



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 27, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

✠ INSTALLATION OF PASTOR LAUREN

Please join us **Sunday, February 10 at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary** as we celebrate the formal installation of Pastor Lauren Miller at Muhlenberg! Pastor Rob McCarty, Dean of the Southern Valley Conference of the Virginia Synod, will preside. In celebration of Pastor Lauren's installation, we invite you to enjoy light refreshments and fellowship in the Gathering Area following the service.

✠ PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER LUNCH

Join Pastor Lauren and Evangelism Committee members for a lunch/orientation **February 10**. See p. 4 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 to securely register online visit us at www.muhlenberglutheran.org.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

PHOTO DIRECTORY UPDATE

We have updated the church's pictorial directory. For those who signed up, copies are available **TODAY**. There is no charge, but a contribution toward the printing costs will be appreciated. The online version is available at anytime.

If you need help logging in, contact Mycah McNett (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

Non-pictorial directories that include information about **all active members** are available from the usher's table in the Gathering Area.



Please wear a nametag for the next few weeks to help Pastor Lauren learn your name.

Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

ANNUAL MEETING

Join us for the Annual Meeting **TODAY** at 12:15. See p. 3 for details.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

CALLING ALL COMFORT MAKERS!

Join us **Thursdays, 8 am – 12 noon** for fun and fellowship! Contact *Linda Morrison* with any questions (glenm778@comcast.net or 383-5085).

“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY



NEXT Sunday, February 3, we will hold our annual friendly competition to see if Muhlenberg members can

predict the winner of the Super Bowl. Support your team by bringing extra items to benefit Patchwork Pantry (canned foods, paper products, cleansers, diapers, and personal hygiene items - no glass). Place donations in your team's designated bin in the Gathering Area. Last year we collected 205 pounds. This year our goal is 400 pounds.

If you want to help but prefer to make a cash donation, place a check payable to Muhlenberg in the offering plate (write Patchwork Pantry on your check and envelope). This year we are setting an additional goal of \$500. Your generous support will help feed our hungry neighbors!



CALLING ALL SHEPHERDS



The Care Committee will hold the annual Shepherd meeting **NEXT Sunday, February 3, 12:15 – 2:00 pm** in Wayland Hall. Light lunch provided. *Shepherds, please RSVP to Sandy Randolph (828-2033).*

If you are not currently a shepherd but want to know more, please plan to attend or call Sandy. There is no obligation.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	68	Wed. noon	12
9:30 Worship	97		
11:00 Worship	<u>128</u>		
Total	293		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through December 2018			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$750,583	\$877,169	\$789,569
Total Receipts	\$845,873	\$971,097	\$881,199
Expenses	\$846,372	\$971,097	\$842,012
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$499)	\$0	(\$39,187)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 9,408.70
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>11,406.69</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 20,815.39

See Connection Center notebook for details.



To give online, scan here →

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Many thanks to everyone who stepped up their giving in December. We entered the month with about a \$46,000 deficit. After closing the books for 2018 we eliminated all but \$499 of the deficit! Fantastic job to all.

As we begin 2019, please prayerfully consider the Simply Giving program. Whenever services are cancelled due to inclement weather (like January 13), it creates a disruption to our financial gifts and offerings. Simply Giving provides a steady flow of financial resources to support the ongoing work of the church even in our absence. If you do not wish to participate in Simply Giving, please give as if we had regular services so we do not fall behind in our offerings. Many thanks.

The Finance Committee

You are invited to a ...

Congregational Meeting

TODAY

beginning at 12:15 in the Sanctuary

Annual Meeting Agenda:

- † Review 2018 Year-End Reports
- † Recognize Outgoing Council Members
- † Recognize Outgoing Trustees
- † Elect Nominating Committee
- † Elect Synod Assembly Delegates
- † New Business

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRS NEEDED

There will not be a potluck lunch before the Annual Meeting. In September, after many years of great service to Muhlenberg, Machel Rader and Hilary Buckless stepped down as Co-Chairs of the Fellowship Committee. **We are looking for members who are interested in serving on the Fellowship Committee and one or two people to serve as chairs.** The Fellowship Committee plans potluck luncheons for congregational meetings and the church picnic. They may also choose to plan additional events (e.g. Oktoberfest, movie night, Valentine's Day gathering, bus trips). If you are interested in helping with this ministry, *please contact Council President Tim Peifer (dseries4@gmail.com or 435-5066) or Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).*

**Pick up a copy of the 2018 Annual Report
at the Connection Center today!**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **Monday, February 4, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. The Bible study, *Meeting with Jesus, Session One*, will be taken from the *Gather* magazine. All women are welcome. For more information, contact Louise Johnson (gfriend07@verizon.net or 433-1047).

INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

The Interfaith Association Harrisonburg-Rockingham will hold a meeting **February 7 at 12 noon** in the West Dining Hall at EMU. Ramona Sanders will speak about how to Green Congregations and will be joined by Charles Henricks from Park View Mennonite and Rick Comstock from Trinity Presbyterian Church.

FAMILY CAMP NIGHT

The Virginia Synod Southern Valley Conference is holding Family Camp Night **Sunday, March 24, 5:00-7:00 in the MAC**. Staff from Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp will present an evening at camp with dinner, games and information about the camp. Sign up at the Connection Center for food planning purposes. *For more information, contact Diane Bayer* (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER LUNCH & ORIENTATION

Are you curious and want to learn more about Muhlenberg? 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.

Meet with Pastor Lauren and the Evangelism Team for a **Prospective Member Lunch & Orientation, Sunday, February 10, 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 24 during the 11:00 service, followed by a reception.

If you are interested in attending the Lunch and Orientation, please sign up at the welcome desk or in the activities notebook at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. *For more information, talk with Kathy Thompson, Chair of the Evangelism Team* (thompskb@jmu.edu or 540-578-4830), *Parish Administrator Linda Depoy* (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496), or *Pastor Lauren*.

ACTS SPRING COURSE

When I in Awesome Wonder: Liturgy Distilled from Daily Life

April 6 and May 11, 9:00 – 3:00 at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waynesboro (or at two simulcast locations). Dr. Jill Y. Crainshaw will present on Spirituality and Leadership, and that all life is liturgy and how people encounter God as they live, work and play in human communities and as they work to sustain the health of communities and the ground on which communities are built. Registration forms can be found at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. *Contact Diane Bayer* (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) if you are interested. Scholarships are available for this course.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

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 rsanders9@verizon.net.

Clean your refrigerator coils. The coils hold liquid that cools the air inside the refrigerator. It takes a lot more energy to cool the refrigerator when the coils are covered with lint and dust. Refrigerator coils should be cleaned at least twice a year. Pull the refrigerator out from the wall. Vacuum out all the dust, and then wipe down the coils with a damp cloth. In just a few minutes, you can cut your refrigerator's energy use by up to 6 percent!

RESERVING ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2019 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.

BE ALERT!

Between Second Home and Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care Center, we host approximately **200 children on our campus** Monday - Friday, along with all the pedestrian and car traffic that comes with hosting them.



Please be extra alert and slow down in the parking lot to avoid accidents and injuries. Pedestrians, please use sidewalks to avoid potential injury.

REMINDERS

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

When the weather is questionable, there are multiple ways to conveniently check for announcements about church cancellations:

1. **Call Muhlenberg** (434-3496). Our voice-mail greeting is updated as soon as decisions are made.
2. **Check our website** (www.muhlenberg.lutheran.org). It is also updated as decisions are made.
3. **Tune in to WSAV AM 550 radio or WHSV TV3** television station or visit their websites to monitor church cancellations.
4. **Check Facebook** – announcements are posted there as well.

Note: if we decide to cancel the Sunday 8:00 and 9:30 am worship services, Christian Formation Classes will also be cancelled for that morning. Every attempt will be made to hold the 11:00 am service, but it may be cancelled if conditions are too severe or if parking lots and sidewalks cannot be cleared in time.



LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

A NOTE FROM PATCHWORK PANTRY...



Patchwork Pantry
a 501(c)(3) organization

The Board of Directors and volunteers of Patchwork Pantry express deep appreciation for the support you have extended to the hungry in the Harrisonburg Community through our pantry during 2018. Month after month you faithfully contribute food and paper products. Patchwork Pantry could not help those who come on Wednesday evenings without your help. May God bless your many ministries and most especially your ministry to those in need of food. We look forward to a continued partnership in 2019.

YOUR DONATIONS HELP OTHERS

During 2018, Muhlenberg members donated the following:

- **\$5,347.94** to ELCA World Hunger
- **\$3,940.00** to ELCA Disaster Response
- **\$1,316.57 and 1,762 pounds** of non-perishable foods, paper and personal hygiene products to Patchwork Pantry, a local food pantry located at Community Mennonite Church.

We thank God for using our abundance to care for others in need. You can donate to these missions at any time via the offering plate with a check made out to Muhlenberg and the name of the organization on the memo line.



CAN YOU PROVIDE SNACKS?

Second Home is in need of the following snacks for students on an on-going basis:

- **Oatmeal packets**
- **Granola Bars**
- **Bread**
- **Tortilla Chips**



If you are interested in providing any of these snacks (possibly with a friend), *please contact Susan Gallaher* (palosva@gmail.com or 867-5017). Thanks so much for your consideration of this worthy cause.

Visit the Connection Center for a complete list of organizations our Local & Global Ministry team has chosen to support.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Natural disasters cause widespread destruction. 100% of gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response go directly to aid in disaster relief. Here are ways you can give:

- **Online:** www.elca.org.
- **Phone:** 800-638-3522 Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 Central Time.
- **Mail:** send checks made payable to Lutheran Disaster Response and designated for *Indonesian Tsunami* Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering plate:** make check payable to MLC and designate *ELCA Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent members can direct their Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a personal donation that will be matched by Thrivent. Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.

YOUTH & CAMPUS NEWS

For more information, contact Mycah McNett (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).



WINTER CELEBRATION

Winter Cel 2019 was amazing! Charlie Britt, Lily Harmison, Sarah Furr, June Holm, Schuyler Harmison, Grayson Campbell and Abby Moyers, along with Clay Arthur and Mycah McNett enjoyed a faith filled weekend at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center! With large group and small group sessions, and a Saturday night worship, the event was meaningful for everyone! Check out our group photo and be sure to ask some of the youth about their experience!

UPCOMING JCREW EVENTS

First and third Sundays of the month--meet in the Campus Room after church for lunch and fellowship time. Mark your calendars for these additional events...

- **February 3** - meet in the Campus Room at 12:15 to plan for summer mission trip!
- **March 16** - Bishop's Day in Charlottesville
- **April 6 and 7** - King's Dominion trip

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer (434-3496 or 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 on the 1st & 3rd Sundays during the 11:00 service for children 3-7 years old. After Children's Time with the pastor, children are escorted downstairs to the Nielsen Room. Children return to their parents in the Sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from the Connection Center. It contains information about classes for children and adults.

ATTENTION 5TH & 6TH GRADERS

7th Day, the Synod youth event, will be held March 2-3 at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg. If you are interested, **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 (under the Youth and Young Adults link, *7th Day*).

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, February 3**. We must **postmark them on February 4** in order to receive the early bird discount.

JAMERS (2ND – 5TH GRADERS)

Meets Sunday, February 10, 12:15-2:00 in the MAC to work on a service project. Lunch provided. Come join the fun and fellowship as together we make ponchos and blankets for those in need!

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. Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.

✠ We give thanks to God for the birth of Carter Thomas Smith, son of Lauren and Ryan Smith, and first grandson of Gary and Lesa Calleo. Carter was born January 19 in Albany, NY.

✠ Thank you to the members of Muhlenberg for your cards and remembrances as I finished my interim ministry among you, and for your generous gift in my honor to the Lenoir-Rhyne University A Cappella Choir. That gift will help defray the cost of the choir's tour to Ireland this spring. I hope that the LR Choir can present a concert at Muhlenberg on a future tour. May blessings abound on your ministry in this new year of God's grace! *Pastor Paul*

CONTACTING PASTOR LAUREN

Email Pastor Lauren anytime at miller@muhlenberglutheran.org.

Reach her anytime by calling the church office (434-3496).

- During office hours, ask to speak with Linda Depoy. She has Pastor Lauren's schedule and can assist you.
- After hours leave a message on Pastor Lauren's voice mail and it will be immediately forwarded to her cell phone. She will respond as soon as possible.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

PRAYING OUR FAITH TOGETHER!

For individual and family use. Scripture citations taken from ELW's 3-Year Daily Lectionary, p. 1143- 1153, (Year C).

Mon. 1 Cor. 14:1-12 Thu. Acts 10:44-48
Tue. 2 Cor. 7:2-12 Fri. Acts 19:1-10
Wed. Luke 4:38-44 Sat. John 1:43-51
Sun. Luke 4:21-30

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

January 28 — February 3, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting

Tue. 4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers

Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thu. 8:00 am Comfort Makers

Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
Food Pantry and Lay Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:15 pm Shepherd Meeting
12:15 pm JCrew

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).

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://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran)