



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

November 12, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION OR SPENDING PLAN?

Visit the Gathering Area after Services

Constitution Task Force members Cathy Copeland, Brad Moyers and Pastor Lauren will be available in the Gathering Area **TODAY** after both services to receive comments and answer any questions you have about updating the Muhlenberg Constitution.

Treasurer Sarah Sunde will also be available in the Gathering Area to discuss any questions about the proposed 2024 Spending Plan.

We will vote on the updated Constitution and the 2024 Spending Plan next Sunday at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

DEADLINES FOR *THE CHIMES*

Due to staff vacations and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, deadlines for submitting articles for *The Chimes* will be **12 noon** as follows:

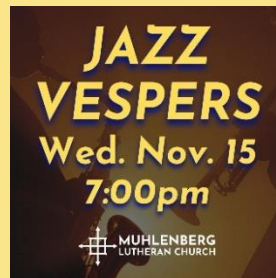
Tuesday, November 14 for the Nov. 19 issue

Monday, November 20 for the Nov. 26 issue

Don't Miss Muhlenberg's Jazz Vespers

THIS Wednesday (11/15), 7:00 pm

Join us and invite your friends for a very special evening prayer service this **Wed., 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!



TODAY'S WORSHIP INFO

PRELUDE ~ *Prelude* (Charles Camille Saint-saens)

OFFERING

8:30 *Dona Nobis Pacem* (arr. Barbara Wallace)

11:00 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
(Charles Gounod)

POSTLUDE ~ *Toccata festivo* (Dennis Janzer)

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

CRUCIFERS

8:30 ~ Oris Griffin

11:00 ~ Sue Koch

LECTORS

8:30 ~ Crystl Whitmire

11:00 ~ Mark Warner

LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS

8:30 ~ Larry Blade

11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong

SOUND TECHS

8:30 ~ Tom Pippert

11:00 ~ Todd Hedinger

USHERS

8:30 ~ Bob Neumann, Jeannette Norfleet

11:00 ~ Kristee Trumbo, Caroline Leopard

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:30 ~ Jim Doyle, Bill & Crystl Whitmire,
Oris Griffin

11:00 ~ Mark Warner, John Mulder
Greta Willis, Sue Koch

MUSICIANS

Linlin Uta, Interim Music Minister

Celebration Singers (8:30)

Sanctuary Choir (11:00)

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*

Faithful Families ~ *Gathering Area*

40-Day Journey Adult Class ~ *Nielsen Room*

Faith Lens Adult Class ~ *Kairos Room*

To attend virtually, use this Zoom Link:

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICES

Practices for our Christmas Pageant **have begun and will 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.

YOUNG ADULT LUNCH AND BIBLE STUDY TODAY (11/12), 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 lunch, or feel free to order and have something delivered to the church! Coffee and tea will be provided. Please join us and 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).

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays, 10:30 am

Join Pastor Lauren **each Wednesday** for Bible study via **Zoom**:

<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

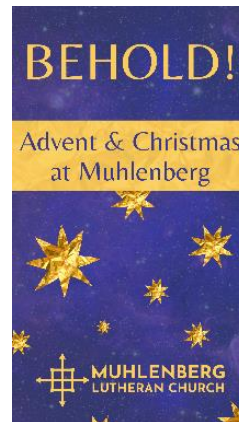
We will gather for dinner **THIS Wednesday, 6:00 pm** here in the Campus Room (downstairs). For more information, contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-309-2414).

COMFORT MAKERS

Thursdays, 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

Join us in Wayland Hall anytime between 8:00 am - 12:00 noon. For more information, contact Linda Morrison (lindamm778@gmail.com or 540-383-5085).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SEASON

Staff is busy preparing for a full Advent and Christmas season of worship, devotions, reflection and fellowship. Please watch for a newsletter with details coming to you soon.

ADVENT-URE SUNDAY Sunday, December 3, 9:45 am



Join us for a cozy brunch and Advent-themed art for all ages. There will also be Advent wreath making and an opportunity to learn about and make Chrismons. You won't want to miss it!

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](#)!

HYBRID ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be **NEXT 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 **TODAY (11/12)**.

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

NEXT 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 **NEXT 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 for Congregation Council and Trustee.

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 Berpton, 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

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 our 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 TIP

Your refrigerator and freezer are responsible for about one-sixth of the energy use in your home, more than any other single household appliance. You can help your freezer run more efficiently by keeping it full. The more frozen items in your freezer, the less space there is to trap warm air when the door is opened.



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 (uta@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-434-3496).

Adult Choirs

Celebration Singers ~ Tuesdays, 6:00 pm

Sanctuary Choir ~ Wednesdays, 6:00 pm

Handbell Choir

Gloria Dei Ringers ~ Tuesdays, 7:00 pm

Led by Handbell Director Kath Wissinger.

Rehearsals take place in the Sanctuary.

Youth Ensemble Rehearsals

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

Cherub Choir Rehearsals

Begin TODAY (11/12) at 12:15 pm

Children ages 4 - 2nd grade are invited to join Rachel Peters in the Choir Room! Cherubs will sing in worship December 10 and Christmas Eve. Email Rachel (rgpeters9@gmail.com) with any questions!

It's not too late to join the Children's Choir or Youth Ensemble!

LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSION

COAT DRIVE

Our friends at Church World Service (CWS) are holding a coat drive for the next several weeks. For many refugees, this will be the first winter they experience, and they are unprepared for the cold weather. Our support will greatly lessen the impact and stress for our newly arrived neighbors. CWS is hoping to end the drive and distribute the coats the first week of December. Please bring new or gently used coats to the church and place in the donation bin **by Sunday, December 3**. Any financial contributions would also be greatly appreciated. Here are the ways you donate:

- Online at <https://cwsharrisonburg.org/donate>
- In person at 250 E Elizabeth St Suite 102

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

✠ Wow! We collected 66 cartons of chicken broth and 102 packages of cornbread mix that will help local families celebrate fall. Our donations exceeded the goal, and Patchwork Pantry appreciates our contributions! The November collection total was 224 pounds.

REMINDER

TRINITY CLOTHES CLOSET

We help support the Trinity Presbyterian Clothes Closet by volunteering the **fourth Wednesday each month from 6:15 - 7:30 pm** to assist community members selecting clothing. Clothing is available in all sizes without any charge. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sandy Randolph (540-820-9654 or cerprek@gmail.com). If you are not able to commit monthly but would be willing to help on an as needed basis (maybe once or twice a year), your time would be greatly appreciated!

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:

In his explanation of the 3rd Article of the Creed, Luther has the following to say about the Spirit. What does this mean to you? *"I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy, and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins--mine and those of all believers."*

CONNECTION 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.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

It was a moving and joyful All Saints Sunday, as we gathered in fellowship and worship, remembering and honoring those saints who have touched our lives. A special thanks to our guest organist, Elizabeth Williams, as well as to all of our volunteer musicians for making a joyous sound! And a big thank you to our Fellowship Team and everyone who made the day so special.



The bell tolled after the name of each member who died last year was read.



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

RECENT ATTENDANCE

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

10/29	8:30 Holy Communion	63
	11:00 Holy Communion	105
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	35
	Total Views this Week	208
	Hours Viewed this Week	63.4
11/05	8:30 Holy Communion	77
	11:00 Holy Communion	92
	11:00 Wellstream Worshippers.....	30

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

We see an increase in gifts and offerings compared to this time last year. I am hopeful this continues through the end of the year. Expenses are slightly down compared to where we expected them to be. I am hopeful gifts and offerings will continue the upward trend so that we can end the year balanced.

Sarah A. Sunde, Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through October 2023

	2023 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Budgeted	2022 YTD Actual
Gifts & Offerings	\$454,353	\$528,333	\$423,392
Total Income	\$620,115	\$686,480	\$542,676
Total Expenses	\$668,716	\$688,392	\$529,576
Excess Income/(Deficit)	\$(48,601)	\$(1,912)	\$13,100

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 13,303.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,286.00
Total Giving	\$ 14,589.00

To give online, scan here ➡



WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 13 - 19, 2023

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

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
	7:00 pm	Jazz Vespers
Thurs	8:00 am	Comfort Makers
Sun	Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	
	8:30 am	Holy Communion in person
	9:45 am	Congregational Meeting
	9:45 am	Faith Formation (ages Pre-K-5th Gr.)
	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:

Brenda Branner

Mark and Pam Briehl

Tony and Lori Britt

Gladys Brown

Trent Brumback

*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).*

SENDING HYMN

By Grace We Have Been Saved



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the
3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,
still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,
nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



young or old, just lis - ten to the song.
pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.
there is hope, and love will take you home.