



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



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

May 5, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

LOGAN ANDREW RANDOLPH

Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Logan Andrew Randolph, son of David & Kasey Randolph and grandson of Tony & Sandy Randolph, into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family at the 11:00 service! Logan's sponsors are Kristy McMcaster and Adam Randolph. Welcome to the Lord's family, Logan! We welcome ASL interpreters Debbie Oldman-Brown and Jenifer Pridgeon this morning — thanks for being here to help us share this gift of baptism!

FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

On the first Sunday each month, we collect non-perishable food for Patchwork Pantry. Please check the [Giving Page](#) on our website for a full list of acceptable items. Monetary donations are also appreciated.

LAY COMMUNION

Lay Communion Ministers will be blessed and sent forth this morning to bring communion to homebound members. 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 (540-383-5085 or lindamm778@gmail.com).

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

THIS Friday, May 10, 12 noon

Chew on This continues! You're invited to join Pastor Lauren **at Pasha** for food, fellowship, and conversation related to the today's Bible text. Please RSVP to eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org by 8:00 am Friday to ensure we reserve enough seats.

TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION

PRELUDE ~ *Lift Your Voice in Praise*

(ring True Handbell Music)

K. Wissinger

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING

A Day to Celebrate

(ring True Handbell Music)

K. Wissinger

COMMUNION ~ *Be Thou My Vision*

(Lorenz Publishing Company)

arr. S. Eithun

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Kathy Thompson

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Wylie Walton

11:00 ~ Linda Alley

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Oris Griffin

11:00 ~ Brad Moyers

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle

11:00 ~

TORCH BEARERS

8:30 ~ Bill & Crystl Whitmire

11:00 ~

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Oris Griffin, Jim Doyle,
Bill & Crystl Whitmire

11:00 ~ Brad Moyers

USHERS

8:30 ~ Karen Thomsen, Susan Gallaher

11:00 ~ John Mulder, Pam Bergey,
Chelsea Aldrich

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Bill Wightman

11:00 ~ Todd Hedinger

MUSICIANS

Judith Ofcarcik, Organist

Gloria Dei Ringers ~ Kath Wissinger, Director

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PENTECOST/ BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sunday, May 19

You're invited to Muhlenberg's 175th Birthday Party! On Pentecost, May 19, we'll celebrate the birthday of the church along with Bishop Phyllis Milton, bishop of the



Virginia Synod. In addition to festive worship services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am, we'll gather for cupcakes following each service.

At 9:45 am, come to the Nielsen Room (or join online via Zoom) for a Q&A session with Bishop Milton, hosted by the middle school youth. Join in the fun and celebration!

MUHLENBERG NEWS

NEW DEADLINE FOR *THE CHIMES*

Now Wednesdays at 12 noon

With so much news to share, we need to adjust the weekly deadline for *The Chimes* to allow time for prioritization, design and proofing. **The new weekly deadline of WEDNESDAYS AT NOON is now in effect.** Requests for a series of articles or a full-column/full-page article should be made two weeks in advance.

CREATION CARE

Sustainable Fashion: Look for garments made of natural fibers and also research the manufacturers' human rights records. The fair and ethical treatment of garment workers must be supported; working conditions in a lot of garment factories can be poor. Here, sustainability means achieving a balance between fair treatment, wages and productivity.

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

VIRGINIA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Over 300 Lutherans gathered online via Zoom for the 2024 Virginia Synod Assembly. The Rev. Tim Brown, Director of Congregational Stewardship of the ELCA, was welcomed as our Churchwide Representative. The Assembly theme was *Strong Connections*. After opening with worship, elections were held, reports were shared, and assembly business was conducted. Our own **Kristee Trumbo** was elected to serve on the Consultation Committee. To view the entire Assembly, click [HERE](#) or visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMe1tUit5IU&t=1698s. You can also visit the Connection Center for a detailed summary.

YOUTH ASSEMBLY

Saturday, May 25, 10:30 am – 3:30 pm



The Virginia Synod Youth Assembly is the annual meeting of the Virginia Synod Lutheran Youth Organization, to which all Lutheran youth in grades 7 - 12 in the Virginia Synod automatically belong. The event will allow youth to gather at one of four places around the synod and be linked via Zoom for presentations, singing, and discussions! We are delighted to be one of the host sites for the Youth Assembly this year. Each congregation of the VA Synod is invited to send up to four delegates to the Youth Assembly. Delegates may be in 7th - 12th grades. Learn more at <https://vasynod.org/event/youth-assembly/> Interested in representing our congregation? Contact Pastor Lauren by Wednesday, May 1.

CONFIRMATION 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.

5. Public Interpretation. Lutherans say that the interpretation of Scripture is a public art rather than a private one. Through the Bible, God speaks to Israel and to the church. God does not speak directly or privately to individuals. What God says to Israel and to the church may have specific application for individual lives, but the meaning of Scripture for individuals is to be in harmony with its universal meaning for the community of faith. This principle is difficult for some people to grasp. We *do* encourage personal and private Bible reading, and we do believe that the Bible speaks to people as a living Word with relevance to their individual lives. But Lutherans do not believe that this just happens automatically in a magical sort of way. People do not just open their Bibles to find private messages from God, words that would apply to them in a way that they would probably never apply to anyone else. The point is that Lutherans do not treat the Bible like some kind of magic book. We don't use the Bible the way some people use Ouija boards or horoscopes or Tarot cards. But this does not mean that we think the Bible has no personal application to individual lives. Of course it does! What the Bible means for you should be consistent or compatible with what it means for everyone.

With great sadness, we share the news of Arlene Blaskowski's death (April 25). We keep her family in our prayers. A memorial service will be held at Muhlenberg May 18 at 2:00 pm.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

4/21	8:30 Holy Communion	54
	11:00 Holy Communion	69
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	22
	Total Views this Week	187
	Hours Viewed this Week	29.1
4/28	8:30 Holy Communion	70
	11:00 Holy Communion	110
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	35

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 <u>Actual</u>	2024 YTD <u>Budget</u>	2023 YTD <u>Actual</u>
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	\$	5,016.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	2,037.55
Total Giving	\$	7,053.55

To give online, scan here →



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

May 6 - 12, 2024

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff 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 noon	Friday <i>Chew on This</i>
Sun		Seventh Sunday of Easter
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Faith Formation in person & via Zoom
	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:

Knute & Betty Leidal

Nathan, Jennifer, Caroline and Jack Leopard

Tammy and Samantha Lewellen

Ruby Lineweaver

Bart Long

Please note: if you notice an unintentional omission in our list or prefer your name not be listed, please contact Parish

The weekly deadline for routine articles for *The Chimes* is **Wednesday at 12 noon**. 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 /540-434-3496)