



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

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

November 5, 2023

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

ALL SAINTS DAY

Since its earliest centuries, the church has set aside a day to remember the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us in the faith, stretching across the centuries and around the globe. Today we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us, for the saints of God who are living, and for saints still to come. We are especially thankful for the witness and works of those who have died in the faith as they modeled what it means to be both saint and sinner. We remember by name those who died in the past year, and look forward to sharing with them the life that is eternal. We also remember by name those who have been baptized in faith this past year, and rejoice with these new saints being born in the baptismal waters. Most of all, we remember the one whose death and resurrection has formed this company of all the saints, hallowing all our lives and deaths.

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.

WELCOME GUEST ORGANISTS!

Today for All Saints Sunday, we are blessed to welcome a familiar face to our worship service. Elizabeth Williams will join us as she leads our congregational song. Elizabeth served as



Muhlenberg's Associate Director of Liturgical Arts from 2008 to 2011, and then as our Minister of Music from 2011 until her retirement in May 2023.



Last week for Reformation Sunday, we were blessed to welcome another familiar face to our worship service, Minister of Music Emeritus Don Smith. He served as Muhlenberg's Minister of Music from 1966 until his retirement in 2007, and it was so nice to have him play "A Mighty Fortress" for us one more time.

Welcome home, Don and Elizabeth!

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Pre-K – 5th Grade meet in the Muhlenberg Activities Center [MAC] (behind the church)

These classes meet downstairs in the church:

Grades 6 - 8 ~ *Augsburg Room*

High School ~ *Campus Room*

Civic Life and Faith ~ *Kairos Room*

Faithful Families ~ *Gathering Area*

40-Day Journey Adult Class ~ *Nielsen Room*

Faith Lens Adult Class ~ *on hiatus*

To attend virtually, use this Zoom Link:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/j/84731416878](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878)

PATCHWORK PANTRY REQUESTS



Patchwork Pantry has a special request for TODAY'S collection! **Corn muffin mixes and cartons of chicken broth** are not available from regular pantry suppliers. These items would be appreciated by families in need of food assistance.

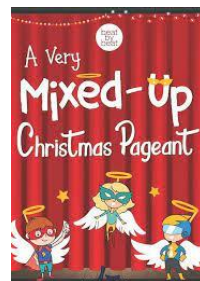
LAY COMMUNION

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



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICES

Practices for our Christmas Pageant **begin today and continue Sundays through December 10 at 9:45 am** (Faith Formation hour). The pageant this year, *A Very Mixed Up Christmas* by Gwenne Watkins, has singing and speaking roles and opportunities for participants of all ages!



We are excited to announce the Christmas pageant will be in person this year! So mark your calendar now for **Sunday, December 17 at 9:45 am** in the MAC.

Please email Children's Minister Ashley Saunders at saunders@muhlenberglutheran.org with any questions you may have.

175TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING TEAM

TODAY (11/5), 12:30 pm in the Library

It's time to celebrate! We are preparing to kick off Muhlenberg's 175th anniversary year in December. The planning group is exploring ideas for historical presentations, special events, and more! Help us tell our congregation's story by joining in the conversation. Contact Pastor Lauren for more information.

CONFIRMATION FOR ALL AGES

TONIGHT (11/5), 6:00 PM

Affirming our baptisms is not just something for 8th graders! 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 **TONIGHT, 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. A thorough study of the Bible will be the focus of our conversation each month, reviewing broad themes of scripture, coming to understand the narrative arc of God's Word, and seeking to find how God's Word meets us in our day-to-day life. Tonight's class will focus on **The Historical Books: There and Back Again, Through Promised Land and Exile**. 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.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MUHLENBERG MINISTRIES NIGHT **Monday, November 6 at 7:00 pm**

Please remember that for November and December only, Ministries Night committees will meet on the 1st Monday of the month. All are welcome in person, via [Zoom](#) or by phone:

Meeting ID: 833 4118 0538

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,83341180538#

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY **Wednesdays, 10:30 am**

Join Pastor Lauren **each Wednesday at 10:30 am** for Bible study via [ZOOM](#). This class dives deep into the upcoming Sunday's scripture text.

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

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

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Dinner Wednesday, 6:00 pm

We will gather for dinner **THIS Wednesday, November 1, 6:00 pm** here in the Campus Room (downstairs). For more information, contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-309-2414).

YOUNG ADULT LUNCH **AND BIBLE STUDY**

NEXT Sunday, November 12, 12:15 pm

Members ages 21 - 35ish are invited to meet in the Nielsen Room after the 11:00 service and share in a time of fellowship, Bible Study, and a meal. You're encouraged to bring your own meal, or feel free to order and have something delivered to the church! Coffee and tea will be provided. Please join us and feel free to invite a friend!

Childcare will be provided in the nursery during our time together. If you plan to attend or have questions, contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org).

FAITHFUL QUESTIONS

We offer the opportunity for you to ask faithful questions! In the pews and at the Connection Center, you'll find light purple cards, where you are invited to ask questions whenever one arises. Any question is welcome! Place your purple card in the Offering Plate or in the purple lock box at the Connection Center. Only the Pastors have access to this box. Questions can also be asked digitally using [THIS GOOGLE FORM](#). If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to the Pastors.



HYBRID ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be **Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 9:45am** in the Sanctuary. I hope all voting members will make every effort to attend in person or by Zoom (non-members are very welcome to attend, but are unable to vote). Adult, Middle School, and High School Sunday School classes will be canceled the morning of the 19th, while Pre-K through 5th grade classes WILL happen as scheduled and the nursery will be staffed to enable all voting members to participate.

At this meeting we will review and approve the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan, elect new council members and a trustee, and vote on proposed revisions to our congregation's Constitution. Please review the materials provided at www.muhlenberglutheran.org/congregationalmeeting (or pick up a hard copy at church) and don't hesitate to reach out to me, Treasurer Sarah Sunde, or the Constitution Task Force members (Cathy Copeland, Brad Moyers, and Pastor Lauren Eanes) with any questions you may have. We will also make ourselves available to answer questions following each service on Sunday, November 12.

As you review the Constitution, you'll see that a quorum of at least 50 voting members is required for a congregational vote to occur. But we hope *everyone* will plan to attend this gathering to participate in the life of our community here at Muhlenberg!

Peace be with you,

Meg Wightman, Congregation Council President

You are invited to a...

HYBRID ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT 9:45 AM

You may attend in person in the Sanctuary or via Zoom (online or by phone). *See page 5 for Zoom instructions.*

The Purpose of the Meeting:

- † **Review and vote on the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan***
- † **Elect four Congregation Council Members and one Trustee:** Council nominees are Cathy Copland, Jacob Dunlap, Sarah Orem, and Kristee Trumbo. The Trustee Nominee is Diane Walton. *(see pages 6 - 7 for bios)*
- † **Vote on proposed revisions to our Constitution***

*The proposed Spending Plan and Constitutional revisions are available today at the Connection Center, Connection Box, and online at

www.muhlenberglutheran.org/congregationalmeeting

To request materials be mailed to you, call Parish Administrator Linda Depoy at 540-434-3496.

ANNUAL MEETING PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

Join us in the Sanctuary to attend the meeting in person.

ZOOM ONLINE ATTENDANCE

STEP 1: ZOOM DOWNLOAD

First, download the Zoom app. Go to <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the prompts for installation. Visit the website highlighted on page 4 for a video tutorial about Zoom.

STEP 2: ATTENDING THE MEETING

Once Zoom is downloaded, you're ready to attend the meeting:

- The meeting is **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 9:45 am**. Please logon up to 10 minutes before the meeting using the "Sunday Mornings at Muhlenberg" Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878>
- Follow the prompts to run Zoom, and then wait for the meeting host to let you in. If for some reason Zoom doesn't open, you can always open Zoom manually, select "Join a meeting" and enter this 11-digit Meeting Code: **847 3141 6878**.
- Once you are admitted by the host, select "Join with computer audio."
- For voting, please follow the instructions of the moderator so votes can be accurately tallied.

STEP 3: ZOOM ETIQUETTE

- To assist moderators, edit your name on Zoom to include the names of all voting members in your home.
- Mute your audio (click on the "Mute" option) until you are asked to unmute.
- Make sure video is turned on so the host can see you and know you're still logged in.

ZOOM PHONE ATTENDANCE

If you can't download the app, you can always join by phone. Call the number below 5 minutes before the meeting and provide additional information as prompted:

1-929-205-6099 (Meeting ID: **847 3141 6878**)

QUESTIONS/MORE INFORMATION

- If you have questions about Zoom, please **contact Communication Minister Christian Perritt** at perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org or **540-810-3996**.
- Visit our website at www.muhlenberglutheran.org/congregationalmeeting for meeting materials and additional information. To receive materials in print form, visit the Connection Center or Connection Box or contact Linda Depoy at 434-3496.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL AND TRUSTEE NOMINEES

The bios below will help you learn more about the current slate of nominees who are running for Congregation Council:

CATHY COPELAND, COUNCIL NOMINEE



I have appreciated serving on Council for the past three years. As part of my work on Council, I served as one of Muhlenberg's Faith in Action (now Valley Interfaith Alliance)

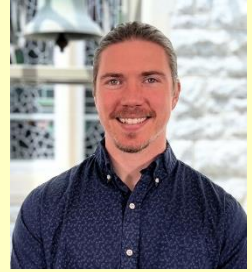
representatives from 2020-2022. This year, I led the Constitutional Task Force as we worked to align Muhlenberg's Constitution with the ELCA's required and recommended modifications.

I moved to Harrisonburg in 2010, after growing up in Indiana and living in Maryland and Alabama. My husband, Adam, and I became members of Muhlenberg in August 2011, and both of our children — Latham (11) and Gwendolyn (8) — have been baptized here and are actively connected to Muhlenberg's youth programs.

I work as the director of the American Democracy Project at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, a nonpartisan and non-profit organization that encourages college students, faculty, and staff to be civically engaged with their community. My family and I love Harrisonburg, and we appreciate our Muhlenberg family. I'm honored to be nominated to serve for a final three years on Council.

JACOB DUNLAP, COUNCIL NOMINEE

I've been attending Muhlenberg since summer 2022. Prior to my membership here, I previously attended Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Bergton, VA and Our Savior Lutheran Church in



Johnson City, TN. With my experience including small churches, big churches, the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission, and the Lutheran Student Movement, I am looking to apply those experiences to benefit Muhlenberg and become further involved in the local church community.

SARAH OREM, COUNCIL NOMINEE



Professionally, I serve currently as the Outreach and Advocacy Manager for Any Given Child Shenandoah Valley, focusing on equitable arts access for K-8 students in Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County

Public Schools. I am a dedicated leader and passionate professional with a range of experience in higher education, fundraising, and non-profit leadership.

SARAH OREM, COUNCIL NOMINEE (CONT'D)

I graduated from JMU with a B.A. in Communication Studies and earned my M.A. from Bowling Green State University in College Student Personnel. In my free time, I enjoy baking, reading, running, home design, yoga, and traveling.

As new members, my husband Chris, sons Landon and Isaac, and I are grateful for the genuine warmth and welcome we've received from the Muhlenberg community. In choosing a church home, it was important for our family to find a place with strong music and children's programs, investment in community outreach and service, and an authentic congregation and staff who lead with grace; we have found all this and more in our short time at Muhlenberg! I'm honored to answer a call to leadership at Muhlenberg, plugging in a bit more to help serve our congregation and community and grow in faith together.

KRISTEE TRUMBO, COUNCIL NOMINEE



Kristee is a long-time Muhlenberg member, and despite her many moves and relocations she has never transferred her church membership. This community of believers has been the foundation

for supporting her faith and spiritual growth. In June of this year, Kristee was commissioned as a Lay Preacher within the Virginia Synod.

Returning to the Valley and worshipping in person, Kristee is excited to be involved in the many facets of community belonging, outreach, and supporting the health and growth of the church. We are a family receiving the Grace of Jesus. Together we have adventures and experiences to take us anywhere we want to go.

DIANE WALTON, TRUSTEE NOMINEE

Diane has been a member since 2007.

In addition to serving as a Trustee, she volunteers as an Office Assistant, helps prepare the Pastoral Acts annual report and assists with updating the Parish Register. Diane is also a member of the Gloria Dei Ringers. She and her husband Wylie live in the Broadway-Timberville area. They enjoy music, reading and traveling.



Visit our website for complete details about the Annual Meeting of the Congregation:

www.muhlenberglutheran.org/congregationalmeeting

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DON'T MISS MUHLENBERG'S JAZZ VESPERS

Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 pm



Mark your calendars and invite your friends for a special evening prayer service on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 pm. Our Jazz Vespers will bring together scripture, poetry, prayer and music, building on our liturgical tradition of evening prayer while deriving energy from the sounds of jazz. Join our special musical guests *Just Jazzin'*, a local jazz band with Muhlenberg member and retired EMU music professor Bob Curry, and Dr. Masa Ishikawa, a gifted jazz pianist and professor at JMU, for a vibrant service of praise and thanksgiving!

MUHLENBERG NEWS

DISPLAYING THE NAMES OF SAINTS



TODAY in the Gathering Area is a display of the names of loved ones and those who have shaped your faith. May this display serve as an opportunity for us to remember how our saints point us to the hope found in Jesus.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY UPDATE!

First, we thank you again for your role in updating our Community Directory. We've had literally hundreds of individuals and families update their information and photos!



Second, we want to give an update on where we are with this important project. We are in the process of making sure all updated info and images are uploaded correctly to our directory service. We are targeting this month to release our first draft of the new directory online, and then we will ask you to double-check your information. After that proofing step is taken, we will proceed with finalizing the online version of the directory, as well as mobile app and printed versions. The end result will be a more data-safe directory available in three formats: online, app, and in print. Thank you again for your help and understanding throughout this process! If you have any questions, contact Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-434-3496).

CREATION CARE



The end of daylight savings time means the lights are on longer; replace your incandescent bulbs now and you'll benefit from the energy savings all winter long. CFLs use 75% less energy, last up to 10 times longer, and can save approximately \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb.

MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Choirs are open to all, even if you haven't participated in the past. If interested, contact Interim Music Minister Linlin Uta for more information (uta@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-434-3496).

Adult Choirs

Celebration Singers

Tuesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Sanctuary Choir

Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Children's Choirs

Cherub Choir (age 4 - grade 2)

Sundays, 12:15 – 12:45 pm

Youth Ensemble (grades 3 – 9)

Sundays, 12:15 – 12:45 pm

Handbell Choir

Gloria Dei Ringers

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Led by Handbell Director Kath Wissinger. Rehearsals will take place in the Sanctuary.

Youth Ensemble Rehearsals

Rehearsals are Sundays at 12:15 pm. The ensemble will present musical offerings in worship on December 10 and Christmas Eve.

Cherub Choir Rehearsals

Begin Next Sunday, November 12

Children ages 4 - 2nd grade are welcome to join Rachel Peters at 12:15 pm in the Choir Room! The Cherubs will sing in worship December 10 and Christmas Eve. Feel free to email Rachel (rgpeters9@gmail.com) with any questions! We hope to see you there!

YOUTH NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

LOCK-IN

November 11-12

9th to 12th graders are invited to join us for a Youth Group Lock-In at the church! In



classic Lock-In style, we'll stay overnight at the church and have time for fellowship, growing closer, sharing meals, playing games, and wrapping it up by worshipping together. You are welcome to bring friends! The event begins Saturday at 4:00 pm and concludes after worship together at 8:30 Sunday morning. Let Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org) know if you're planning to attend or have any questions!

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:

The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-6) contains many of Jesus' most important teachings. How do these teachings challenge you to live a life that reflects God's kingdom? In what ways can you actively apply the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount in your daily interactions and decisions?

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

Valley Interfaith Action is conducting a transportation feasibility study as the next step to obtaining door-to-door, demand response transit service in Rockingham County. On demand, door-to-door transit would allow those living outside of regular transit lines to get to work, go shopping, attend church on Sunday, etc. Please complete the very short survey online at the link below or look for a paper survey at the Connection Center. **Surveys must be completed by TOMORROW (11/6).** Your help is greatly appreciated.

<https://form.jotform.com/232815651753055>

To learn more about Valley Interfaith Action go to their website at viavirginia.org.

SECOND HOME

THANKSGIVING MEAL DONATIONS



Second Home's annual family Thanksgiving meal will be Thursday, November 16. In the past, this dinner served around 150 people, including students and their families.

We are looking for donations of turkey and ham. Do you have any points for a free turkey that you will not be using? We would love to take them. Or maybe you would be willing to donate cash towards the cost? We can do the shopping!

*If you are able to donate toward this event, please contact Leeanne Shepherd (lshepherd@secondhome1c.org or 540-432-7989) by **Monday, November 13.** Thank you for helping us make the holidays brighter for our families.*

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. To share joy, thanks, or concern, contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org).

✙ We are delighted to share that we are expecting to welcome a baby girl to our family in March! Mom and baby girl are doing great so far, and dad is excited to give up sleep for Lent! We welcome your prayers for a safe and healthy journey to becoming a family of three, and appreciate all the well wishes so far!

+Pastor Alex & Renna

✙ With great joy, we thank the Comfort Makers for new lights in Wayland Hall. Seeing that the lights weren't emitting good enough light for their work, they volunteered to arrange for the work to be quoted and installed. Now Wayland Hall shines brighter than ever!



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)
Like us at facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran.

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.

TRUNK OR TREAT

What a spook-tacular time we had at this year's "Trunk or Treat"! There were so many amazing trunk decorations, games, treats, and costumes - and congratulations to the Copeland family on taking home the "Trunk Cup!" With games, laughs, and candy for all, this was a huge success thanks to Children's Minister Ashley Saunders and our tireless volunteers. Thank you to all who made this happen and to all the wonderful kids and families who came out for the fun!



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

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

10/22	8:30 Holy Communion	54
	11:00 Holy Communion	80
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	35
	Total Views this Week	148
	Hours Viewed this Week	47.3
10/29	8:30 Holy Communion	63
	11:00 Holy Communion	105
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	35

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Great news, gifts and offerings are more than last year at this time! However, we are still tracking less than projected and with expenses tracking as we anticipated, we continue to see a deficit. As we move into the final few months of the year, please consider how you might invest in the ministries of Muhlenberg.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2023

	2023 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Budgeted	2022 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$398,101	\$475,500	\$384,172
Total Income	\$552,953	\$617,832	\$490,717
Total Expenses	\$608,768	\$617,793	\$463,965
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(55,815)	\$39	\$26,752

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$	3,316.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	20.00
Total Giving	\$	3,336.00

Sept. Thrivent Choice Dollars - \$13

To give online, scan here ➔



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 6 - 12, 2023

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

Mon	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting
	7:00 pm	Ministries Night
Tues	6:00 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed	10:30 am	Bible Study via ZOOM
	6:00 pm	LCM Dinner
	6:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	8:00 am	Comfort Makers
Sun	Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Faith Formation in person & via ZOOM
	9:45 am	Christmas Pageant Practice
	11:00 am	Holy Communion in person & Livestreamed via Facebook and YouTube
	12:15 pm	Cherub Choir Rehearsal
	12:15 pm	Youth Ensemble Rehearsal



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

Arlene Blaskowski

Boroka Boisen

Paul Boisen and Krisztina Szekely

*Matthew, Chelsey, Benjamin, and
Georgia Bollinger*

Bo Bowers

*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).*