in the Church and a follower of Jesus? The words of Saint Thomas reveal a disciple whose faith in Jesus makes him willing to go where Jesus goes, even when danger and death are real possibilities. For Thomas, it's better to be unsafe with Jesus than to stay behind as Jesus heads into dangerous places.

For the Church today, we just may be called to a similar faith that goes with Jesus—even into danger. At Power in the Spirit 2022 we'll explore these themes, and more!

Come and learn! Come for fellowship! Come to serve your neighbor! Come to Power in the Spirit 2022!

Download the Power in the Spirit Booklet for more information: [Power in the Spirit 2022 Booklet \(April 4, 2022\)](#)

Click [HERE](#) for more information or to register.



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

4/10	8:30 Holy Communion.....	66
	11:00 Holy Communion.....	118
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers	32*
	<i>* experienced technical difficulties</i>	
	Total Views this Week	536
	Hours Viewed this Week	127.6
4/17	8:30 Holy Communion	164
	11:00 Holy Communion	152
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	51

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

As the first quarter closed, gifts and offerings continue to lag behind what was budgeted and also in comparison to the previous year. Expenses exceed income, thus we continue to show a deficit. While a deficit at this time of year is not unusual for most congregations (as a significant percentage of gifts and offerings tend to come during the final month of the year), our Congregation Council is keeping an eye on this and continuing to be thoughtful stewards of the generous gifts you are giving, while moving forward in our mission to equip all people to live out Christ's love.

Personnel is the largest expense and the most critical to equip the saints. Property and maintenance is the second largest expense and is currently comparable to past years. MLC is fortunate to have a team who carefully cares for this campus. God's love is overflowing with abundance for each of us. Take time to consider how you can contribute your time, talents, and treasures to MLC. Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through March 2022			
	2022 YTD Actual	2022 YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$119,307	\$153,750	\$139,724
Total Income	\$147,510	\$175,937	\$166,778
Expenses	\$202,043	\$211,828	\$230,688
Excess Income/(Expenses)	\$(54,533)	\$(35,891)	\$(63,910)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 13,566.70
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,065.00
Total Giving	\$ 14,631.70



To give online, scan here →

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

April 25 — May 1, 2022

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

Mon	6:30 pm	Congregation Council Mtg.
Tues	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
	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
	7:00 pm	Mission Endowment Meeting
Sun		Third Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday Food Pantry / Lay Communion 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

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)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION 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 -12** ~ Campus Room
- Devotional Classics 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)



Maundy Thursday Service



Good Friday Prayer Walk



Good Friday Service



Easter Vigil Service



Easter Sunday Service



Easter Egg Hunt