



Equipping All People to Live Out Christ's Love

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October 20, 2024

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

#### MUHLENBERG MISSION & MINISTRY TOUR

Explore the mission and ministry of Muhlenberg in this unique prayer tour of the building and grounds, beginning at **2:00 pm** in the Gathering Area. Art and Architecture Tours are scheduled for the first full week of November. *See page 4 for details.*

#### THRIVENT WORKSHOP

Today's topic is Financial Foundations: Investing for Retirement. Workshops are held at **9:45 am** in the Augsburg Room and are open to all. *See page 3 for details.*

#### DIAMOND JUBILEE LUNCHEON



Diamond Members (those who are age 75 plus), will gather **TODAY at 12:15 pm** for the Diamond Jubilee luncheon and fellowship in the MAC. Plan join us as we celebrate YOU!

#### YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Members ages 21 - 35-ish are invited to gather at **12:15 pm** in the Campus Room for a BYO lunch, joining in biblical study, community service and mutual support. This group meets monthly. (If you feel like the term "young adult" applies to you, join us!)

#### HYMNS ON TAP

The Music Ministry and Fellowship Committee invite you for Beer and Hymns **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/or a good hymn sing!

#### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We need lectors, crucifers, ushers, communion assistants, etc. Sign up for **November** in the notebook in the Gathering Area. Contact Kathy Thompson (540-578-4830 or [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)). To sign up online, follow this path from our website: [Worship + Serve in Worship](#)

## TODAY'S WORSHIP INFORMATION

### PRELUDE

8:30 *Nun Bitten Wir Dén Heiligen Geist* D. Buxtehude

11:00 *In This Very Room* Ron & Carol Harris

### OFFERING

8:30 *In This Very Room* Ron & Carol Harris

11:00 *If You Search With All Your Heart* C. Courtney

### POSTLUDE ~ Trumpet Tune

D.N. Johnson

**PREACHING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

**PRESIDING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

### LAY ASSISTING MINISTER

**8:30 & 11:00** ~ Tassie Pippert

### LECTORS

**8:30** ~ Jim Doyle

**11:00** ~ Olivia Rishell

### CRUCIFERS

**8:30** ~ Bill Whitmire

**11:00** ~ Sue Koch

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

**8:30** ~ Jim Doyle, Roger Kagey,  
Bill Whitmire, Susan Lawrence

**11:00** ~ Sue Koch, Meg Wightman,  
Olivia Rishell, Terry Caywood

### USHERS

**8:30** ~ Karen Thomsen, Susan Gallaher

**11:00** ~ Melissa, Billy and Henry Perritt

### SOUND TECHS

**8:30** ~ Bill Wightman

**11:00** ~ Mark Byerly

**MUSICIANS** ~ Matthew O. Thomas, Organist

Wylie Walton, Baritone

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**Parish Administrator Linda Depoy** will be on vacation October 14 - 25. Administrative Assistant Darcie Roberge will cover priorities in her absence, but please be patient as she works part time and may not be able to respond as quickly.

## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesdays, 10:30 am**

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

### OUR COMMUNITY PLACE LUNCH

**THIS Friday (10/25), 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 serves a delicious 3-course meal for just \$12.50. **We will meet at OCP (17 East Johnson Street, Harrisonburg)**. Let's show our support for OCP while enjoying this opportunity for fellowship. Questions or need a ride? Call or text Karen Thomsen (540-421-4431).

### SOMETHING TO SHARE

**NEXT Sunday (10/27)**

When you are driving and come to an intersection where a person is holding a sign asking for help, do you look or look away? It can be painful either way. **NEXT Sunday** is a **Thrivent Action Sunday**, and you are invited to put together a "Care Bag." Stop by the Gathering Area between services and fill a baggie with self-care items. Take the Care Bag and keep it in your car so the next time you find yourself at an intersection with a person in need, you will have something to share. Everything needed—except your help—is provided through a **Thrivent Action Grant\***.

*\*see next page for more info about Action Grants.*

## THRIVENT WORKSHOP

**NEXT SUNDAY (10/27), 9:45 AM**

Make the most of the gifts God has provided you. This last workshop, **Prepare Wisely: Estate Strategy Essentials**, will explore estate strategies and tools to make your final wishes clear. The workshop is open to all and will meet in the Augsburg Room.

## LAST SUNDAY LUNCH BUNCH

**NEXT Sunday (10/27), 12:15 pm**

High school youth are invited to gather together in the Campus Room the last Sunday of each month after 11:00 am worship for a time of food, fellowship, learning and service. Join us next week!

## TRUNK OR TREAT

**NEXT Sunday (10/27), 2:00 - 4:00pm**

Join in a time of fun and celebration with the Muhlenberg community and our neighbors! 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.



## WEAR RED FOR REFORMATION

**NEXT Sunday (10/27)**

The end of October marks Reformation Sunday in the life of the church. On Sunday, October 27, we wear red as we join together to celebrate and give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit in always reforming Christ's Church.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### PROPERTY WORKDAY

**Saturday, November 2**

The Property Committee will hold a workday Saturday, November 2, beginning at 8:00 am and ending by noon. We need your help! All are welcome. Bring a friend. We hope to see you then!

For more information, contact Mark Byerly (540-271-1478 or [msbyerlype@comcast.net](mailto:msbyerlype@comcast.net)).

## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

This month, Muhlenberg collected **70 pounds** of non-perishable food, paper products, cleansers, diapers, and personal hygiene products for Patchwork Pantry. Thank you for your donations!



## 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>



## Our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Continues this Fall!

### LOCAL HISTORY AND MUHLENBERG SPEAKER SERIES

**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

#### **Mission and Ministry Tour**

**TODAY (10/20) 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.*

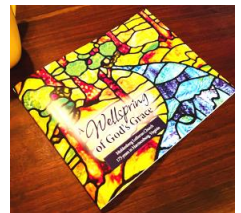
### **CHURCH BUILDING FOR SALE!**

Don't forget to order your expertly crafted wooden replica of Muhlenberg Lutheran Church by the Cat's Meow Village, specially commissioned for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Order forms are available in the Gathering Area and are due **NEXT Sunday (10/27)**, with delivery in early December.



### **PICK UP MUHLENBERG'S NEWEST HISTORY BOOK TODAY!**

An updated account of Muhlenberg's 175 years is available to all households (one per family) at no cost. Additional copies are \$10 each. Stop by the Gathering Area **TODAY** to pick up your book.



## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### FAITHFUL ENGAGEMENT IN ELECTIONS

There's a growing sense of uneasiness in our country as we approach Election Day, November 5. We feel the divisiveness of our political system, and we grow weary and angry when we witness its brokenness. It's easy to want to tune it all out and withdraw.

But our engagement in the political process is deeply rooted in Lutheran theology, which views civic participation as an extension of our baptismal vocation. It is a response to God's call for active citizenship to ensure the common good (Jeremiah 29:7, Romans 13:1-7). We encourage active, faithful participation in the election process, as we navigate the turbulent waters of political discourse while maintaining our commitment to loving our neighbors.

At Muhlenberg, we will continue to deeply engage our biblical and theological grounding as we consider our civic engagement. We will continue to seek ways to foster compassion and understanding. We will pray for discernment about how, no matter who wins, we might be agents of God's work of love, healing, justice, and reconciliation in our country and our communities.

**On November 5, the sanctuary will be open from 8am-6pm for individual prayer and meditation.** Scripture and prayer resources will be available to guide you. The pastors will also be available in the Gathering Area during that time for conversation and prayer.

**On November 6, our regular first-Wednesday-of-the-month midday service at noon will be a service for healing, reconciliation, and peace, no matter what the result of the elections.**

Together, as a people of faith, we will continue to build relationships even when we have different perspectives, work for justice and peace, and pray for God's will to be done among us.

*Pastor Lauren*

### MUHLENBERG COMFORTS HEADED TO NC

Muhlenberg's Comfort Makers have responded to a call for quilts to help our neighbors affected by Hurricane Helene! In a simple combination of fabric and thread, we reach out to people in their time of greatest need with a strong message of hope — you are not alone. Pastor John Wertz, Virginia Synod's Director of Evangelical Mission, received Muhlenberg's donations for delivery to western North Carolina.



### THRIVENT ACTION GRANTS

Our Action Sundays are made possible by Thrivent members' access to Thrivent Action Team Grants. To learn more about Thrivent and the benefits of membership, please contact Thrivent Financial Advisor Sarah Sunde ([sarah.sunde@thrivent.com](mailto:sarah.sunde@thrivent.com)).



## MUHLENBERG NEWS (CONT'D)

### CREATION CARE



Write a letter to your Senate and Congress representatives. They care about the viewpoints of their constituents and take feedback into consideration when it's time to vote. Your letter could help influence their vote on issues like environmental justice. Get tips for writing a letter to your representatives at [www.pfaw.org](http://www.pfaw.org).

## 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–1<sup>st</sup> grade**
- **2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades**
- **4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades**

### YOUTH

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

## 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](http://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](http://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 TODAY (10/20)**. 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. 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.

### **HURRICANE PRAYER CARDS**

With the news of the devastation left by hurricanes Helene and Milton, sometimes it is hard to find the words to pray. To give you simple prayers to pray as a family, prayer cards are available at the Welcome Desk next to the children's materials. All prayers are from *Prayers for Faithful Families* by Traci Smith.

## **VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS**

### **UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY (ULS)**

#### **AGING GRACE-FULLY SEMINARS**

ULS invites you to join the Aging Grace-Fully speaker series! Aging Grace-Fully examines how to age with grace and live, fully, with the physical, mental and social changes that are often difficult to accept when growing older.

Seek understanding and acceptance of these challenges in an eight-part series featuring leading authors who share their knowledge and

experiences about aging including suffering, love and loss. All events will be livestreamed from the Gettysburg campus of ULS. **The first two speakers and their books are...**

- Rabbi Steve Leder, *The Beauty of What Remains*, **Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2024**
- Sloane Crosley, *Grief Is For People* **Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024**

For more information or to register, visit <https://ulsforms.wufoo.com/forms/q14a7kh117vl7oy/>. You can sign up for one or more speakers individually, or the whole series.

### **A CUP OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE: 2024 ALL LUTHERAN WOMEN'S RETREAT November 7-9, Glen Allen, Virginia**

Our world feels more divided than ever. Polarization, racial violence, and inequity leave us asking, "Is it even possible to heal?" Author and theologian Dr. Jacqueline A. Bussie believes it is. The retreat will focus on her book *Love Without Limits – Jesus' Radical Vision for Love with No Exceptions*. She challenges us to practice a love so deep it subverts the social order, so radical it scandalizes the powerful, so vast it excludes no one. Pastor Colleen Hetrick will be the retreat chaplain. For more information, visit <https://alwretreat.org/>.

# TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

## RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

<b>10/6</b>	<b>8:30 Holy Communion .....</b>	<b>62</b>
	<b>11:00 Holy Communion .....</b>	<b>89</b>
	<b>11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....</b>	<b>31</b>
	<b>Total Views this Week .....</b>	<b>103</b>
	<b>Hours Viewed this Week .....</b>	<b>57.9</b>
<b>10/13</b>	<b>8:30 Holy Communion .....</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>11:00 Holy Communion .....</b>	<b>108</b>
	<b>11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....</b>	<b>34</b>

## NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Thank you for your generosity in September. Gifts & Offerings is at our highest amount in 2024 and we anticipate continuing that trend through the end of the year. Unfortunately, expenses were also at a high because property insurance and workman’s comp premiums were due—this bill was approximately \$20,000 and increased September’s expense line considerably. Thus, the deficit increased. As we move into the 4th quarter, review with your CPA your year-end giving strategy and consider Muhlenberg for Qualified Charitable Donations.

*Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer*

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2024			
	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2023 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$421,181	\$566,250	\$398,101
Total Income	\$531,851	\$663,582	\$552,953
Total Expenses	\$599,840	\$665,567	\$608,618
<b>Excess Income/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$(67,989)</b>	<b>\$(1,985)</b>	<b>\$(55,665)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 8,476.76
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 870.00
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$ 9,346.76</b>

**Oct. Thrivent Choice Dollars - \$56**



To give online, scan here →

# WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**October 21-27, 2024**

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

<b>Mon</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Congregation Council Meeting</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Gloria Dei Ringers</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Bible Study via <a href="#">Zoom</a></b>
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Comfort Makers</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>OCP Lunch</b>
<b>Sun</b>		<b>Reformation Sunday</b>
	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion in person</b>
	<b>9:45 am</b>	<b>Faith Formation in person &amp; via <a href="#">Zoom</a></b>
	<b>9:45 am</b>	<b>Thrivent Financial Workshop</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">YouTube</a></b>
	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Last Sunday Lunch Bunch</b>
	<b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Trunk or Treat</b>



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

*Tim & Katy Wessel*

*Bill & Crystl Whitmire*

*Juanita Whitmire*

*Bill, Meg, Liam and Alice Wightman*

*Malcolm & Judy Wilfong*

*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](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org))*

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: ([depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org) /540-434-3496)