



The CHIMES

175 Years

MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH

Equipping All People to Live Out Christ's Love

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

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

July 7, 2024

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

PASTOR LAUREN ON VACATION

Pastor Lauren will be on vacation **July 10 - August 1**. Please direct all pastoral care needs to Pastor Alex or call the church office.

PATCHWORK PANTRY

Special condiment collection totals are ...



22 jars of mayonnaise
36 bottles of mustard
35 bottles of ketchup
11 bottles of relish.

Our special collection concludes today. Thank you for your generosity!

LAY COMMUNION

Lay Communion Ministers will be blessed and sent forth this morning. They bring communion to homebound members once a month. If you are interested in receiving home communion or serving as a Lay Communion Minister, please contact Pastor Lauren or Linda Morrison (540-383-5085 or lindamm778@gmail.com).

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR SERIES

From way back in Isaiah 9, the Messiah is proclaimed to be a "Wonderful Counselor," but even Jesus knows that He's not trying to replace the valuable work of mental health professionals! Mental health can be such a tricky subject to discuss, and even more so in the life of the church. Where is God in the midst of a mental health crisis? Does my depression mean that I lack faith and self-control? Am I a bad Christian if I go to therapy?



We'll explore these questions and more throughout our *Wonderful Counselor* series, and create space to reflect deeply as a community on how we understand mental health and build a culture that promotes healing and understanding within our community. Our four-week lectionary series approaches the following themes:

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TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION

PRELUDE ~ Antiphon V: *How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou*
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

OFFERING ~ *O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go*
arr. John Purifoy (b. 1952)

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee. I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

COMMUNION

Andante Tranquillo from *Organ Sonata III*
Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

POSTLUDE

Dialogue from Suite du Deuxième Ton
Jean-Adam Guilain (c. 1680 - 1739)

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Kathy Thompson

11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Karen Thomson

11:00 ~ Malcolm Wilfong

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle

11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle, Karen Thomsen,
Gus & Roger Kagey

11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak, Malcolm Wilfong,
Corey Reed, Sue Koch

USHERS

8:30 ~ Paul & Erika Mabrey

11:00 ~ Steve Wilfong, Matt Wade, Olivia Rishell

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Tom Pippert

11:00 ~ Todd Hedinger

MUSICIAN ~ Matthew O. Thomas, Organist

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

- Week 1 (6/23): Romans 8:5-11, 26-28; *Set Your Minds on Things of the Spirit* This foundational conversation for the series explores how mental health is about more than “self-control,” even as we discuss that as a facet of faith. God's grace and spirit intervene, sometimes in the form of mental health professionals.
- Week 2 (6/30): Psalm 139:7-14; *More than Diagnoses... Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* What if we framed conversations around mental health by seeing people as beloved children of God before seeing them as a condition?
- **Week 3 (TODAY, 7/7): Psalm 23; *The Darkest Valley*** We discuss depression, anxiety, despair, and disorder in light of a God who comforts and does not abandon.
- Week 4 (7/14): Luke 8:26-39; *Return to Your Home* Our concluding conversation explores the role of community in caring for one another through the ups and downs of mental health, and how we as a church might embody that care.

Jesus is a Wonderful Counselor, but He's not a licensed therapist... Join us for this series exploring the intersections of faith in Christ, the blessing of a compassionate community, and the reality of mental health.

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for Fellowship in the Gathering Area in between services this morning where we will enjoy conversation and refreshments.

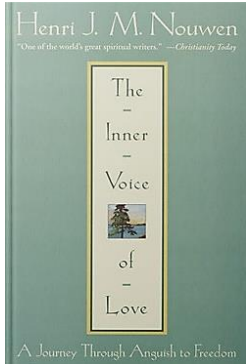


Today and the first Sunday of each month we ask you to be intentional about wearing a nametag to help others learn your name. Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR RESOURCE FOR WEEK 3:

SUMMER READING OR LISTENING

Each week of our series we offer resources and opportunities for deeper engagement with our themes. As we consider what it means to walk in **The Darkest Valley** and discuss depression, anxiety, despair, and disorder in light of a God who comforts and does not abandon, we invite



you to hear the voices of others who have walked this valley. We recommend reading *The Inner Voice of Love: A Journey Through Anguish to Freedom* by Henri Nouwen, or checking out Season 1 of Muhlenberg's own "*The Wellspring Podcast*."

Henri Nouwen was a Dutch-born Catholic priest, professor, psychologist and prolific writer. For the countless individuals who have to live through the pain of broken relationships or who suffer from the loss of a loved one, this book about the inner voice of love offers new courage, new hope, and even new life.

This is Henri Nouwen's "secret journal." It was written during the most difficult period of his life when he suddenly lost his self-esteem, his energy to live and work, his sense of being loved, even his hope in God. Although he experienced excruciating anguish and despair, he was still able to keep a journal in which he wrote to himself a daily spiritual imperative that emerged from his conversations with friends and supporters. If you'd like to connect with a friend or group and read through this book together, there is a [group discussion guide](#)

made available by the Henri Nouwen Society that can be accessed at their website.

We also encourage you to take time this summer to listen to [The Wellspring Podcast](#).

Enjoy conversations among members and friends of Muhlenberg as they discuss Laura Van Dernoot Lipsky's *Trauma Stewardship* and explore the role of faith in caring for the trauma of others while gaining perspective on ways that we may be embodying trauma as well. Each episode has discussion and reflection questions, and it would be a great opportunity to engage in conversation with a neighbor this summer.



GREETINGS FROM PASTOR ROBERTS



Today we remember the ministry of Pastor Dennis S. Roberts, Associate Pastor at Muhlenberg 1987 - 1990, serving with Pastor John Derrick. Dennis came to Muhlenberg fresh out of seminary at Gettysburg, PA.

Pastor Roberts can't be with us this summer but sent the following response:

"I hope all is well with you. Thank you so much for your kind invitation to be a part of Muhlenberg's 175th Anniversary. Unfortunately, my summer schedule is complicated by a number of weddings and taking our youth and young adults on a Luther Heritage Tour to Germany. Therefore, attending on a Sunday morning just isn't in the cards.

I wish you well with your celebration!

Dennis"

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GREETINGS FROM PASTOR ROBERTS (CONT'D)

Pastor Robert's response, as well as previous weeks' greetings, is available for you to read today in the Gathering Area.



Last Sunday we had a surprise visit from Mycah McNett, a daughter of the congregation who completed seminary at Philadelphia last year and was called to serve as Pastor at Saint Luke Lutheran Church in Devon, PA. She was taking members of her congregation to West Virginia to serve a week working on service projects with Appalachia Service Project and stopped by Muhlenberg for a rest stop and brief visit. It was so good to see her!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CHRISTMAS IN JULY COOKOUT Thursday, July 25, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Mark your calendar for an evening of fun and celebration this summer with your Muhlenberg family! The gift of the Incarnation is not just something for one cold, dark week in December. We'll celebrate Christmas in July with a community cookout Thursday, July 25, 5:30 - 8:00 pm! Look for more details in *The Chimes* soon.



MULE 'N BERGERS WITH CHEESE KICKBALL TEAM

Mule 'N Bergers with Cheese coed adult kickball is coming back this fall! Games will be played August 6 – October 8 on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings starting at 6:00, 7:00 or 8:00 pm at Ramblewood Park.



Six adult kickball players, manager Meg Wightman, (with 2 kiddos) practiced Thursday, June 27. **NOTE the second non-mandatory practice date has been changed to Saturday, August 3, 9:00 am** at the lower Ramblewood fields. We need at least 8 players to hold practice. Coach RW Carneal would be happy to talk with you about the team!

More adults are encouraged to join the Mule 'N Bergers with Cheese team. Please let Meg (megwightman14@gmail.com) know asap to order t-shirts in time if you plan to play (need cell #, email, and t-shirt size) AND if you plan to come to practice August 3.



2ND ANNUAL GREAT COMMUNITY PLAY DATE ~ SAVE THE DATE

The 2nd Annual Great Community Play Date will be held **Saturday, August 24 from 10:00 am - noon** at Muhlenberg! Enjoy a bounce house, Gaga Ball, Four Square, lawn games, sweet treats and more as we host the biggest, best back-to-school party in the Burg!

But wait...there's more!

Muhlenberg will also hold a yard sale that day! More details will be shared soon, but mark your calendar for **Saturday, August 24 from 8:00 am - noon**. Have stuff in your basement you've been meaning to take to the thrift store? Hold onto it just a few more weeks, and then you can donate it to the yard sale. All proceeds will benefit Muhlenberg's ministries.

But wait...there's even more!

Plans are in the works for a bake sale, cake walk, raffle, music, and more! Save the date **Saturday, August 24** and plan to join in the fun!

Interested in volunteering with this event?
Contact Pastor Lauren at
eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org.



MUHLENBERG NEWS

UPDATING *THE CHIMES*

This summer, our staff is engaging in conversations about updating and renewing our approach to *The Chimes* you receive each week. (*You'll notice a new banner on page 1 that reflects this work already!*) This means of communication has served our community well for nearly 60 years, but we know we can always do more to ensure information and celebrations are shared more efficiently among our Muhlenberg community.

If you have thoughts about *The Chimes* and what is important to you, what you look for each week, or what could be done better, we welcome your feedback! Please send your thoughts to info@muhlenberglutheran.org by **tomorrow (7/8)**.

CREATION CARE

Show your support for local growers by shopping at the farmers' market. You'll find an array of locally grown fruits and vegetables, homemade preserves, baked goods, flowers, plants, and crafts. The produce sold is grown on nearby farms and harvested at its peak to ensure freshness. Farmers' markets are also an excellent source of organic produce. Take time to sample the products and talk to the farmers about how their produce was grown.



LOCAL & GLOBAL OUTREACH



LEMONADE STAND SUNDAY NEXT Sunday, July 14

Lemonade, Lemonade, get your ice-cold lemonade! That's right, a lemonade stand will be set up in the Gathering Area between services **NEXT Sunday, July 14.**

Lemonade Stand Sunday is part of an information and awareness campaign for what we hope will be a new neighboring agency that meets the needs of children entering Foster Care. Isaiah 117 House wants to change the way foster care begins by reducing the trauma for children as they await placement. Stop by our lemonade stand Sunday, July 14 and learn more about the mission of Isaiah 117 House.

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*Devotional booklets for
July - September are
available at the Connection Center
and in the Connection Box outside.*

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LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

At a moment's notice, natural disasters cause widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

100% of your gifts given to LDR go directly to aid in disaster relief. Visit www.elca.org/Our-Work and click on Lutheran Disaster Response to learn more about LDR's work. Here are ways you can give:

- **Online:** www.elca.org.
- **Phone:** 800-638-3522 (Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 Central Time).
- **Mail:** make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering plate:** make check payable to Muhlenberg and designate Lutheran *Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent Financial members can direct their Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a personal donation that will be matched by Thrivent. Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.



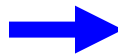
“Operation Restoration” is a camp for kids ages 2 – 11 on August 5 – 9, 5:30 – 8:00 pm here at Muhlenberg. A free dinner is included for the whole family each night from 4:30 – 5:30 pm! There is a registration fee of \$25/family, and a portion of these proceeds will be donated to a local nonprofit. Visit www.muhlenberglutheran.org/operationrestoration.

Registration is NOW OPEN!

(Volunteer positions are available, so sign up today!)



REGISTRATION
QR CODE



VOLUNTEER
QR CODE



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

6/23	8:30 Holy Communion	76
	11:00 Holy Communion	79
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	n/a*
	Total Views this Week	n/a*
	Hours Viewed this Week	n/a*
6/30	8:30 Holy Communion	56
	11:00 Holy Communion	65
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	32

*Wellstream statistics are not available for 6/23 due to technical issues.

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Compared to May 2023, gifts and offerings are up slightly and expenses are down slightly. This is a great sign! Thank you for your generosity and willingness to support the ministry programs.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through May 2024			
	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2023 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$210,192	\$314,583	\$205,296
Total Income	\$263,290	\$368,657	\$317,099
Total Expenses	\$314,893	\$371,875	\$319,315
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(51,603)	\$(3,218)	\$(2,216)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 2,916.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 20.00
Total Giving	\$ 2,936.00

To give online, scan here →



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 8 - 14, 2024

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
Sun	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Lemonade Stand Sunday	
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube



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

Russell & Ansel Presnell

Lydia Price

Betty Propst

Sue Propst

Terry Propst

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 depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)

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)