



# The CHIMES

**MUHLENBERG: A WELLSPRING OF GRACE**

*Muhlenberg Lutheran Church strives to be a Wellspring of God's Grace in Jesus Christ.*

*Open ✚ Authentic ✚ Relational ✚ Serving*

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**January 14, 2018**

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

### WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

#### FROM THE

#### CALL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Greetings all. We want to provide you with an update on our progress. We have completed the Ministry Site Profile and will submit it to Council requesting approval at their January 16 meeting. The Ministry Site Profile is a comprehensive document (essentially a robust job ad) that contains demographic information, mission and goals, church priorities, information about Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, and much more. Your survey responses were very helpful in crafting our document. Thank you.

Once the profile has been approved by Council, we will forward it to the Synod. It will then be used to start identifying candidates. Thank you for your support, prayers and patience. Calling a new pastor is one of the most important things we do as a congregation, and I can assure you that my wonderful Call Committee colleagues and I take our charge seriously and deliberately – accompanied with a big dose of prayer for guidance and discernment. The future is very bright at Muhlenberg. *Mark Warner*

### TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

## WE DID IT!

We ended 2017 in the black.

Many thanks to all who gave.

*See details p. 2*

### LAY ASSISTING MINISTER TRAINING

If you are currently serving or interested in this ministry, please join us for a training session **TODAY at 12:15** in the sanctuary. *Contact either Pastor Mark or Pastor Paul for details.*

### WELCOME GUESTS

*We are blessed to welcome our guests today. We have a gift waiting for you at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Area (main church entrance) and ask that you complete a blue guest card and/or sign our guest register. If you prefer, you may scan this QR code or visit us at [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org) to securely register online.*



## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

### SIGN UP FOR OPEN DOORS



Muhlenberg will host Open Doors at Blessed Sacrament the week of February 5-12. Open Doors is an organization designed to help those most in need of

shelter in our community. Their main focus is to provide a place of last resort for those who have nowhere else to go in our community.

The shelter is open from November to April and hosted by a different faith community in the Harrisonburg/ Rockingham County area each week. There are 40 beds available to anyone age 18 or older who is in need.

Volunteers needed - SIGN UP TODAY! Volunteer roles range in responsibility from dropping off breakfast items to preparing dinner to staying overnight.

Please visit us at the table in the Gathering Area to sign up or to talk to experienced volunteers about their participation! If you are interested in serving or have questions about volunteer opportunities, contact Jess Weimerskirch ([jessicaweimerskirch@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaweimerskirch@gmail.com) or 540-333-1938).

### FINAL 2017 DEPOSIT

Offerings designated for 2017 received through January 7, 2018.

Giving in support of our Spending Plan:	\$	34,961.94
Giving to Other Designated Funds:	\$	<u>2,550.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>37,511.94</b>

## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	52	Wed. noon	9
9:30 Worship	60		
11:00 Worship	<u>126</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>		

### MINISTRY OF THE WEEK: STEWARDSHIP

*This space features one committee/ministry team each week. Highlights are provided so we become more familiar with their work.*

**Commit intentionally** means making a statement about your intent and following through. Join the hundreds of volunteers and givers that make Muhlenberg what it is. Remember 2 Corinthians 9:5, "...arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised."

For more information, contact Dennis Baugh ([dennisbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:dennisbaugh@gmail.com) or 540-705-0520).

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through December 2017			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$789,569	\$857,675	\$782,666
Total Receipts	\$881,199	\$951,603	\$869,755
Expenses	\$842,012	\$951,603	\$850,361
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>\$39,187</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$19,394</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan:	\$	7,696.20
Giving to Other Designated Funds:	\$	<u>5,111.81</u>
<b>Total Giving for the Week</b>	\$	<b>12,808.01</b>

*See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.*

To give online, scan here →



## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

The church office will be closed tomorrow, **January 15** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

### GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST (55+)



Go-Go  
Group

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the Go-Go Group at Thomas House in Dayton **THIS**

**Tuesday, January 16, 8:30 am.** Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information about the group and its activities.

### COMFORT MAKERS

Meet **THIS Thursdays through March 22, 8:00 – noon** in Wayland Hall. Wear comfortable shoes and come as soon as you can. Contact Katie Ray (574-3824) for more information.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

Are you in our latest pictorial directory? If not, come to the lower level of the Gathering Area **NEXT Sunday, 9 - 11 am.** We'll take your picture and collect your contact info all in about 5 minutes.

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### PEOPLE'S DAY MARCH & PROGRAM

**Monday, January 15** will be the fifth annual celebration of the naming of Martin Luther King, Jr. Way (formerly Cantrell Avenue). The People's March will begin at **11:00 am.** A presentation will follow at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. For details visit <http://www.jmu.edu/events/multicultural/2018/15-mlk-coalition.shtml>

## VISITOR & NEW MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

### “COME AND SEE” LUNCH AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBER LUNCH & ORIENTATION

Have you been visiting Muhlenberg? Are you considering membership? Are you curious or just want to learn more about us? We invite you to explore with us what it means to be a Christian, a Lutheran, a follower of Jesus and a member of the Muhlenberg family. We will meet after worship for a “Come and See” **Lunch NEXT Sunday, January 21 at 12:15 pm** in Wayland Hall (downstairs). This will be an informal time to ask questions and make connections over pizza and dessert.

Then, if you're interested in pursuing membership (or if you've recently joined and haven't attended an orientation), we invite you to meet with us for a **Prospective Member Lunch and Orientation, Sunday, Feb. 11, 12:15 – 2:30 pm** in Wayland Hall. We'll discuss more in depth the mission and ministries of Muhlenberg and how you can be part of the life of this congregation as a member or associate member.

New members will be received Sunday, February 25 during the 11:00 service, followed by a reception.

If you are interested, please sign up at the welcome desk or in the activities notebook at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. You may also talk with Kathy Thompson, Chair of the Evangelism Team ([thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu) / 540-578-4830), Parish Administrator Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) / 434-3496), or the pastors for more information.

*You are invited to a ...*

# Congregational Meeting

*Sunday, January 28*

*beginning at 12:15 in the MAC*

## **Annual Meeting Agenda:**

- + Review 2017 Year-End Reports
- + Recognize Outgoing Council Members
- + Elect Nominating Committee
- + New Business



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## POTLUCK LUNCH

Winter is here and it's cold outside! Why not come to the Potluck Luncheon prior to the Annual Meeting January 28 and have a bowl of chili to warm up. Following lunch, we will have the January Annual Congregational Meeting. We need help for the luncheon and ask each family to bring a dish to share if they are able. Some ideas are listed below:

### Last Names Start with

A – J

K – P

Q – S

T – Z

### Category of Food

Pot of Chili

Salads

Cornbread, Rolls or Crackers

Cake or Cupcakes

We have something different planned for this January meeting. For dessert, we are celebrating *EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY*. We will have a monthly birthday cake/cupcakes (January, February, etc.) on every table for those sitting at that table to enjoy. Let's celebrate everyone's birthday together! *Please contact Mabelle Rader at 540-820-4784 or [raderpm@jmu.edu](mailto:raderpm@jmu.edu) if you can bring a cake or cupcakes so we can make sure each table is ready!*

Additionally, we will need folks who are willing to help with different duties:

**Set-Up – from 10:30 on**

**Dish Washing**

**Clean-up**

We hope everyone is as excited to participate and enjoy this event as we are!

Thanks in advance for your help!

*The Fellowship Committee*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### 2018 DAY FOR ALL PEOPLE

**January 23, 2018, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm** at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. Register online – deadline is January 14. We'll meet for a day of fellowship, education and advocacy. The morning will include a welcome address and policy briefings, after which we will meet with our Senators and Delegates. We will meet at the church to carpool. *Contact Diane Bayer (434-3496) with any questions.*

### ENGLISH/SPANISH SERVICE

Epiphany is a season during which we rejoice in the spread of the gospel around the globe. Our **January 28** worship services will feature music and hymns (in translation) from the Spanish-speaking world. Congregational participation will be in English, with some bilingual options for those who speak Spanish.

Why are we doing this? Glad you asked! For several reasons. We celebrate:

- our unity with Hispanic sisters and brothers in the faith;
- the vitality of the Latin American church;
- Muhlenberg's first-ever mission trip to Nicaragua in February.

**Join us January 28!**



### LENTEN ACTIVITIES

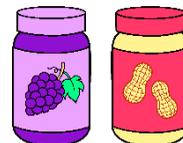
Watch *The Chimes* for details about activities and opportunities during Lent.

## SECOND HOME NEWS

### FOOD COLLECTION

A heartfelt thank you for all your food donations in 2017. Because of your donations, we were able to offer healthier snacks to our students. During the school year we have served over 100 snacks each morning and afternoon.

We will appreciate your continued help in providing healthy snacks to our students in the new year. Second Home food collection will take place the 3rd Sunday of each month. **NEXT Sunday, January 21 we will collect peanut butter and grape or strawberry jelly.** There will be a bin in the Gathering Area for your donations. Thank you.



### GARAGE SALE

Second Home is a social outreach ministry of Muhlenberg Lutheran Church. Our mission is to provide children with a safe place to learn and grow, to offer support that ensures academic success, while striving to have each child recognize their potential. We envision a community where all children are afforded the same opportunities to thrive, and barriers of poverty and difference are overcome.

As part of our fundraising efforts, we are preparing to hold a garage sale in the spring. Consider donating unwanted household items, gifts, decorations, toys, etc. All proceeds from the sale will benefit Second Home and enable us to offer an affordable and academically enriching program for our low-income students. Thank you for your support. *Contact Krisztina Szekely, 432-7089 for more information about the garage sale. Visit our website [secondhomeva.com](http://secondhomeva.com), follow us on Facebook or come and meet us at the MAC.*

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are always in need of all types of worship servants: lectors, ushers, acolytes, communion assistants/stewards, greeters, sound techs, etc.

Sign up for the month of **February** (including **Ash Wednesday**) in the notebook at the Connection Center! One-on-one training can be arranged – just indicate the training needed on the sign-up sheet or *contact Kathy Thompson* (578-4830 or [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)). Prefer to work behind the scenes? We have many opportunities – talk with Kathy to learn how you can serve.

If you prefer to sign up online, follow the path below from our website:

Worship + Community > Worship: What to Expect > Worship + Music Leadership

### 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](mailto:rsanders97@verizon.net).*

In most cases, natural products are almost always the greener option, but that's not the case when it comes to starting a fire. Artificial fire logs emit 75 percent less carbon monoxide and create 80 percent less particulate matter than real wood. The faux fireplace logs, giving off up to 15,190 BTU per pound, are more efficient at heating your home compared to oak which gives off 8,300 BTU per pound.



### NEW BUILDING USE CALENDAR

Our Building Use Calendar is undergoing some change in 2018! We are switching the host site to Google Calendars from the current Parish Calendar system. You can still find it on our website under Member Pages > Calendar. Mycah McNett has been running the calendar with support from Parish Administrator Linda Depoy since October and will continue to do so for now.

**Attention Committee Chairs and Ministry Leaders: Please check the Google calendar as soon as possible to ensure the information for your meetings/events have transferred to the new calendar.**

Have questions or need to reserve space for your meeting or event? *Contact [buildinguse@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:buildinguse@muhlenberglutheran.org) or leave a voicemail message at 434-3496.*

### RESERVING ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2018 chart is available in the sign-up book at the Connection Center. Reserve your special dates to remember or honor a loved one! 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. Thank you in advance for contributing to the worship experience.



### SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS

Are you on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter? Why not Like or Follow Muhlenberg? Get informative updates regularly throughout the week, photos, prayers, and inspirations/devotionals. It is also a great way to let your friends know about your church and our ministry. Find us on Facebook by searching for Muhlenberg Lutheran Church, or follow us on Instagram and Twitter at @MuhlenbergLC.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer  
(434-3496 or [bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org))  
for more information.

### SHARING GOD'S WORD

Classes begin in designated locations  
**Sundays at 9:30. Children should be picked  
up immediately** following the 9:30 liturgy.

Children's Church is held during the 11:00  
service for children 3-7 years old. After  
Children's Time with the pastors, children are  
escorted downstairs to the Nielsen Room.  
Children return to their parents in the sanctuary  
during the sharing of the Peace.

### ADULT CLASSES

Adults are invited to take part in one of these  
adult classes that meet downstairs:

- **No Experience Necessary:** *see details below.*
- **40-Day Journey:** Readings, Reflections &  
Spiritual Growth: an interactive class where  
Christian literature is read and discussed.  
Meets in the Kairos Room.
- **Christ-Coffee-Conversation-Connecting:** a  
discussion class to share and support one  
another as the *ELCA Social Statements* are  
studied. Meets in the Augsburg Room.

*Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from  
the Connection Center. It contains more infor-  
mation about classes for children and adults.*

### NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

If you haven't joined an adult class, this might  
be the Christian Formation opportunity for you.  
All are welcome!

Try a different kind of Bible study.  
Something light but meaningful. We call this  
small class *No Experience Necessary*. We  
meet in the library Sunday mornings at 9:30 to  
explore the Bible and learn how it is relevant in  
our everyday lives. Come as you are!

### ATTENTION 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

7<sup>th</sup> Day, the Synod youth event for all 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
graders, will be held **March 3-4** at Eagle Eyrie  
in Lynchburg. If you are interested in attending,  
please **contact Diane Bayer for a registration  
form or pick one up from the table outside  
her office.** You can also print one from the  
Synod website, [vasynod.org](http://vasynod.org) (under the Youth and  
Young Adults link, 7<sup>th</sup> Day). Here are some  
comments from others who have attended:

- *What a blast getting to meet kids from all  
over Virginia as we learned more about our  
faith. If you didn't go last year then you  
should go this year and see what you missed.*
- *7<sup>th</sup> Day weekend was a great experience! I  
didn't really know what to expect because I  
had never been to a retreat before, but after  
going to Eagle Eyrie I will definitely go back  
next year!*

**Registration forms and checks made out  
to Muhlenberg for half the registration fee  
(\$57.50) need to be returned to Diane no  
later than Sunday, January 28, in order for  
us to receive the Early Bird discount.**

### CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS

Special *busy bags* for children  
are available from ushers.

## JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

*This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. Please lift these up as a part of your daily prayers. To share joy, thanks, or concern (e.g. birth, illness, injury, or death of an immediate family member; thank-you and congratulatory notes, etc.) contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy at 434-3496 or [depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.*

✝ We offer sympathy to the family of Muhlenberg member Theresa Claire who died January 1.

## REMINDERS

### CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

**Reach our pastors at any time by calling the church office (434-3496).**

- During office hours, ask to speak with Linda Depoy. She has the pastors' schedules and can assist you.
- After hours leave a message on their voice mail and it will be immediately forwarded to their respective cell phones. They will respond as soon as possible.

### MISSED WORSHIP LAST WEEK?

If you miss worship one Sunday, chances are you feel a bit out of the loop. Extra copies of *The Chimes*, worship booklets, and sermons are available on the credenza in the administrative hallway. Stop by and catch up on what you've missed. Additionally, you can get sermons and *The Chimes* from our website:

[www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

### PRAYING OUR FAITH TOGETHER!

For individual and family use. Scripture citations taken from ELW's 3-Year Daily Lectionary, p. 1132-1143, (Year B).

**Mon. 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1      Thu. Rev. 18:11-20**  
**Tue. Acts 5:1-11        Fri. 2 Peter 3:1-7**  
**Wed. Luke 18: 15-17     Sat. Luke 10:13-16**  
**Sun. John 1:43-51**

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

January 15-21

**Mon. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
Church Office Closed  
6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.

**Tue. 8:30 am Go-Go Group Breakfast**  
6:30 pm Celebration Singers  
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers

**Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion**  
4:45 pm Cherub Choir  
5:15 pm SonShine Singers  
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

**Thurs. 8:00 am Comfort Makers**

**Sun. 8:00, 9:30 am & 11:00 Holy Communion**  
Second Home Food Collection  
9:30 am Christian Formation  
12:15 pm "Come and See" Lunch

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 Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496)).

Additionally, requests to utilize space in the Gathering Area on Sunday or post information at the Connection Center should be made to Linda as soon as planned, but no later than Thursdays at 8 am.

Check bulletin boards for community information.

Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).