



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*

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**September 17, 2023**

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

#### FALL WORSHIP 2023: *WHO AM I?*

It's once again time to *fall in* to the true rhythm of life at Muhlenberg. At the heart of our life together is worship. *Fall in* with us to a sermon series focused on the theme of **identity**. Who am I? Who are we? What happens when we have an identity crisis? And most importantly: Who is God in the midst of these struggles? When we feel like we're falling, or failing, or frenzied, God's Word will call us back to who we are and whose we are.

*For deeper engagement with the biblical narrative, follow along with the [Narrative DAILY Lectionary online](#) to fill in the gaps of our Sunday stories!*

### FINAL PHOTO SHOOT FOR OUR COMMUNITY DIRECTORY!

**TODAY (9/17)**

**TODAY** is the final photo shoot for the updated directory. You do not need to sign up; please just come and have your photo taken for the directory if you're among the few who have not already done so. We will be set up in the Gathering Area from 8:00 am - approx. 12:30 pm.

### TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

#### NURSERY COORDINATOR UPDATE

I am excited to announce Brittany Rose accepted the position of Nursery Coordinator. She lives here in Harrisonburg with her husband and step son, and is attending Bridgewater College. She has experience in this role and is very familiar with a church setting. Please join us in welcoming Brittany to Muhlenberg today.



While Brittany is talented and experienced, she will need help in the Nursery during the 11:00 am service. Most children attend worship with their parents at that time (5-9 kids), and they range in age from twin babies to 5 years old. Could you sign up for one Sunday a month so parents can enjoy worship without worrying about their littles? Reach out to Brittany on Sunday or email me.

Ashley Saunders ([saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org))

*After much positive feedback, we're continuing our practice begun this summer of reusing worship booklets. Please leave your booklet at the back of the Sanctuary for reuse in the coming weeks.*

## TODAY'S WORSHIP INFO

### PRELUDE

*Brethren We Have Met to Worship*  
(Josh Bauder, Soundforth) - Gloria Dei Ringers

### OFFERING

*With Timbrel and Dance* (M. Tucker,  
Composers Music Company) - Gloria Dei Ringers

### MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
(Wagner, Lorenz RR-01-07-3) - Gloria Dei Ringers

### POSTLUDE

*Toccata in G Major* (G.B. Martini)

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**PREACHING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

**PRESIDING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

### CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle

11:00 ~ Sue Koch

### LECTORS

8:30 ~ Larry Blade

11:00 ~ Nathan Leopard

### LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Wylie Walton

11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong

### SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Tom Pippert

11:00 ~ Bazil Gibson

### USHERS

8:30 ~ Jeanette Norfleet, Susan Gallaher

11:00 ~ John Mulder, Mark Byerly

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Larry Blade, Jim Doyle, Gus Kagey,  
Bill Whitmire

11:00 ~ Nathan Leopard, Sue Koch

### MUSICIANS

Wade Meyers, Music Minister

Gloria Dei Ringers ~ Kath Wissinger, Director

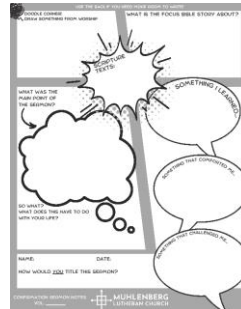
Cantors: Ed Rader (8:30), Greta Willis (11:00)

## SERMON AND WORSHIP NOTES

One element of the Confirmation process is a responsibility to be engaged with worship. This call to gather around word and sacraments is essential for all baptized, so we are delighted to equip our community with tools for engaging in deeper reflection. On a table in the Gathering Area you will find templates of Sermon and Worship Notes. There are three styles:

### Comic Style: Bam! Pow!

*Thwip!* Like a comic book, this page is for jotting down quick thoughts, reflections, or doodles as they help you reflect on what you heard! Comic books use few words to share big ideas, so use this space well! “*With great power comes great responsibility.*”



**Journal Style:** For those who like to write out thorough notes, the journal style Sermon Notes offer space for thoughtful reflection. Bring your previous knowledge and new revelations as you consider how you will carry the gospel into your daily life. For those worshipping digitally, this style of Sermon Notes is a [Google Form!](#)

**Artistic Style:** If a picture's worth a thousand words, you'll pack a lot of words as you freely draw your reflections on any part of worship that resonated with you. Then share your art with someone after worship, and discuss why you chose to express your reflections in this way! Art can be a powerful tool for a deeper reflection than words can encompass.

Confirmands may turn their notes in to the Confirmation mailbox in the Administrative Hallway or hand it to Pastor Alex on the way out. Your thoughtful response to God's word is deeply appreciated.



## CHURCH PICNIC

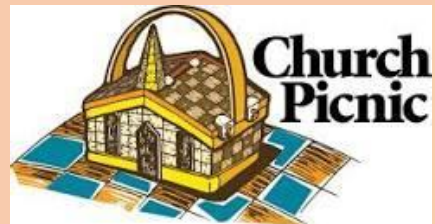
### “FALL IN” TO FOOD AND FUN!

**TODAY (9/17) at 4:00 pm**

Join us for Muhlenberg’s annual church picnic **Today (9/17) at 4:00 pm!** Come to Purcell Park, Shelter 2 (by the wooden play structure) for food, fellowship and fun. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided; we’ll eat at 5:00 pm. Bring a dish to share and a chair or blanket for seating, as well as any outdoor games you’d like to play. To spread the culinary wealth, we suggest if your last name begins with...

- **A-F**, please bring a salad;
- **G-N**, please bring a side dish;
- **O-Z**, please bring a dessert.

*If you have a signature dish, feel free to bring it instead!*



**Fellowship:** Bring outdoor chairs or picnic blankets to sit on. We hope everyone will get to know their church family neighbors and neighborhood shepherds by eating in our neighborhood groups.

**Fun:** If you have corn hole or other outdoor games, bring them along! We’ll have other fun family field games for all ages.

## Faith Formation for All Ages, on Sundays 9:45 – 10:45 am

### **Fall In to Faith Formation on Sunday Mornings at 9:45 am!**

Our main education time happens Sunday mornings from 9:45 - 10:45 am for all ages. Adult classes are offered with hybrid options for participants to join in-person or via [ZOOM](#). Zoom participants can log in with the “Sunday Mornings at Muhlenberg” link (available in our Friday email, on our homepage, and at [muhlenberglutheran.org/Fall2023](http://muhlenberglutheran.org/Fall2023))

**Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Muhlenberg Activities Center (MAC) and Outside (weather permitting)** - Led by Children’s Minister Ashley Saunders, kids will have an opportunity to grow together through the “Living the Word” curriculum, which follows the Narrative Lectionary. They will learn biblical stories, do activities to put the stories into action, and build strong relationships. Older students will help share the stories with younger students to cultivate a collaborative community.

**Middle School Sunday School - Augsburg Room** - 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join each week for an in-depth Bible study together on the focus text of the Narrative Lectionary. This class is open to all middle schoolers, and will serve as the foundation of our Confirmation curriculum. Classes will afford our students the opportunity to learn more about important biblical figures, central stories in scripture, and learn with peers about applying the lessons to our daily life.

**\*NEW CLASS!\* High School Sunday School - Campus Room** - 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join together each week for fellowship, conversation, and learning among friends. You’ve been confirmed—now what? You have doubts—is that allowed? What does it mean to live out your faith publicly in the world? This class will be one that leaves “Room for Questions” as our youth find space, time, and community in which they can grow and learn together. We hope this class will be youth-led, guided by the questions on their hearts and rooted in a study of scripture together. We trust that together we’ll build a safe space for searching!

**Confirmation - 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays, 6:00 – 8:00 pm** - 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to participate in the journey of growth and discernment as they prepare to Affirm their Baptisms. At the conclusion of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, students will have the opportunity to share their faith statements and take on the covenant of baptism for themselves. In preparation for this moment, students will join together weekly for Sunday School, prepare individual reflections on Sunday worship, and serve the community together. Our Confirmation Curriculum is on a three-year rotation of topics including “the Small Catechism,” “Lutheran History/Theology,” and - the focus of this year - “The Bible.” While Biblical study is a part of the entire confirmation process, this year we’ll take a closer look at the stories of scripture on Sunday mornings, and then have monthly classes to learn broad themes and the history of the Bible with an eye toward Lutheran theology. This monthly class will happen the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month from 6:00 – 8:00 pm with dinner provided. Confirmation students and their parents/guardians are expected to attend. **The monthly class is also open to anyone in the congregation who would like to learn alongside our confirmands**, and continue the lifelong journey of affirming their baptisms! If you are interested in being a part of the Confirmation class and/or helping to provide monthly meals, contact Pastor Alex.

## Faith Formation on Sundays (cont'd)

**Faith Lens Adult Class - Kairos Room** - Join in lively conversation focused on the Bible text used in worship that day. Explore the background and context of biblical stories, and consider how they apply to our lives today. *Convener: Jean Helmick*

**40-Day Journey Adult Class - Nielsen Room** - Join a journey that deepens your spiritual life using excerpts from the work of author Madeleine L'Engle. Participants read a brief excerpt, respond to engaging questions, and join together in prayer. Order a copy of the book on our Fall 2023 webpage, or just drop in and check out the class! *Conveners: Mark and Jennie Warner*

**\*NEW CLASS!\* Civic Life and Faith - September 10-October 15 – Pastor Lauren's Office** - The old adage says to never discuss “religion, politics, or sex,” but this class will invite you into conversation about two of the three! Disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the ages have had to figure out how to serve God within a political society, and we are no exception. This six-week class will follow the ELCA's study curriculum for a closer look at the intersections of our Civic and Faith lives. See the Newsletter for more information. *Convener: Karen Thomsen*

## Lutheran Campus Ministry

Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) at Muhlenberg serves students attending James Madison University, Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite University, and Blue Ridge Community College. All are welcome to join us, even if you do not have a Lutheran background, as we strive to build a community where all people are seen, heard, and valued. LCM also strives to connect students with faculty and staff who are Muhlenberg members to form friendships and support that transcend the campus and classroom.



To start the semester, we plan to be “*The Club That Does Nothing*.” You heard that right, *nothing*! Your schedule as a college student is already over saturated, so take this time to just *be present, not busy*.

Sabbath is a commandment of our God, so doing nothing is sometimes faithful! We'll feed you, we'll talk, we'll pray, but other than that, there are no plans. Just join for a time of laid-back community that cares for each other. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm, starting on September 6, in the Campus Ministry Room to joyfully and faithfully do... nothing.

LCM members have access 24/7 to the Campus Room at Muhlenberg to gather, study, eat, and be our community center. For more information, follow us on Instagram and Facebook @LCMatMLC, or contact Pastor Alex Zuber (540-309-2414 or [zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

## Music

Choirs are open to all, even if you haven't participated in the past. If interested, contact Music Minister Wade Meyers for more information ([meyers@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:meyers@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 540-434-3496).

### Adult Choirs (10<sup>th</sup> Grade and up)

#### **Celebration Singers ~ Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

This ensemble revels in a mix of unison singing and harmonies, and diverse genres. Your love for singing is the only ticket in! Sings at most 8:30 am Sunday services.

#### **Sanctuary Choir ~ Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

A tapestry of melodies, from the Renaissance era to the latest in choral music, awaits you. Prior choral experience is helpful but not mandatory. Sings at 11:00 Sunday services.

### Children's Choirs

#### **Cherub Choir ~ Sundays, November 12 – December 17, 12:15 – 12:45 pm**

Catering to the spirited voices from ages 4 – grade 2. Guided by Rachel Peters, these cherubs will serenade the congregation on the second Sunday of Advent and the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve service. Practice sessions will unfold in the music room.

#### **Youth Choir ~ Sundays, November 12 – December 17, 12:15 - 12:45 pm**

For grades 3 – 9; under the guidance of Music Minister Wade Meyers, this choir is prepping for an enchanting performance on the second Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. Join the melodies in the Sanctuary.

### Handbell Choir

#### **Gloria Dei Ringers ~ every Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm**

Under the expert hand of Handbell Director Kath Wissinger, the Sanctuary will resonate with the timeless tones of handbells about once per month.



For full details about all our fall events, activities, small groups, and classes, visit...

[muhlenberglutheran.org/fall2023](http://muhlenberglutheran.org/fall2023)



## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Lauren each Wednesday at **10:30 am** for Bible study via [ZOOM](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556). This class dives deep into the upcoming Sunday's scripture text. Experience the sweep of God's salvation story over the course of the year by attending each week, or drop in occasionally as your schedule allows. No previous experience in Bible study necessary, just a desire to explore!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

Or by phone ...DIAL IN – **301-715-8592** and enter Meeting ID / Passcode: **200491556#**

### LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

#### Gathering Wednesday (9/20), 6:00 pm

We hope that Muhlenberg will be a place where you will find renewal and a community rooted in God's grace. We hope 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 next LCM gathering is **Wednesday, September 20, 6:00 pm** here in the Campus Room (downstairs). For more information, contact Pastor Alex ([zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 540-309-2414).

### COMFORT MAKERS

#### Thursdays at 8:00 am

If you can tie a knot and want to help keep your neighbors warm, come join us **Thursdays in Wayland Hall**. We work 8:00 am-12:00 pm but welcome you any time during those hours. For more information, contact Linda Morrison ([lindamm778@gmail.com](mailto:lindamm778@gmail.com) or 540-383-5085).

## NEXT WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### LAMs LUNCHEON


#### Sunday, September 24, 12:15 pm

The Lay Assisting Ministers (LAMs) will gather for food, fellowship, support, and get helpful information/tips from the pastors. All current LAMs are asked to attend. Are you interested in learning more about becoming a LAM? Join the gathering next Sunday, or for more information contact Mary Elizabeth Skinner ([homeofjuno@msn.com](mailto:homeofjuno@msn.com) or 540-383-8556).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### LET'S LUNCH TOGETHER

#### Friday, September 29, 11:30 am

The last Friday of the month is a time to gather for fellowship and lunch at  **OUR COMMUNITY PLACE** 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 and creative menu.

**We will meet at OCP (17 East Johnson Street, Harrisonburg) at 11:30 am Friday, September 29.** Questions or need a ride? Call or text Karen Thomsen (540-421-4431).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR (CONT'D)

### “WELCOME TO MUHLENBERG!”

**Sunday, October 1, 9:45 am**

Interested in learning more about Muhlenberg or joining our church family? We offer a “Welcome to Muhlenberg” session that provides an opportunity to learn about the mission and ministry of the church. All are welcome to this overview of life at Muhlenberg, which includes a tour of the building and information on the many ways to get involved in our community. We’ll also give details about how to become a member of Muhlenberg (though attending this session doesn’t commit you to anything!) Come and explore what Muhlenberg is all about on Sunday, October 1 at 9:45am in the sanctuary. New members will be received in worship on Sunday, October 8. Sign up for “Welcome to Muhlenberg” on our [Fall 2023 webpage](#), and reach out to Pastor Lauren ([eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)) for more details.

### MYCAH MCNETT ORDINATION

We are delighted to celebrate the ordination of Muhlenberg member Mycah McNett to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA! Her ordination will take place at the congregation to which she has been called to serve as pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon, PA, on Saturday, October 14 at 10:00 am. Would you like to attend? We’ll be bringing two vans that we’d love to fill up with Muhlenberg members! We’ll leave late Friday afternoon and return Saturday afternoon, with an overnight stay at a nearby hotel. Cost will be approximately \$125 per person for gas and hotel (price will depend on the total number of people going). **Please let Pastor Lauren** ([eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)) **know by Sunday, October 1** if you’d like to join!

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**Wednesday, October 4, 5:30 pm**

Join us on Wednesday, October 4 at 5:30 pm as the church commemorates St. Francis of Assisi with an Ecumenical Blessing of the Animals. The service will happen at Hillandale Park in Shelter #11 at the end of the loop. You are welcome to bring dinner with you and stay in the shelter after worship to enjoy a time of fellowship with our neighbors and their fuzzy, feathery, or scaly friends! Pets and service animals are welcome, leashed or properly restrained for the safety of your pet and others. Don’t have a pet? You’re still welcome to join us! Have a pet but they cannot attend? Bring a picture and join us anyway! Have a special stuffed animal that has become “real” through love and devotion? Bring them, too. Invite a friend – all are welcome!



This ecumenical service is hosted by Muhlenberg, Park View Mennonite, RISE, Shalom Mennonite, and Trinity Presbyterian.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 4:00 - 6:00 PM**

Is Halloween your favorite holiday? Do you like seeing all the kids dressed up? Adults and groups are encouraged to sign up and use their creativity to decorate their trunks and have a chance to win the Trunk Cup. If you’d like to volunteer, contact Ashley Saunders ([saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org)). Invite your friends and neighbors to mark their calendars.





## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### THE SYNOD TREE



Two weeks ago, we were joined by Sister Phyllis Cox, an ELCA Deacon who is serving the Virginia Synod as the chair of the Tapestry Team and serves as the Faith Community Outreach Coordinator with Virginia Interfaith Power and Light. As part of Sister Phyllis's work related to

Climate Justice and Faith, she led Muhlenberg in a Tree-Planting Litany to mark the conclusion of our Caring for Creation Series. We now join Pleasant View, Trinity Ecumenical Parish, Luther Memorial, Wheatland, Good Shepherd-Front Royal, and more congregations to come as communities who have planted trees through this effort.

*The Synod Tree* now stands proudly outside our gathering area as a reminder of our call to steward God's gifts in creation, and of our unity with our siblings in Christ all across the Virginia Synod. The tree planted is a Cherokee Princess Dogwood, not only the state tree of Virginia, but a species of dogwood indigenous to this area. May we tend to this tree with love, watch it grow along with our community, and remember our unity with all the saints of God.

### CREATION CARE

Buy local. Check your farmers' market, or food co-op for chicken, beef, and pork that's raised, packaged, and sold within two hundred miles of your kitchen. You'll be dealing with farmers whose smaller operations allow animals to graze freely without antibiotics or hormones.



### NEW DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM

Knock, knock! Who's there? You are, and you're trying to get into the church! You may have noticed there's a new doorbell system on one of the Gathering Area doors. It's the first step in a new entry system to make our building more secure and easier for people coming to church during the week!



***During the week:*** When you arrive at the church, come to the Gathering Area doors and press the doorbell (instructions are posted on the door). When the call is answered, please identify yourself, and the door will be unlocked remotely so you can enter. Please note that ***the office is staffed Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.*** If you arrive outside of those hours, there's still a good chance someone will be here, but please call before you come to be sure. Please do not use the red doors at the back of the building — for security reasons, these doors are now reserved for Day Care use only.

***On Sundays:*** Our practice is to unlock only the Gathering Area doors for entry on Sunday mornings, allowing for greater security. **All doors can be used to exit the building.**

If you regularly enter the church (for example, if you are part of the Altar Guild and need access the building during off hours to set up) and/or if you currently have a key, we will be assigning PIN numbers to unlock the door via the keypad on the entry system. We plan to rekey all exterior doors at a later phase in the entry system project, so keep an eye on *The Chimes* for more information about how to get a PIN number and turn in your key. Thank you for your *undoorstanding* as we learn this new system!

## 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, contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy ([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 joy, we share that a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Muhlenberg member Ramona Sanders for her unwavering commitment to the people of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy and Living Wage Virginia.

✙ ✙ ✙ ✙ ✙

*Devotional booklets for  
October–December are  
available at the Connection Center  
and in the Connection Box outside.*

✙ ✙ ✙ ✙ ✙

### CONFIRMATION CORNER

Confirmation isn't just for middle schoolers! All the baptized who have been confirmed are called to grow in faith and affirm God's promises in their life. You can support the hard work of our middle school students by reflecting on these Confirmation Corner thoughts each week. Here's a confirmation prompt for this week:

*Spend some time reading and reflecting on one of Psalms this week (or one each day!). How do you experience the emotions conveyed in the psalms, and how does this relate to your faith journey?*

## LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSION

### RISE AGAINST HUNGER

30,000 meals packaged in less than two hours! Impossible you say? Not when there are 240 participants from 19



congregations that come together to be the feet and hands of Christ! Thank you to the 18 folks from Muhlenberg who showed up last Saturday! **Muhlenberg also contributed \$1,000 toward the cost of the food through the Local and Global Ministry budget.** Rise Against Hunger is a non-profit organization that not only sends meals to those who suffer from food insecurity but they also work to put in place sustainable projects such as community gardens. If you see someone wearing a t-shirt that says "Rice Goes Last," be sure to ask them what it means.

### THE GREAT COMMUNITY PLAY DATE



The Great Community Play Date was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated their time or supplies. Many people came to the event and enjoyed a variety of games, glitter tattoos, and treats. Everyone had a great time and it would not have been possible without our amazing planning crew and volunteers. We **collected over \$500 worth of donations**, distributed to Minnick School, Second Home, and Harrisonburg Rockingham Day Care Center this past week. Thank you for your generosity!

## 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.

### THANKS FOR COMING TO "FALL IN" WEEKEND

It was so great to see everyone this weekend "Fall In" to community! Special Thanks to Karen Thomsen for organizing Muhlenberg's participation in the ELCA's Day of Service Project, "Rise Against Hunger." Faith Formation classes got off to a great start and the kids all had such fun at Funky's!





## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### RECENT ATTENDANCE

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

9/3	8:30 Holy Communion .....	68
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	101
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	32
	Total Views this Week .....	225
	Hours Viewed this Week .....	49.5
9/10	8:30 Holy Communion .....	68
	11:00 Holy Communion .....	107
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	37

### 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
<b>Excess Income/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$(17,423)</b>	<b>\$(62,225)</b>	<b>\$60,240</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 13,397.20
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 120.00
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$ 13,517.20</b>

To give online, scan here ➔



## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

September 18 - 24, 2023

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Congregation Council Mtg.
Tues	6:30 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed	10:30 am	Bible Study via <a href="#">ZOOM</a>
	6:00 pm	LCM Dinner
	6:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	8:00 am	Comfort Makers
Sun	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Faith Formation in person & via <a href="#">ZOOM</a>
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person & Livestreamed via <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">YouTube</a>
	12:15 pm	LAM Meeting



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

*Steve and Gleda Wilfong*  
*Jeff and Elizabeth Williams*  
*Kathy Williams*  
*Ron and Sue Williams*  
*Greta Willis*

*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).