



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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**August 6, 2023**

## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### 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 ~ God of Grace and God of Glory**

ELW 705

**FIRST READING ~ Psalm 36:5-10**

Pew Bible page 563

**GOSPEL ~ John 4:4-26**

Pew Bible N.T. page 97

**HYMN OF THE DAY ~ There's a Wideness to Gods' Mercy**

ELW 587

**SENDING HYMN ~ Waterlife**

ELW 457

### PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

**PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes**

**PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber**

**CRUCIFERS** 8:30 ~ Jim Doyle  
11:00 ~ Sue Koch

**LECTORS** 8:30 ~ Crystl Whitmire  
11:00 ~ Malcolm Wilfong

**LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS** 8:30 ~ Kathy Thompson  
11:00 ~

**SOUND TECHS** 8:30 ~ Tom Pippert  
11:00 ~ Mark Byerly

**USHERS** 8:30 ~ Bob Neumann, Roger Kagey  
11:00 ~ Melissa, Billy & Henry Perritt

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS** 8:30 ~ Jim Doyle, Crystl Whitmire, Bill Whitmire  
11:00 ~ Sue Koch, Judy Wilfong, Malcolm Wilfong

**MUSICIANS** Wade Meyers, Music Minister

## WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Here are a few highlights from Council...

**Our Campus:** Council and program staff members met for a 3-hour Muhlenberg campus visioning process Monday night, July 24. We started with Bible study and spiritual exercise utilizing the first 2 chapters of Nehemiah. We will continue the process in the coming month.

**Our Constitution:** Our Constitutional Task Force (Cathy Copeland, Brad Moyers and Pastor Lauren Eanes) continues to work with proposed revisions to our out of date constitution. We anticipate having this ready for congregational vote at our November 19 and again at our January congregational meetings.

**Our Budget:** Treasurer Sarah Sunde and I will soon begin meeting with congregation committees to determine what funds may be requested for next year's budget. To create a realistic budget, it would help to know how much we might expect in giving. Please take a moment to complete your Intent Card here: [2023-2024 Estimate of Giving \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/2023-2024-estimate-of-giving) if you haven't already done so.

Peace be with you,

*Meg Wightman*

Congregation Council President  
[mlccouncilpres@gmail.com](mailto:mlccouncilpres@gmail.com)

*Please wear a nametag to help others learn your name. Supplies are in the Gathering Area.*



## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

### 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PLANNING TEAM

It's time to celebrate! We are preparing to kick off Muhlenberg's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in December. The planning group is just getting formed with ideas for historical presentations, special events, and more! Help us tell our congregation's story by joining in the conversation. Contact Pastor Lauren for more information.

### FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

**TODAY (8/6)**

We will collect non-perishable food items for Patchwork Pantry in the Gathering Area. 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. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Make checks payable to Muhlenberg, noting "Patchwork Pantry" on the memo line.



### 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 if you are interested in serving as a Lay Communion Minister, please contact Pastor Lauren or Linda Morrison.

## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

#### THIS WEEK (8/7-11)



*Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs* **STARTS MONDAY!** We will be welcoming 67 children from 35 families across Harrisonburg and

Rockingham Counties. **Please pray** for the children, families, and volunteers to have an amazing week of fellowship for the kids of Muhlenberg and Shalom Mennonite Church.

### USHER TRAINING

**NEXT Sunday, August 13, 9:45 am**

Attention all ushers and wannabe ushers! We're gathering **next Sunday, August 13 at 9:45 am** for a "refresher" training to get us ready for the new program year. If you are regularly on the usher schedule, occasionally fill in, would like to give ushering a try, or simply curious about how things work behind-the-scenes on a Sunday morning, please plan to attend. Plus, we'll have snacks! Contact Karen Thomsen ([kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com) or 540-421-4431) or Jeff Williams ([sexton@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:sexton@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 804-931-2274) with any questions.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### BIBLE STUDY GATHERING

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

**Hillandale 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.

### 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

### MULE 'N BURGERS WITH CHEESE ARE BACK!



Muhlenberg's (in)famous adult kickball team is starting a new season and you're invited to play! Games will take place at Ramblewood Athletic Complex Tuesday or Wednesday nights each week from August 8 until early October. No experience necessary—just a willingness to play and have a great time together. Contact Russell Presnell ([russellepresnell@gmail.com](mailto:russellepresnell@gmail.com) or 540-746-3562) if you're interested, and plan to attend our **team meeting TODAY (8/6) at 9:45 am in the MAC.**

### ENDOWMENT FUND

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church has two active Endowment funds. The Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund is available to assist members who attend seminary. Our current recipient, Mycah McNett, is completing her final semester at United Lutheran Seminary. (She has now graduated. See page 7 for details.)



The Mission Endowment Fund is the other account. Proceeds from the interest gained from this investment fund are used to assist programs in alignment with Muhlenberg's mission outside the church's budgeted items. The church Council selects the recipients, which have included the Harrisonburg Rockingham Free Clinic, First Step (a local domestic

violence shelter) and our Wellstream program and its equipment. Suggestions for future designees are always welcomed.

Your gifts to the endowment funds through weekly giving, designated memorials, and estate planning, help this extension of Muhlenberg's ministry.

For more information, contact Endowment Committee Chair Doris Stone ([dmstone99@gmail.com](mailto:dmstone99@gmail.com) or 540-289-5520).

### HAVE THE HEART OF A SERVANT?

Want to spend a morning or afternoon each week in a welcoming environment while serving your church and community? The church office is looking for members who have time to serve in a volunteer capacity as an office assistant/receptionist in the Narthex and Gathering Area. Orientation and training are provided.



Can't make a firm commitment? You can still help. We also need assistants to *fill in* on occasion. Additionally, we periodically have special projects that may be done at the church office or sometimes from home.

To explore any of these opportunities, *please contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy* ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 540-434-3496). In compliance with state regulations and Safe Church policies, there is an interview and application process.



## CREATION CARE

Choose concentrates: for example, juice sold as a concentrate in a small container can be reconstituted with water in your kitchen. Additionally, many laundry detergents and liquid cleansers come in concentrated forms that reduce packaging and save energy.

## TEACHERS/LEADERS NEEDED

Are you interested in teaching or leading a Children or Youth Faith Formation Class on Sunday Mornings? If you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please reach out to Children's Minister Ashley Saunders ([saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org)) or Pastor Alex Zuber ([zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)) via email or by calling the church at 540-434-3496.

*Have you heard our new Music Minister, Wade Meyers, play the Organ yet? You're in for a treat when you're able to attend!*



## MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

### REHEARSALS BEGIN

**August 29 – 30, 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

Exciting news for all music enthusiasts in our community! I'm thrilled to announce the return of our music groups. Celebration Singers will meet Tuesday, August 29 at 6:30 pm. Sanctuary Choir's first rehearsal will be Wednesday, August 30 at 6:30 pm. Gloria Dei Ringers hand bell choir, directed by Kath Wissinger, returns Tuesday, August 29 at 7:30 pm.

Members of Celebration Singers and Sanctuary Choir will meet for a social gathering the week before rehearsals begin, details TBA.

First rehearsals for all groups are open to all. No commitment or pressure, just having fun making some music together! Our music ministry offers a supportive and friendly environment to grow musically while serving our community. Prior music experience is not required, but is helpful for the Sanctuary Choir.

### PIANO RECITAL

**August 20, 3:00 pm**

I hope you'll enjoy attending a piano recital I'm giving August 20, 3:00 pm in our sanctuary, featuring music by Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, Estigarribia, and others - reception to follow.

As your Music Minister, I'm thrilled to embark on this new season of music-making with you all. Our choirs are about more than music – they're about fellowship, service, and praising God collectively. Mark your calendars, and get ready to rejoice in song. Please don't hesitate to contact me for any queries about joining. I look forward to seeing you soon!

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

## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

### SAVE THE DATE!!

**This Year Marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of “God’s Work. Our Hands.”** On Sunday, September 10, congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service. “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday began in 2013 in connection with the ELCA’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It continues to be an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

One way Muhlenberg will participate in this special milestone is by joining other area churches in the **Rise Against Hunger** event **Saturday, September 9, 10:00 am at Kate Collins Middle School in Waynesboro.** Rise Against Hunger is an international aid program feeding those who are chronically hungry around the world with dehydrated meals of rice, vegetables and other fortified ingredients. Our task that day is to assemble 40,000 meals, pack them, and make them ready to ship out!

For planning purposes, please let Karen Thomsen know if you plan to attend. Carpooling is possible and encouraged so stay tuned for more details. This is a wonderful event that allows us to truly be the “hands and feet” of Christ.

You can contact Karen by phone, text, or email ([kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com) or 540-421-4431).





## 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](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors and editor.*

✠ With great sadness, we share the news of the death of Patricia “Pat” Whitlock (July 25). We keep her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in our prayers. A private graveside service was officiated by Pastor Lauren Eanes at Woodbine Cemetery.

## REMINDER

### 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.



## 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.

### MYCAH MCNETT ACCEPTS HER FIRST CALL!

We offer our congratulations and give thanks to God today for the joyful news that Muhlenberg member Mycah McNett has accepted a call as a pastor at [Saint Luke Lutheran Church](#) in Devon, PA! Mycah graduated in the Spring from United Lutheran Seminary, and it has been our honor to support Mycah's call and formation through prayers and seminary scholarships. Details on her ordination are not yet finalized, but we will be sure to share those here as we learn more. Mycah begins her call on August 13.

Join us in celebrating and praying for this gifted soon-to-be Pastor in this next season of her life and ministry! *Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain your servant Mycah, that with patience and understanding she may love and care for your people at Saint Luke in Devon. Grant that together they may follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*



# *Congratulations, Mycah!*



## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### RECENT ATTENDANCE

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

7/23	8:30 Holy Communion .....	60
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	109
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	35
	Total Views this Week .....	220
	Hours Viewed this Week .....	59.5
7/30	8:30 Holy Communion .....	56
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	72
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	32

### 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	\$	2,858.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	115.00
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,973.00</b>

To give online, scan here ➔



## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**August 7 – 13, 2023**

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

**Mon – Fri Vacation Bible School ~ Compassion Camp:  
What Every Living Thing Needs**

**Mon 1:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting**

**Sun Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**8:30 am Holy Communion in person**  
**9:45 am Usher Training**  
**11:00 am Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)**



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

*Charles and Christine Taylor*  
*Tommy and Kathy Thompson*  
*Brett, Anne, Jefferson, and Eleanor Tjaden*  
*Jim and Susan Totty*  
*Kristee Trumbo*

*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://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).