



Equipping All People to Live Out Christ's Love

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

October 6, 2024

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

GIVING OF THE WORD



The Word

Today (10/6) is *Giving of the Word Sunday* when we remember our commitment to the children, youth, and families of our congregation, presenting Bibles to equip them with the Word as they continue their faith formation. Families who signed up to participate in this year's Giving of the Word will be called forward during the Children's Time. (If you missed the sign-up, don't worry! Simply contact Children's Minister Ashley Saunders at saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org.)

THRIVENT WORKSHOP

Today's (10/6) topic is College Planning 101. Workshops are held at 9:45 in the Augsburg Room and are open to all. *See page 4 for details.*

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Join us in the Gathering Area **TODAY** (10/6) between services for spooky refreshments, coffee, and conversation! Last month we shared what items to include in an emergency kit and heard stories from members about their experiences during disasters. The Fellowship Committee will also meet today to discuss upcoming activities. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please join us!

FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

TODAY (10/6) in the Gathering Area, we collect non-perishable food items, paper products, cleansers, diapers, and all types of personal hygiene products for Patchwork Pantry. Please check our website's [Giving Page](#) for a full list of acceptable items. Monetary donations are also appreciated.



HELLO

My name is



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.

TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION

PRELUDE ~ *Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

arr. J. Purifoy

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and power. Come, Ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify; true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.

OFFERING ~ *Teach Me, O Lord*

T. Attwood

Linlin Uta, Conductor

POSTLUDE ~ *The God of Abraham Praise*

arr. C Berry

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Kim Fawley

11:00 ~ Linda Alley

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Susan Gallaher

11:00 ~ Mark Warner

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle

11:00 ~

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle, Susan Gallaher,
Bill & Crystl Whitmire

11:00 ~ Mark Warner, Malcolm Wilfong

USHERS

8:30 ~ Bart Long, Karen Thomsen

11:00 ~ Sue Totty, Steve Wilfong, Pam Bergey

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Bill Wightman

11:00 ~ Mark Byerly

MUSICIANS ~ Matthew O. Thomas, Organist

Chancel Choir

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Janice & Bill Rosenow by Kim Fawley.

TODAY (CONT'D)

LAY COMMUNION MINISTRY

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, contact Pastor Lauren or Linda Morrison (lindamm778@gmail.com or 540-383-5085).

SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY (10/6), 12:30 pm

The next Safety Committee meeting is **TODAY** at 12:30 pm in the Augsburg Room. We will continue our discussion about safety concerns/recommendations on our campus and steps we're taking to address them. For more information, contact Malcolm Wilfong (mwilfong@shentel.net or 540-908-8683).

CONFIRMATION FOR ALL AGES

TODAY (10/6), 6:00 pm

Affirming our baptisms is not just something for youth! All of God's people are called to gather around the Word and grow together into our vocation as Christ's disciples. To that end, everyone is invited to join us **TODAY, 6:00 - 8:00 pm** in the Nielsen Room for Confirmation Class with the confirmands and their parents/guardians. Dinner will be provided, and you'll have the opportunity to learn and grow while supporting our youth in this valuable season of growth. We'll focus on Luther's Small Catechism and the foundations of our faith this month. Contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org) if you have any questions, if you'd like to help provide meals each month, and/or if you're planning to attend.

HURRICANE RESPONSE

We have all been stunned by the news and photos of the devastation, especially in western North Carolina, due to flooding from Hurricane Helene. Many have asked, “What can we do?”

PRAY

Pray for everyone who has been impacted by this disaster and for all those working in the rescue and recovery effort.

Gracious God, your word of peace stills the storms that rage in our world. Bring hope to places that know devastation in the calm after the storm. Bring comfort to those who grieve the loss of loved ones and property. Let your love be known through those who work to bring order in the chaos. Help us to shoulder the burden of suffering, and make us bearers of the hope that can be found in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GIVE

Giving is a helpful action to make an immediate impact. We recommend donations to Lutheran Disaster Response that will support both short- and long-term recovery across the Southeast. LDR provides immediate relief such as water, food, tarps, etc. But it also is the organization that is known to stay in areas that will require years to recover, providing disaster care management, construction management, and attention to unmet needs.

Give online at www.elca.org/disaster, or make a check payable to Muhlenberg and designate *Lutheran Disaster Response* on your check and envelope. Thrivent members can have their donations matched! Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.

Another way to help is by assembling Clean Up Buckets. For a list of items needed, visit <https://ldrcarolinas.org/blog> or the Connection

Center. Bring complete buckets to Pastor Lauren’s office **by next Sunday, October 13**. The Virginia Synod is arranging with the North Carolina Synod to get these buckets to them.

What NOT to give? STUFF. Do not collect stuff. There is currently no way to get goods to the disaster area and there are no organizations prepared to accept donations. Please don’t ever send clothing or other items—even bottled water—unless you are certain that the items are needed and there is an organization prepared to receive, store, and distribute them. Cash donations are always the best!

STAY INFORMED

Follow LDR Carolinas on Facebook, sign up for Lutheran Disaster Response alerts, and keep an eye on *The Chimes* as we continue to coordinate opportunities to help our neighbors in need.

CHURCH BUILDING FOR SALE!

Not our actual church building, of course... but an expertly crafted wooden replica of Muhlenberg Lutheran



Church by the Cat’s Meow Village. It’s a meaningful keepsake specially commissioned for our 175th Anniversary. The 3/4” thick heirloom piece measures 4 ½” high x 7 ½” wide. Each replica is \$25. Order deadline is October 27, with delivery in early December—just in time for Christmas gifts! Order forms are available in the Gathering Area. You can place an order in person between services today or turn your order into the church office during the week. If you have questions, contact Dave Barnes (barnesda09@gmail.com).

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Tuesdays, 6:00 pm

This semester LCM gathers for dinner **in the Campus Room** (downstairs). Contact Haley Tabor (haleyntabor@gmail.com) for details.

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

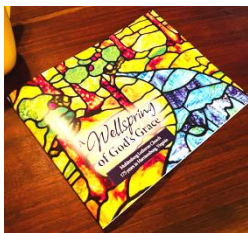
Wednesdays, 10:30 am

Led by Pastor Lauren, this study gathers each week to look ahead to Sunday's lessons. Meets via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>.

TOURS AND SPEAKER SERIES

Our 175th Anniversary Speaker Series and Tours of Muhlenberg begin this week! *See page 6 for details.*

PICK UP MUHLENBERG'S NEWEST HISTORY BOOK TODAY!



Muhlenberg has been blessed with an updated account of our 175 years, carefully compiled by Muhlenberg member Terry Caywood. This beautiful book is available to all households (one per family) at no cost. If you'd like to purchase an additional copy, they are available for \$10 each. Stop by the Gathering Area **TODAY** to pick up your book. You may also contact the church office during regular office hours (M-F, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm) to arrange to get your book. We hope you enjoy diving into this newest telling of the Muhlenberg story!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THRIVENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Make the most of the gifts God has provided you. Through this workshop series presented by Thrivent Financial, we will provide information on how to prepare for important milestones in your financial journey. All workshops are open to all community and will be at 9:45 am in the Augsburg Room.

Today (10/6) ~ College Planning 101 ~ Help your student choose the right college for their needs and interests. Plus, get tips on the basics of admissions and financial aid.

October 20 ~ Financial Foundations: Investing for Retirement ~ Four smart retirement strategies and tactical changes you can make to build your retirement foundation.

October 27 ~ Prepare Wisely: Estate Strategy Essentials ~ Explore estate strategies and tools to make your final wishes clear.

DIAMOND JUBILEE LUNCHEON

Sunday, October 20, 12:15 pm

Diamond Members (those who are age 75 plus), please save the date for our Diamond Jubilee luncheon and social gathering in the MAC. You will receive a mailed invitation soon. Plan to join us as we celebrate YOU! Please RSVP to Sandy Randolph (cerprek@gmail.com or 540-820-9654).

HYMNS ON TAP

Sunday, October 20, 4:00 pm

The Music Ministry and Fellowship Committee invite you to an afternoon of Beer and Hymns October 20, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at Three Notch'd Brewing next door. Grab your favorite beer and request your favorite song! Songs and lyrics will be provided. Open to any and all who love a cold brew and good hymn sing!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 27, 2:00 -4:00pm

Join in a time of fun and celebration for the Muhlenberg community and our neighbors! From 2:00 - 4:00 pm, children of all ages will have the opportunity to “trick or treat” around cars parked in the Ott Street and MAC parking lots. Adults and groups are encouraged to sign up and use their creativity to decorate their trunks. This year we will also have a canned food drive.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

MUHLENBERG GOES TO WASHINGTON!



Recently, Muhlenberg Lutheran Church’s 175th Anniversary was recognized and honored on the floor of Congress! Congressional representatives have an opportunity to give minute-long speeches recognizing major milestones and achievements within their district, and honor groups by having their name enshrined in congressional record. Congressman Ben Cline (VA-6) chose to recognize Muhlenberg’s milestone with a photo of our pastors and the 175th Anniversary Signature Quilt taken at our banquet. We’re grateful for the honor, and hope you enjoy this clip of Muhlenberg’s national recognition of being a Wellspring of God’s Grace. Check out the video here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxIJzk6rRl4

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Join us for Faith Formation for all ages at 9:45 each Sunday morning.

CHILDREN

We have three classes in the MAC to better serve each age appropriately:

- **Pre-K - 1st grade**
- **2nd - 3rd grades**
- **4th - 5th grades**

YOUTH

- **6th – 7th grades (*Word*)** meet in the *Augsburg Room* Please note: This class will gather in the library through October 27.
- **8th – 9th grades (*Witness*)** class meets in the *Campus Room*.

ADULT CLASSES

- **Engaging with Henri Nouwen Devotionals** meets in the *Nielsen Room*. Please note: On Sundays this fall when historical speakers are scheduled, this class will not meet so the group can attend the guest presentation.
- **Civic Life and Faith** meets in the *Kairos Room*.
- **Parent Connection** meets in the *Gathering Area*.

CREATION CARE

Just say ‘no’ to plastic produce bags. About one million of them are used every minute, and a single plastic bag can take 1,000 years to degrade. Purchase reusable produce bags to help keep more plastic out of the landfill.



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: (depay@muhlenberglutheran.org /540-434-3496)



Our 175th Anniversary Celebration Continues this Fall!

LOCAL HISTORY AND MUHLENBERG SPEAKER SERIES

NEXT Sunday, October 13 ~ 'A civil war has ensued, which has convulsed our whole land': Harrisonburg and Muhlenberg during the Civil War

Civil War historian (and former Muhlenberg member) **Dale Harter** will give a presentation on the Civil War in Harrisonburg, 1861-1865. Dale will provide an overall look at the war in Harrisonburg and talk about how the church and its members were directly affected by the conflict.

November 10 ~ Glimpses into 1849: Virginia Lutherans, Harrisonburg, & Muhlenberg

Muhlenberg member **Robert Alley** will give a presentation about the formation of the Lutheran Church in Virginia in the late 1840's as the Muhlenberg congregation was founded.

November 17 ~ Early History of Harrisonburg

Local historian **Evan Knappenberger** will share his expertise on the founding and early days of the Harrisonburg community.

Each presentation will be held in the Nielsen Room from 10:00 am until 10:45 am.

TOURS OF MUHLENBERG

History Tour

THIS Wednesday (10/9) at Noon and 6:00 pm; Next Sunday, October 13 at 1:00 pm

Learn the history of Muhlenberg Lutheran Church in this guided tour of the main church building. Hear the story of how the house of worship we know and love today came to be, and get to know the faithful people who stewarded this story.

Mission and Ministry Tour

Wednesday, October 16 at Noon and 6:00 pm; Sunday, October 20 at 2:00 pm

Explore the mission and ministry of Muhlenberg in this unique prayer tour of the building and grounds. Learn unique parts of our history of service to the community and join in praying together for a faithful future.

Art and Architecture Tour

Wednesday, November 6 at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm; Sunday, November 10 at 1:00 pm

Discover the art and architecture of Muhlenberg in this guided tour of the church building and grounds. Sacred art and sacred space have helped generations of the faithful to learn God's story, and there are more stories being told around the halls of Muhlenberg than you may realize

Tours will begin in the Gathering Area.

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

EPIC CONFERENCE AT MUHLENBERG Saturday, October 19



Effective Practices for Innovative Congregations (EPIC) is a one-day leadership development conference designed to strengthen congregational leaders for their ministry in the congregation and in the

world. There will be four separate opportunities to attend the event at four locations throughout the Synod, **including one hybrid event here at Muhlenberg.**

During EPIC we will explore what it means to have Strong Connections with topics that explore how to have:

- Strong Connections in the Congregation
- Strong Connections in the Community
- Strong Connections in the Synod
- Strong Connections in the Wider Lutheran Expression
- Strong Connections in God

The event will feature times of worship and large-group presentations as well as small-group breakout sessions covering a variety of topics led by Synod staff and local leaders from each host area. We hope attendees will also share ideas and resources for some holy cross-pollinating!

Registration deadline for the Muhlenberg event is **THIS Thursday, October 10**. To register or for more information including event dates, times, locations, and workshop descriptions, visit <https://vasynod.org/epic>.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

BRIDGE OF HOPE FUNDRAISER Locavore Love Your Neighbor Gala November 2, 4:30 pm

Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, music, testimonials, and information about how your generosity can directly support families facing homelessness in our community. If you have questions, please call Wanda Hamilton 540-405-3118. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit...

<https://tinyurl.com/mpdtyfh7>

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Cats and dogs and a turtle, oh my! All were blessed last Wednesday at Hillandale Park!



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

9/22	8:30 Holy Communion	69
	11:00 Holy Communion	83
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	33
	Total Views this Week	104
	Hours Viewed this Week	54.2
9/29	8:30 Holy Communion	69
	11:00 Holy Communion	106
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	30

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Income exceeds expenses in August for several reasons: increased gifts and offerings (thank you for your faithful giving), a grant from the Virginia Synod for Campus Ministry, and proceeds from the yard sale. The deficit remained stable. We anticipate seeing the deficit decrease as fall ministries and programs swing into full gear and expenses are stable into the fall.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through August 2024			
	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2023 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$361,263	\$503,333	\$348,442
Total Income	\$460,774	\$589,851	\$497,259
Total Expenses	\$515,719	\$592,131	\$525,598
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(54,945)	\$(2,280)	\$(28,339)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 5,838.15
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 842.75
Total Giving	\$ 6,680.90

Sept. Thrivent Choice Dollars - \$44

To give online, scan here →



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 7-13, 2024

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
Tues	6:00 pm	Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed	10:30 am	Bible Study via Zoom
	12:00 noon & 6:00 pm	History Tour
	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thu	8:00 am	Comfort Makers
Sun	Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Faith Formation in person & via Zoom
	9:45 am	Thrivent Financial Workshop
	10:00 am	Local History & Speaker Series
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube
	1:00 pm	History Tour



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

Ken & Sue Utterback

Melissa Warble and Corbin Smith

Mark & Jennie Warner

Judy Warren

Alan Washam

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 depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org)