



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

281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 † Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: info@muhlenberglutheran.org † Website: www.muhlenberglutheran.org

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



October 24, 2021

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following are the highlights from Muhlenberg's Congregation Council meeting held Monday, October 18:

- Preparations and logistics for the November Congregational Meeting were discussed and will soon be shared with the Congregation
- An update on the work of the Nominating Committee for seeking candidates for the position of Trustee and Council was shared
- Council members heard and approved a pastoral plan that includes Pastor Lauren's return to work.
- The Muhlenberg Spending Plan for 2022 was shared by treasurer Ted Sudol and discussed in depth
- An additional session to complete the Spending Plan for 2022 was scheduled for Monday, October 25.

Peace and Blessings,
Karen Thomsen, Congregation Council
President

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

GATHERING THE NAMES OF SAINTS

Today (10/24) through October 31, please share with us the names of saints (persons living or deceased) who have enriched your spiritual life or the life of the church. On the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Area is a basket of red and white links and pens. We invite you to take a link and write the name of an individual who has helped you in your spiritual growth. You may take as many links as you like.

Place completed links in the basket provided. Links will be displayed in the Sanctuary beginning All Saints Sunday through the First Sunday of Advent. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to observe how our saints link us together in faith.

If you are worshipping digitally, you can complete a form online (<https://forms.gle/nz7ocef6EmFip5scA>) and volunteers will prepare the links for you.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Join us **each Wednesday at 10:30 am** for Bible study. Led by Pastor Daniel Hess via **ZOOM**:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

BACK TO PASTORS' BOOK CLUB

Join us this **Wednesday (10/27)** at 6:30 pm for Pastors' Book Club. This week's meeting link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82701657853?pwd=NWFYZVhnVGdEYlZ5dzRCSjNVQzIzOT09>

Order the books online using the links below or contact Pastor Alex.

Oct 27, [*Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God*](#), by Kaitlin B. Curtice

Nov 17, [*Baptized in Tear Gas*](#), by Elle Dowd

COMFORT MAKERS

Join us **Thursdays, 8:00 – 12 noon** in Wayland Hall. All are welcome! Contact Linda Morrison (linkamm778@gmail.com / 540-383-5085) for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The end of October and beginning of November bring two special days in the life of the church: Reformation Sunday, October 31 and All Saints Sunday, November 7.

Wear red and join us for festival worship on Reformation Sunday celebrating and giving thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit in always reforming Christ's Church.

Worship on All Saints Sunday will feature a Service of Commemoration as we remember those members of our community who have died in the last year, and who are united with us still through our baptismal promises.

We will have a SAAM service at 1:30 pm November 7 as well with a Service of Holy Baptism. Join us for these meaningful liturgical moments in our life together!

MUHLENBERG NEWS

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

In this new season of hybrid ministry, you'll notice in our Attendance section that we track the number of Wellstream Worshipers each Sunday, averaging around 50. But what does this mean? We know that each week there are families of 3 or 4 worshipping online, couples worshipping from the hospital or rehabilitation, or folks watching alone at home or while travelling. So our average of 50 Wellstream "worshippers" reflects only the number of screens tuned in live on a Sunday morning. We estimate that for each screen there are an average of 2 people behind it. As we worship at 11:00 am, there are likely around 100 more people virtually in the Sanctuary at that time.

We encourage you to reach out and say *hello* to friends who are worshipping online. If a neighbor is looking for a church home, suggest they check us out online first if they're hesitant to attend in person. If *you* worship online, be sure to greet others in the comments section, fill out our [Digital Visitor Card](#), or email Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org) to say hello! These days, our church community is here, there, and everywhere, so we give thanks for the Holy Spirit who weaves us together in love wherever we are!

MUHLENBERG NEWS (CONT.)

CREATION CARE TIP



Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. Contact Ramona Sanders for more information: 433-1165 or rsanders97@verizon.net.

If you use gift wrap, choose paper that is recyclable or made from recycled material. A lot of gift wrap isn't recyclable because of a shiny or laminated coating. Always check with your local recycling provider for the best ways to dispose of wrapping paper. Consumers can also reduce waste by using recyclable decorative boxes eliminate wrapping.

The EPA also encourages consumers to reuse gift bags and tissue paper.

RESERVING ALTAR FLOWERS



We are once again offering the opportunity to reserve your special dates to remember or honor a loved one by providing funding for altar flowers! We offer the opportunity for two families to sign up each week and

request payment (\$25/vase) at the time of sign up. We will send reminders as needed and appreciate your cooperation.

Please sign up in the notebook at the Connection Center or click [HERE](#) to sign up electronically. **Note: Sign-ups close for the upcoming week on Sundays.**

SECOND HOME NEWS

SNACK DONATIONS

Second Home provides morning and afternoon snacks to students every day. The goal is to serve balanced snacks that complement students' nutrition and reduce daily food insecurity. We appreciate all the wonderful donations from Muhlenberg. These donations enhance our food options and help us stretch our budget. If you are willing to donate a specific food item once a month, or as a one-time donation, please contact Lori Reich (secondhomeharrisonburg@gmail.com or 540-432-7989). Thank you.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

For information about adult and children's choirs, contact Music Minister Elizabeth Williams (434-3496 or williams@muhlenberglutheran.org.)

Children's Choirs

Cherub Choir ~ Tuesdays, 5:30 – 6:00 pm

For ages 4 – grade 3; led by Cherub Choir Director Rachel Peters (rgpeters9@gmail.com or 570-975-5457). Until further notice, rehearsals are postponed until vaccinations become available to this age group.

Tweens and Teens ~ Sundays, 12:15-12:45

For grades 4 – 8; led by Music Minister Elizabeth Williams. **Rehearsals will resume Sunday, November 7.** All participants must wear a mask. Social distancing will be observed. Rehearsals will take place in the sanctuary.

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

10/10	8:30 Holy Communion.....	48
	11:00 Holy Communion	55
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	48
	Total Views this Week.....	255
	Hours Viewed this Week.....	77.4
10/17	8:30 Holy Communion.....	43
	11:00 Holy Communion	54
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	48
	1:30 Outdoor Worship	32

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through July 2021			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$324,075	\$470,326	\$333,574
Total Receipts	\$387,348	\$525,881	\$432,960
Expenses	\$457,127	\$565,080	\$451,756
Excess Income/	(\$69,779)	(\$39,199)	(\$18,796)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 11,464.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,335.00
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 12,799.00

To give online, scan here →



Muhlenberg has not suspended its ministry through this unprecedented time. In fact, in some ways our outreach and ministry have been strengthened and enhanced. Regardless of the worship opportunities you choose, we ask you to continue your financial contributions. We also want to continue to support the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. You can make a one-time or recurring donation through our [website](#), place your offering in the basket on Sunday morning, or mail your check to the church: 281 E. Market Street, Harrisonburg 22801.

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 25 - 31

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

- Mon 2:00 pm Staff Meeting**
- Tues 6:30 pm Celebration Singers**
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers
- Wed 10:30 am Wed. Morning Bible Study via [ZOOM](#)**
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir
6:30 pm Pastor's Book Club
- Thur 8:00 am Comfort Makers**
- Sun Reformation Sunday**
8:30 am Holy Communion in person
9:45 am Christian Formation Classes
Children's Ministry
Youth (Confirmation)
Devotional Classics
Faith Lens
11:00 am Holy Communion in person and Livestreamed via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

The weekly deadline for routine articles for *The Chimes* is **Thursday at 8 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/434-3496

Like us at facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran.

ACCESS SERMONS ONLINE

Following the Narrative Lectionary allows us to tell a continuous story of faith week after week. If you missed or would like to revisit a particular sermon, you can find a [playlist on YouTube](#) that is updated weekly! Be sure to like us on [Facebook](#) to see the sermons posted, and subscribe to our [YouTube Channel!](#)