



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*

*Published Weekly by Muhlenberg Lutheran Church*

281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 ✚ Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: [info@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:info@muhlenberglutheran.org) ✚ Website: [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)

Senior Pastor Lauren Eanes: [eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org) Associate Pastor Alex Zuber: [zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)



**July 23, 2023**

## **EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



**WELCOME, WADE!** *(see page 2 for details)*



### **TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION**

For the summer, we're using "seasonal bulletins" that we'll reuse for several weeks. You'll find all the specific parts of our worship — hymn numbers, Scripture readings, and worship participants — listed here on the front page of *The Chimes*.

**GATHERING HYMN** ~ *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

ELW 756

**FIRST READING** ~ Exodus 3:1-12

Pew Bible page 55

**GOSPEL** ~ Matthew 14:22-33

Judy Wilfong, Biblical Storyteller

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ~ *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult*

ELW 696

**SENDING HYMN** ~ *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

ELW 763

### **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES**

**PREACHING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

**PRESIDING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

**CRUCIFERS** 8:30 ~ Oris Griffin

**LECTORS** 8:30 & 11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong

11:00 ~ Jim Doyle

Biblical Storyteller

**LAY ASSISTING** 8:30 ~ Wylie Walton

**SOUND** 8:30 ~ Bill Wightman

**MINISTERS** 11:00 ~ Mary Elizabeth Skinner

**TECHS** 11:00 ~ Mark Byerly

**USHERS** 8:30 ~ Bob & Margie Miller

11:00 ~ Malcolm & Judy Wilfong

**COMMUNION** 8:30 ~ Judy Wilfong, Oris Griffin, Karen Thomsen, Meg Wightman

**ASSISTANTS** 11:00 ~ Jim Doyle, Cheryl Hoak, Robert Alley

**MUSICIANS** Wade Meyers, Music Minister; Robert Curry, Trombonist

## WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

### THANK YOU FROM WADE MEYERS, MUSIC MINISTER!



I want to extend my deepest gratitude for the wonderful welcome I received this past Sunday. The warmth, food, and sense of community were truly heartwarming!

As I prepare to play for worship [today, 7/23] I am filled with anticipation. Music has the power to enhance our worship experience, deepen our faith, and connect us as a community. I'm honored to be serving your music ministry, and I'm eagerly awaiting the opportunity to collaborate with you all to make music to the glory of God.

Thank you once again for the warm reception and for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community.

Wade Meyers, Music Minister  
[mevers@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:mevers@muhlenberglutheran.org)

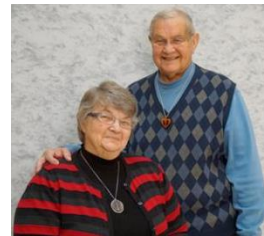
### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Wade will be formally installed as our Music Minister in worship August 20. That afternoon at 2:00 pm he will offer a recital in the sanctuary so please plan to join us.

## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

### REMEMBERING JANICE ROSENOW

We offer sympathy to the family of Janice Rosenow following her death June 8. Janice has served innumerable people in countless ways over the years, as she joyfully lived out her vocation as a pastor's spouse, offering care alongside her husband the Rev. Bill Rosenow throughout his ordained ministry.



A Service of Committal will be included in the 11:00 am service with many of Janice's family members joining in worship. For more information, visit the Connection Center for a copy of an email sent at the time of her passing.

*"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,"*  
Luke 2:29-31

### COME TO THE WATERS: WORSHIP AND SERMON SERIES



We have begun a new sermon series that will immerse us in the transformative power of water in our faith and in our everyday ordinary moments. Over this five-week series, we will journey together, exploring familiar stories and allowing their promises of God's refreshing presence to sustain us along the way.

Water, a central sign of life, renewal, and transformation, flows through the pages of Scripture. As we wade in the water, may God's

creative power, Christ's presence in storms, baptism's transformative nature, the living water satisfying our souls, and the Spirit's relentless pursuit shape our understanding of God's character whenever we encounter water this summer. We hope you'll enjoy diving into this series and drawing closer to the living water that brings abundant life.

## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### LET'S LUNCH TOGETHER

**THIS Friday, July 28, 11:30 am**

The last Friday of the month is a time to gather for fellowship and lunch at Our Community Place (OCP) Friday Restaurant. The Restaurant is open from 11:30 - 1:30 and serves a delicious 3-course meal for just \$10. The Restaurant provides work for OCP's programs and the opportunity to enjoy delicious food with a fresh, creative weekly menu.

**We will meet at OCP** (17 East Johnson Street, Harrisonburg) **at 11:30 am Friday, July 28.** Let's show our support for OCP while enjoying this opportunity for fellowship. Questions or need a ride? Call or text Wanda Hamilton (540-405-3118).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING GROUP

**Wednesday, August 2, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Join us in the Gathering Area to create a prayer shawl through knitting or crocheting. No experience necessary; we'll teach you! If you desire a prayer shawl to give to someone, or have yarn you would like to donate to the group, please contact Jackie Wells (540-434-6283 or [jswells62@verizon.net](mailto:jswells62@verizon.net)).

## VBS IS JUST ON THE HORIZON

**August 7 – 11, 5:45 – 8:00 pm**

Register for VBS by **Monday, July 24** by scanning this QR code or emailing Ashley Saunders ([saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org)).



This year we are learning through *Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs*. Participants will explore what all living things need to live—*shelter, food, water, air, and community*—and how we can have compassion for the living earth, especially in their local ecosystems. Through awareness, gratitude, wonderment, reciprocity, and kinship, participants will consider how to become co-sustainers and participants in the work of God's creation. *For a list of needed supplies, see page 5.*

### BIBLE STUDY GATHERING

**Saturday, August 19, 11:00 am -1:00 pm**

**Hillendale Park, shelter 10**

(handicapped accessible)

**Salad Potluck:** bring a salad (fruit, pasta, bean, greens--any kind you'd like!) Drinks, plates, utensils, napkins provided.

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study group (which typically meets via Zoom) is hosting this in-person gathering for all who have attended the Bible study AND those who are interested in learning what the group is all about. We will explore the concept of embodiment and a biblical view of bodies as we discuss the book *The Wisdom of Your Body* by Hillary McBride. The entire book is good but if you run out of time, read chapters 1, 2 and 9.

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study resumes its regular meetings Wednesday, September 6.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR (CONT'D)

### THE GREAT COMMUNITY PLAY DATE!

**Saturday, August 26, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Save the date! We are hosting the biggest, best back to school party in the 'Burg! The Great Community Play Date will bring together Muhlenbergers and our three school partners: Second Home, Harrisonburg/Rockingham Day Care, and Minnick School. Kids will enjoy a bounce house, carnival games, chalk art, face painting, and more! The Play Date will also celebrate our partnership by gifting these three organizations with much-needed play equipment and supplies.

Keep an eye on *The Chimes* for more details but for now, mark your calendar for an afternoon of **FUN Saturday, August 26, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm**. Interested in helping get this party started? Contact Karen Thomsen ([kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com)), Ashley Saunders ([saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org)), or Pastor Lauren ([eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### AN UPDATE ON OUR COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



*Thank you to all who participated in our directory photo shoots and information updating in May. More than 110 members/member families updated their photos and information! This is great progress, but it also means we still have a way to go before everyone's information and photo are current.*

If you haven't yet updated your information and had a current photo taken, you should have recently received a mailing from us. This mailing included a copy of your current information to be reviewed and updated as needed, as well as a list of choices for how to update your photo. **PLEASE** return this information to the church by August 1, so that our new directory will be as current and thorough as possible! And for our members who are homebound, not to worry — we will be in touch soon about a personal visit to take your photo and update your information.

If you have any questions, please email Communication Minister Christian Perritt ([perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org)) or Parish Administrator Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenbergluthran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenbergluthran.org)) or reach either of them at the church office (540-434-3496).

### CREATION CARE

When practical, buy the economy size of a product rather than single use. Not only will you reduce packaging, you'll save money. You pay nearly twice the price for the same weight when you buy the individually wrapped product. Fabric softener, laundry detergent, cleanser, hand soap, dish soap, shampoo, and even pet food are good examples of products you can buy in bulk sizes.

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are always in need of worship servants (lectors, ushers, communion assistants, sound techs, etc.)

**Sign up for August** in the notebook at the Connection Center or online at **Worship + Sermons > Serve in Worship**. One-on-one training can be arranged – just indicate *training needed* on the sign-up sheet or *contact Kathy Thompson* (578-4830 or [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)).

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### VBS ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Our *Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs* is less than a month away. There are 60+ kids signed up to participate! If you would like to help and can't give your time, there are still some supplies we need. They can be dropped off in the nursery on Sundays or call the church office (540-434-3496) if you prefer to drop off during our weekday office hours.

Twine	Tortilla Chips
Herb Seeds	Mild Salsa
Shredded Paper	Teddy Grams
Rolling Pins	Vanilla Yogurt (large containers)
Air Dry Clay	Granola
Pompom Balls	Fresh Fruit:
Lotion/Soap Container Pumps	Strawberries
Coffee Filters	Blueberries
Empty Jars that can fit a cup	Bananas
	Applesauce Packets

## POWER IN THE SPIRIT

### HEAR FROM ATTENDEES

**Kathy Thompson:** We had an absolutely wonderful time at Power in the Spirit! It's a spiritual retreat that I always look forward to and a time to connect with friends and make new ones throughout the Synod! The theme this year was *Seeking & Finding* — as it appears in Scripture (like the story of Zacchaeus) and in our own journeys of faith as well as the vision of the church. Seeking Jesus, and his seeking us, is the common ground we need to love one another. Our keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore, a Biblical scholar, ordained minister, and author. Our Bible study leader was the Rev. Dr. Steven Tuell, who led us joyfully and humorously through the book of

Jonah. The musicians were fantastic, and we participated in an original jazz service for one of the evening worship services. We worshipped every day, had meals together on campus, and SO MANY workshops to choose from! Judy Wilfong and I led a workshop on Biblical Storytelling. I also attended a session on Truth in Love: Conflict Management and The Church and Race. And also, of course, Judy's commissioning as a Lay Preacher at the final service Saturday morning was a highlight indeed!!

### Judy Wilfong:

Kathy did a super job of summing up our wonderful Power in the Spirit experience.

In addition to all Kathy has shared, we took a workshop that went back to 1600's to show the progression of how "the church" and the issues, laws and injustices regarding race unfolded. Lutherans are the "whitest" denomination with nearly 95% white population. Our country and the Anglican Church have created many injustices in the past. It is important to know and understand our history so we can better move forward to create change.

### Children's Minister Ashley Saunders:

I was given the opportunity to run the children's programming for Power in the Spirit this year. We enjoyed games, movie nights, and did activities based around God's love for us and the Zacchaeus story. In the evenings we sat together for worship. It was a really special time that I am looking forward to next year!





## CELEBRATION CORNER

To help share information from our social media with those who don't have access or may have missed it, we are including recent posts in The Chimes. Posts may come from Muhlenberg's [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages.

### CONGRATULATIONS JUDY WILFONG AND KRISTEE TRUMBO, LAY PREACHING ACADEMY CLASS OF 2023!



Join us in offering congratulations to Judy Wilfong for being commissioned Saturday, July 15 as a Lay Preacher in the Virginia Synod! Judy joins Muhlenberg members Kathy Thompson and Kristee Trumbo (*commissioned in June at Synod Assembly*) as commissioned preachers in the Synod, who have gone through a year of biblical and homiletical training, and now use their gifts to offer support through supply preaching around the Virginia Synod. God bless you Judy, Kathy, and Kristee in this vital ministry.

If you are interested in becoming a Lay Preacher and joining the next class of students, please contact the pastors, and visit the [Virginia Synod Website](#) to learn more. Registration for the next round of courses has not opened yet, but we hope you'll use this time as one of faithful discernment.



*Pictured above are Judy Wilfong (second from right) and attendees of the Commissioning service.*

*At left is Kathy Thompson conducting Biblical Storytelling workshop.*

*At right is Kristee Trumbo with Muhlenberg pastors from her Commissioning service.*





## Welcome Wade!

We were delighted to welcome our new Music Minister Wade Meyers to worship last Sunday! Beautiful music led by Dr. Judith Ofcarcik (of course featuring the hymn *Wade in the Water*) allowed Wade the time to greet members and connect with the community before diving into his role this week. Thank you to our Music Minister search committee for helping host a welcome reception between services.





## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent in-person and online viewership:

7/9	8:30 Holy Communion .....	62
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	64
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	33
	Total Views this Week .....	117
	Hours Viewed this Week .....	38.7
7/16	8:30 Holy Communion .....	61
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	73
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	26

### NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

*In June, gifts & offerings were consistent with last year and expenses trended slightly higher. As we enter into the second half of the fiscal year, I anticipate the deficit will widen unless there is an increase in gifts and offerings. With summer vacations, you may not be physically present, but remember to continue giving to Muhlenberg.*

*Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer*

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through June 2023

	2023YTD <u>Actual</u>	2023YTD <u>Budget</u>	2022YTD <u>Actual</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$245,697	\$317,000	\$244,779
Total Income	\$368,115	\$384,388	\$313,058
Total Expenses	\$385,578	\$438,545	\$335,208
Excess Income/(Deficit)	<b>\$(17,463)</b>	<b>\$(54,157)</b>	<b>\$(22,150)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$	8,597.15
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	670.00
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,267.15</b>

**May Thrivent Choice Dollars - \$13**

To give online, scan here ➔



## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**July 24 – 30, 2023**

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Congregation Council Mtg.
Fri	11:30 am	OCP Friday Lunch
Sun		Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">YouTube</a>



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

*Brandon Stees  
Kevin, Rhonda and Anna Stees  
Richard Stees  
Bonnie Lee Stidley  
Doris Stone*

*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](mailto:depoy@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: ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) /540-434-3496)  
Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).