

St. Paul's News

September 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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HENRY MELCHIOR MUHLENBERG



Pastor Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was born in Einbeck, Germany on September 6, 1711, the seventh of nine children. He graduated from Gottingen University and studied also at Halle, serving as schoolmaster. Halle was the center for Pietism under August Hermann Francke who sent him to the new world.

Pastor Muhlenberg came to the colonies in 1742. A tireless traveler, he helped to establish many Lutheran congregations and was the guiding force behind the first American Lutheran synod, the Ministerium of Pennsylvania in 1787. At this synod in Philadelphia, PA, he submitted a liturgy which was ratified and remained the only authorized American Lutheran liturgy for 40 years. He valued the role of music in Lutheran worship (often serving as his own organist)

Muhlenberg preached in German, Dutch and English and it was reported with a powerful voice. During his ministry, he kept a journal of his travels and service,

remembering that Pennsylvania was practically the frontier in those days. He established the shape of Lutheran parishes for America during a 45-year ministry in Pennsylvania.

Pastor Henry Melchior Muhlenberg is remembered as a church leader, a journalist, a liturgist, and—above all—a pastor to the congregation in his charge.

Muhlenberg died on October 7, 1787, in Trappe, Pennsylvania, leaving behind a lasting heritage: American Lutheranism. The inscription on his grave reads, in Latin, "Who and what he was, future ages will know without a stone." [Sources used for this article are available by request.]

CATECHISM

Parents of students who are in the 8th grade (or older), who have not been confirmed (that is, not completed a catechetical program and publicly affirmed their faith), are invited to contact Pastor Mike as soon as possible.

During our catechetical (or confirmation program), young people and their parents (or guardians) will be expected to worship regularly, actively take part in the life of the congregation, and share in this important process together as a family.

STEWARDSHIP in CREATION **WHAT AN INCREDIBLE BLESSING!**

Being a first attempt to do a benefit concert, there were visions and revisions and of course, nerves! In faith, I knew God would provide us with what was needed. Yet, the miracle was in witnessing all of it coming together, sometimes at the very last minute. The team effort is so appreciated: Jessica and media, Karen Travor's financial guidance, WELCA and amazing treats, musicians, the loan of Sarah's acrylic sign holders, Robin Zimmerman managing the crowds at the door, all the generosity of donors, our "soda jerks" Bill and Rob. And of course, for Peggy Hentz and Gabby (so handsome!) sharing their time and ambassadorship. There was beautiful music, and some good laughs.

All in all, we were able to donate \$1,286 plus donations given after the concert, grand total \$1,501 to Red Creek Wildlife Center, (and that will be matched) as we strive to help bring restoration where humans have unwittingly brought harm, or animals have suffered by sheer accident, and you as stewards of this blessing have reached out marvelously! All done for the Glory of God. Looking forward, August 4, 2024, is a target date for Jump for Joy II!

We will still offer the opportunity for donations of materials for Red Creek throughout September, for our St. Francis Day celebration. A box for donations is in the narthex. Your generosity in August has been huge, please give as you are able or if you did not have the opportunity to attend the concert.

Requested donations include:

Everyday needs: Bleach (any brand), Dawn dishwashing detergent, Simple Green Cleaner, Large and Kitchen size trash bags, vinegar type window cleaner, paper towels, unscented facial tissues.

General needs: gallon size Ziploc bags, batteries (AAA, AA C, D) heavy duty extension cords, heating pads, 2-quart pitchers, light bulbs (40W-100 W, and 4' fluorescent bulbs.

WALKING TO BETHLEHEM

If St. Paul's were on their own doing this, we would have just cleared the Straits of Gibraltar at a week behind schedule, but as one third of a team, we have landed at Jesus' birthplace. Let's not be the "hare" sitting idly by – let's keep going!!! Remember to go to Heritage Day on the 9th to turn in your miles for the whole event! Tina Butler and/or Kristin Durkee will be the reps for St. Paul's on that day!

THURSDAY "STiC" WALKS

On your own September 1 and 8, wherever you want. This is a great chance to get in extra miles for Walking to Bethlehem.

Sept. 15 - Landingville at 10 a.m.

Sept. 22 - Auburn at 10 a.m.

Sept. 29 - Tumbling Run 10 a.m.

AUTUMN STROLL

The Schuylkill County Conservancy is hosting a table at the Autumn Stroll in Minersville on October 20, and we would like to offer a craft using small, pressed leaves. They must be able to fit inside a CD case. If anyone would like to press leaves (any color) for us, that would be wonderful! There will be a collection spot in the Gathering Room!

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

EVERYONE, young and old, is invited to participate in the annual church picnic on Sunday, September 24, following the 10:30 am service at our church.

Bring your lawn chair and a covered dish to Albright's Woods Park. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided by the Evangelism Committee. Donations for BINGO prizes will be appreciated.

A signup sheet is in the gathering room. Please sign up by Friday, September 22, so we can provide enough hot dogs and beverages for everyone.

Hope to see you at the picnic!!!!

WELCA

St. Paul's women have been invited to gather at the home of Cindy Ritschel, 618 Hope Ave., Orwigsburg for a picnic/pool party. The event will begin at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 12. Bring a box lunch for yourself; a beverage and dessert will be provided. You can also bring a swimsuit if you want to enjoy the warm water. A sign-up sheet is on the table beneath the WELCA bulletin board.

Your September In-Gathering designated for the Orwigsburg Historical Society "red barn" appeal will be received at the picnic.

A special thanks to the women who provided refreshments and/or time to the Jump for Joy Concert.

Regrettably, none of St. Paul's women decided to attend the Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ. We appreciate Council's offer for financial support. The two prepaid registrations held for the past six years have been offered to the Northeastern PA Synod for their use.

It's time again to put our talents together to knit, crochet or shop for the hats/scarves for the Seamans' International project. A box will be in the narthex in October.

ANNUAL SERVICE MINISTRY BAZAAR

Our Service Ministry will host its Annual Bazaar on Saturday, October 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Reidler Hall. The event will feature lots of good food, a large Chinese auction of gift baskets, many local vendors and craft dealers showing and selling their wares, a variety of homemade candies and pies for purchase, and an opportunity to visit with your friends and neighbors. Proceeds from this event will benefit those in need in our community. Come, enjoy, and help us help those in need!

“REGULAR” WORSHIP RETURNS

Beginning on Sunday, September 10, we will return to our regular worship schedule. Services will be held on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be shared on the first Saturday of each month and at every Sunday service.

ADULT FORUM

A book entitled, PRAYER by Timothy Keller will be our basis for discussion during Adult Forum which will begin September 17, 2023, at 9:15 a.m. in the church parlor. Pastor Keller was born in Allentown, PA and earned a B.A. from Bucknell University.

Please notify Barbara Lafko by email bjlafko@yahoo.com or call 570-366-1208 or the church office if you are joining the group so that Barbara can give you the book.

REMEMBERED WITH LOVE

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the friends and family of the late Robert L. Schuld of Orwigsburg, PA, who left this world on Saturday, August 4, 2023.

Let us take comfort that one day our loving God will gather all his people together in a joy which will never end.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Visit with the Crafters' Guild and the Evangelism Committee on "Heritage Day," Saturday, September 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate our town's past, enjoy its present, and anticipate its future. All day fun, food & entertainment for all ages.

GWOH SUNDAY

“God’s Work. Our Hands,” Sunday is set for September 10, 2023. During our 10:30 a.m. service we will dedicate our donations to those in need in Schuylkill and the surrounding counties served by “Servants to All – My Father’s house” located in Pottsville, PA. Jeanette Triano Sinn, Executive Director of “Servants to All,” is expected to join us for this special event.

REHEARSALS RETURNS

Our Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room. Our Bell Choir will begin their rehearsals on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m. New members are welcome!

SHARE YOUR INFORMATION WITH US!

The Evangelism Committee would like to continue sending cards to lift the spirits of those members who cannot join us for worship, college students, and military personnel. Please call Connie Teter (at 570-366-0255) or contact any member of the Evangelism Committee with new names and addresses as well as any changes of address.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

1. The Finance Committee will now be performing an internal audit of the treasurer's records every year, and every four years an external audit of records will be done by a third party.
2. Since no one at our church signed up to attend the WELCA Gathering in Arizona, WELCA has graciously passed their pre-paid registration tickets on to the Synod.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome to the start of another school year!! Sunday School will be starting back up every second Sunday of the month, starting on September 10th during the 10:30 service. This program is offered for students ages one through ten.

Below is a list of Sunday School dates for this school year.

September 10	January 14
October 8	February 11
November 12	March 10
December 10	April 14
	May 12

New for this year

Every Second Sunday of the month (same schedule as above) students ages 11 to 18 are invited to join me between the services (9:15 - 10:15 a.m.) for a teen Sunday School group.

Thank you for your continued support of the Sunday School program!

Sarah Eger - 570-394-3522 (cell)
swoodring86@hotmail.com

HARVEST HOME

This year our Harvest Home will be held on the weekend of October 14 & 15. Please bring your nonperishable food to the church beginning Sunday, October 1. A box will be provided in our narthex for your donations. Let us share with those in need!

MUSIC DEDICATIONS

Friends, due to gaining choir members and rising music costs per octavo, we are raising the cost of a memorial anthem to \$70; the price of a bell piece is \$60. We are now buying 25 choral anthems instead of 22! Thank you for your understanding.

The Worship and Music Committee

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jody Mills, Ethan Hartman
- 3 Corey Huntzinger, William Heydt
- 4 Melissa Wilson, Marcy Hinnershitz,
Jack McKivigan
- 6 Dale Keener, David Kaiser, Samantha
Ludwig, Trisha Teter, Corey Krause,
Karissa Elser
- 7 Keri Ferrar, Mitchell Myers
- 8 Kamerin Hine
- 9 Allen Mickalonis
- 10 Justin Ege
- 11 Miah Hinnershitz
- 13 George Henry, Jr, Riley Kurau
- 14 Brian Murphy
- 15 Richard Murphy, Pamela Meisner
- 17 Robert Otstott
- 18 Scott Wolfe
- 19 Ashley Otstott, Bryce Shappell
- 21 Austin Correll
- 22 Tyler Sincavage
- 23 Danika Bolinsky, Tess Spitler
- 24 Rusty Cunningham
- 28 Nicole Just, Jonathan Dahl,
Eric Zimmerman, Jarrett Elser
- 29 Alexander Miller
- 30 Robert Wagner

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Jennifer & Matthew Patterson
- 7 Susan & Bernie Bosak
- 10 Shelby & Nevin Zehner
- 12 Fern & Rodney Houser
- 15 Beth & Doug Webber
- 16 Karen & Doug Travor
- 17 Lori & Bill Elser
- 18 Barbara & Jim Kaunas
- 24 Patty & Joe Marcusky
- 28 Jane & John Ege II
- 30 Loretta & Ivan Leymeister

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.
Ezekiel 36:26

SEPTEMBER FLOWERS

September 3

Altar: OPEN
Chancel: OPEN

September 10

Altar: OPEN
Chancel: OPEN

September 17

Altar: In loving memory of father and grandfather, Ralph A. Reibie, on his birthday, today, by Sue, Kurt, and Juli Schenck
Chancel: OPEN

September 24

Altar: In loving memory of Carl Long by Christine and Dr. Kevin Long
Chancel: OPEN

SEPTEMBER BULLETINS

September 3: In honor of Samantha Brady's birthday (Sept. 6) by her Grandmother, Fern Moyer.

September 10: OPEN

September 17: OPEN

September 24: OPEN

SOCIAL MEDIA NEWS

In connection with our commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, we will hold our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service at Albright's Woods Pavilion on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 p.m. This event is rain or shine.

All friendly leashed (or housed) animals, who slither, crawl, hop, walk, swim, or fly, are welcome to participate in this outdoor event. Let us give thanks to God for every living thing!



SEPTEMBER 2023

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUMMER SCHEDULE

ENDS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 ~ 9:30 A.M.

GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; **USHER:** Barb Sterner; **LECTOR:** Sarah Eger

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Chris Long

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich

COUNTERS: Tom Wehr, Gwen Wehr, and Glenda Bright

FALL SCHEDULE BEGINS

SUNDAY ~ 8:00 A.M.

	<u>SEPTEMBER 10</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 17</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 24</u>
GREETER	Krista Harding	Krista Harding	Krista Harding
LECTOR	Connie Teter	Amy Dewald	Kay Weidensaul
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Connie Teter	Amy Dewald	Kay Weidensaul

SUNDAY ~ 10:30 A.M.

	<u>SEPTEMBER 10</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 17</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 24</u>
GREETER	Greg Sklar	Deb Bolinsky	Greg Sklar
USHER	Wendy Schuld	Glenda Bright	Sue Reier
LECTOR	Jim Emerich	Jason Swick	Elinda Lado
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Tina Butler	Doug Travor	Sue Reier
ALTAR GUILD	Kathy Miller Connie Teter	Kathy Miller Connie Teter	Joanne Emerich Gwen Wehr
COUNTERS	Rosalie Wingle Marlene Eidam Diane Brobst	Joyce O'Rourke Pat Davis Gloria Dierwechter	Connie Teter Joanne Emerich Barb Sterner

REBATES FROM BOYER'S FOOD MARKETS

St. Paul's will earn a rebate of 1% of your grocery shopping bill if you participate in Boyer's Rebate Program.

On the gathering room table under the bulletin board, you will find a mug of scannable keychain cards. Take one, shop at Boyer's Food

Market, and present it to a cashier while your items are being scanned. That's it. Boyer's will rebate 1% of your total purchases (excluding tax, milk, and cigarettes) and send us a check twice every year.

If you haven't done so already, pick up a scannable Boyer's Food Market keychain card today! Shop and donate to St. Paul's!

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 p.m.
3 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	4 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY Church Office Closed	5 Evangelism 6:30 a.m.	6 Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	7	8	9 Heritage Day! 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m.
10 "GWOH" Sunday Worship with Holy Communion at 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Begins!	11 Service Ministry 6:00 p.m. Council 7 p.m.	12 WELCA Picnic/Pool Party at Ritschel Home 12 Noon	13 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	14	15 STiC Walk in Landingville 10:00 a.m.	16 Worship 5:30 p.m.
17 Worship with Holy Communion at 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.	18	19 Rainbow Friends 10 a.m.	20 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	21	22 STiC Walk in Auburn 10:00 a.m.	23 Worship 5:30 p.m.
24 Worship with Holy Communion at 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. Annual Church Picnic at Albright's Woods Pavilion.	25	26	27 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	28	29 STiC Walk in Tumbling Run 10:00 a.m.	30 Worship 5:30 p.m.

Reverend Michael T. Petresky 570-366-2316 - Ext 11 pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director 570-573-4076 justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff 570-366-2316 office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton 484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer 570-366-8757 karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary 570-617-9617 cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager 936-648-6809 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTERS ARE AVAILABLE

If you or someone you know has difficulty reading our newsletter and would like to receive a large print version, please contact Pastor Mike, Amy, or our church office.

SEPTEMBER 2023

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 156
ORWIGSBURG, PA 17961**

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." SUNDAY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, AT 10:30 A.M.
ANNUAL PICNIC AT ALBRIGHT'S WOODS PAVILION ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24,
FOLLOWING 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE AT THE CHURCH.**

WATCH US ON YOUTUBE. VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE. FIND US ON FACEBOOK.