



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 27, 2023

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Our Congregation Council spent the bulk of our August 21 meeting continuing our work with the Constitution Task Force (Cathy Copeland, Brad Moyers, Pastor Lauren Eanes) at making proposed revisions to our out-of-date Constitution. We intend to have revised documents available for review and feedback in October for our first of two congregational meeting votes Sunday, November 19 between services.

****Voting members, please mark your calendars for the Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 19 at 9:45.**

(FYI: Per our current Constitution, Voting Members are members by confirmation, transfer or affirmation of faith who attend worship and contribution of record to the congregation. A quorum of at least 50 Voting Members is required for a Congregational Meeting).

Peace be with you,

Meg Wightman, Congregation Council President
mlccouncilpres@gmail.com

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

For our *Food and Faith* series Sundays, August 20 — September 3, we will reuse our worship booklets. Hymn numbers and Scripture readings for each Sunday are provided in the booklet. Participants in worship are listed in *The Chimes* (see page 5 this week).

For a complete description of our *Creation Care: Food and Faith* series, see last week's issue of *The Chimes* (hard copies are available in the Gathering Area or visit on our [website](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)).

CARING FOR CREATION

AT COMMUNION

During our Creation Care series (August 20-September 3), we'll be sharing bread from Mill Song Bakery here in Harrisonburg. All of Mill Song's breads are naturally leavened; they do not use any commercial yeast in their breads. They also do not buy any flour, but stone mill their own flour on-site weekly, and source their grains from the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The small cups in which we receive our wine are Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI®) Certified Compostable, and are made from a bio-resin made from corn. ~continued on page 2~

CARING FOR CREATION AT COMMUNION (CONT'D)

Each week these cups are transported to a commercial composting facility, where they'll compost within 100 days.

We'd like to continue to make our communion meal ecofriendly and connected to the earth. If you'd like to be part of a rotation of people to bake bread for communion, or if you'd be willing to be part of a team of people who clean and sanitize small glass cups after worship each week, please contact Pastor Lauren (eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org).

CONFIRMATION FAMILY MEETING

Calling all 6th - 8th graders and their families! A new year of Confirmation Classes are about to begin! Students and families are invited to join us this morning at 9:45 am in the Nielsen Room to discuss this year of Confirmation and answer any questions you have about the year ahead. If you have questions or would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Alex.

WELCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS!

A new semester is underway, and we are so excited to welcome you! We hope that Muhlenberg will be a place where you will find renewal and a community rooted in God's grace. We hope as well that Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) will be a space in which you can find friendship, support and care as you journey through this season of discernment and new studies.

Our first official LCM gathering of the semester will be Wednesday, September 6 here in the Campus Room. If you'd like more information about Campus Ministry or getting connected to Muhlenberg, contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org or by cell at 540-309-2414). Welcome back, and have a great semester!

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

CHOIR SOCIAL AND REHEARSALS

THIS Wednesday (8/30) at 6:00 pm

The social gathering for members of Celebration Singers, Sanctuary Choir and anyone interested in learning more about choir was moved to



THIS Wednesday, August 30, 6:00 pm in the Music Room. Lasagna and stuffed shells will be provided. Choir members are asked to bring salad, bread, side dishes, desserts and beverages. Afterwards, we will have an abbreviated joint first rehearsal with the choirs and begin our planned Tuesday and Wednesday night rehearsals after Labor Day.

First rehearsals for all groups are open to all. No commitment or pressure, just having fun making some music together! Prior music experience is not required but is helpful for the Sanctuary Choir.

GLORIA DEI RINGERS HANDBELLS

This Tuesday (8/29), 7:00 pm



Are handbells calling to you? Want to learn a wonderful musical skill, join a caring, supportive fellowship group, and contribute meaningful music for worship? If so, come ring with Gloria Dei Handbells on Tuesday, August 29 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the sanctuary. You can try your hand at ringing without pressure or commitment. You'll be paired with a ringing partner to guide you. Basic music reading skills help, but we can teach you everything you need to know! Contact Kath Wissinger for more information at Longwalk3@aol.com.

FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

Next Sunday, September 3



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.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE TO THE GREAT COMMUNITY PLAY DATE!

We hosted a wonderful back to school party yesterday (8/26) that brought together Muhlenbergers and our three school partners: Second Home, Harrisonburg/Rockingham Day Care, and Minnick School kids for a fun day of games, fellowship, food and more! The Play Date celebrated our partnership by gifting these three organizations with much-needed play equipment and supplies. **It's not too late to donate much needed items.** Visit the Gathering Area display or our webpage www.muhlenberglutheran.org/playdate.html for a list of items still needed and bring them to the Gathering Area by next Sunday, Sept. 3.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING GROUP Saturday, Sept. 9, 10:00 – 11:30 am

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).

FINAL PHOTO SHOOTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY DIRECTORY!

Thank you to all who have updated their information and had their photo taken for our updated Community Directory! There are still a few out there who have not updated their info and photo.



As you may have seen in a recent mailer, we're holding two final photo shoots for the updated directory on **Sundays, September 10 and 17**. It doesn't matter if you've let us know you'll be coming on one of those days or not - please just show up and update your photo for the directory if you've not done so already. We will be set up in the Gathering Area from 8:00 am - approx. 12:30 pm.

Thank you for your time and cooperation! If you have any questions, please email Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org) or Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@uhlenbergluthran.org) or reach either of them at the church office (540-434-3496)



"Fall in" to community with Muhlenberg Lutheran Church!

"Fall In" Weekend - Sat. Sept. 9 & Sun. Sept. 10

SAT. SEPT. 9 - Celebrate the 10th anniversary of our annual ELCA "Day of Service"! Join Muhlenberg members and other area congregations at "Rise Against Hunger" (Kate Collins Middle School, Waynesboro, 10:00am) as we assemble 40,000 packaged, dehydrated meals!

SUN. SEPT. 10 - "Fall in" to our programming year on this special Sunday. Worship at 8:30am and 11:00am; learning for all ages at 9:45am; and a Skate Party at Funky's at 3:00pm!

Church Picnic - Sunday, Sept. 17

"Fall in" to fellowship, food, games, and fun with your Muhlenberg family on Sun. Sept. 17, 4:00pm, Purcell Park Shelter 2!

See next week's issue of *The Chimes*, watch your email inbox and your mailbox, or click the link below for details about all our fall events, activities, small groups, and classes.

muhlenberglutheran.org/fall2023

MUHLENBERG NEWS

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are always in need of worship servants: lectors, ushers, communion assistants, sound techs, etc. **Sign up** in the notebook at the Connection Center **for September**. One-on-one training can be arranged – just contact Kathy Thompson (thompskb@jmu.edu or 540-578-4830). If you prefer to sign up online, follow the path below from our website:

Worship + Sermons > Serve in Worship

CREATION CARE



Buy Local: As you shop, look for products made as close to your community as possible. Since it reduces the amount of energy needed to transport goods to market, buying local helps reduce global warming and air pollution. Buying local keeps money local. A dollar spent on locally made goods generates twice as much income for the local economy as money spent on imported goods.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

TEACHERS NEEDED

Children's Faith Formation is looking for teachers to help during the 9:45 am hour starting September 10. Join our children Pre-K - 2nd and 3rd - 5th grades to play team building games and do activities based on the Narrative Lectionary. **No experience required;** just a willing heart to get to know a great bunch of kids.

Contact Ashley Saunders (saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org) if you would like to be on the schedule.

PARTICIPANTS IN

TODAY'S SERVICES

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Bill Whitmire

11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Wylie Walton

11:00 ~

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Mark Warner

11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Bill Wightman

11:00 ~ Todd Hedinger

USHERS

8:30 ~ Karen Thomsen, Jeannette Norfleet

11:00 ~ John Mulder, Mark Byerly

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Bill Whitmire, Jim Doyle, Mark Warner, Meg Wightman

11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak, Judy Wilfong, Sue Koch

MUSICIAN ~ Wade Meyers, Music Minister



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.

THANK YOU, MUHLENBERG TRASH TEAM!



I was never sure where ministry in Christ's Church would take me, but hanging off the back of a trash truck was certainly not on my list! Even if it was an unexpected opportunity, and an early dirty job, I had a wonderful time each morning gathering at 7:00 am with Muhlenberg members to serve our community as the Trash Collection Crew for the Rockingham County Fair! A total of **41 volunteers from**



Muhlenberg gave their time throughout Fair Week to gather and haul off the previous day's trash! We cleaned up this important event for our community and did so cheerfully. We lived into our values of being *relational* as new friendships formed with one another and *serving* our neighbors. In the process our volunteers earned the gratitude and compliments of the leadership of the Fair and secured a \$3,000 donation to Muhlenberg Lutheran Church to support our Youth Ministry.



I want to thank each of the individuals who gave their time last week...

Mark Warner, Larry Haaland, Brad Moyers, Ryan Moyers, Pam Briebl, Dolan Nethercutt, Pastor Lauren Eanes, Brendan Miller, Keira Miller, Melissa Perritt, Billy



Perritt, Henry Perritt, Annika Harmison, Lily Harmison, Kat Kolodinsky, Bob Kolodinsky, Will Eppard, Sarah Eppard, Bill Wightman, Mark Briebl, Jon Jarrells, Donovan Eanes, Barbara Roadcap, Bob Roadcap, Sarah Orem, Landon Orem, Isaac Orem, Karen Barnes, Logan Estep, Lola Saunders, Adam Copeland, Latham Copeland, Gwendolyn Copeland, Tim Zuber, Corey Reed, Paul Boisen, Kevin Stees, Anna Stees, Nate Eanes, Robert Curry

Every bit of help was deeply appreciated and needed each day. But I'd like to offer a special thanks to **Mark Briehl**, who is the winner of our *First Annual Golden Trash Panda Award*, joining the team for trash pickup 4 out of the 7 days we served! Thank you to all our amazing volunteers. You made a profound difference on your community, and an important impact on Youth Ministry at Muhlenberg!

I'm looking forward to this opportunity again next year. If you have any interest in being the "Head Trash Panda" and organizing the crews to serve at this event, let me know between now and next August! Thank you for serving!

Pastor Alex



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

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

8/06	8:30 Holy Communion	55
	11:00 Holy Communion	88
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	40
	Total Views this Week	138
	Hours Viewed this Week	38.4
8/13	8:30 Holy Communion	62
	11:00 Holy Communion	87
	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 July 2023

	2023 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Budgeted	2022 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$302,682	\$369,833	\$301,117
Total Income	\$430,553	\$448,453	\$377,964
Total Expenses	\$447,976	\$510,678	\$317,724
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(17,423)	\$(62,225)	\$60,240

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 10,306.89
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 590.00
Total Giving	\$ 10,896.89

July Thrivent Choice Dollars - \$53

To give online, scan here ➡



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

August 27 — September 3, 2023

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

Mon	10:30 am	Staff Meeting
Tues	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
	7:30 pm	Mule 'N Burgers w/Cheese Game
Wed	10:30 am	Bible Study via ZOOM
	6:00 pm	Choir Social Gathering
Sun		Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Food Pantry, Lay Communion & Name Badge 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 five households from our congregation in prayer. Our prayer families for this week are the following:

*Melissa Warble
Mark and Jennie Warner
Judith Warren
Alan Washam
Wes Way*

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 **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 /540-434-3496)
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