



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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March 3, 2019

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

† For our 2019 Lenten journey, we have an inspirational, all-inclusive resource called *Cultivating & Letting Go*. We have some materials for you to pick up from the designated table in the Gathering Area **TODAY**:

- The *Cultivating & Letting Go* **devotional booklet** with space for you to record what you wish to cultivate and let go of each week.
- The **coloring page for Ash Wednesday**. Additional coloring pages will be available in coming weeks.

See p. 4-6 for details.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

NAME BADGE SUNDAY

TODAY (and the first Sunday of each month) we wear name badges to be welcoming and learn each other's names. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know! Nametags, markers and stickers are available in the Gathering Area.



LAY COMMUNION



This wonderful ministry equips members to bring Holy Communion to our homebound and sick members who wish to be included in a monthly extension of our Sunday morning worship. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving home communion (even if it's on a temporary basis), *contact Paula Caldwell at 383-6365 or paulafaye417@gmail.com.*

FOOD COLLECTION

TODAY we collect non-perishable food items for Patchwork Pantry, which also needs paper products (paper towels, wraps, food storage bags, toilet tissue, etc.), cleansers (dish, laundry, all-purpose), diapers (sizes 1-5), and all types of personal hygiene products. Thanks for your support.



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 securely register online at www.muhlenberglutheran.org.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **TOMORROW, Monday, March 4, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. Bible study, *Meeting with Jesus, Session Two*, will be taken from the Jan/Feb *Gather* magazine. We hope you will join us. For more information, contact Louise Johnson (gfriend07@verizon.net or 433-1047).

ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW, Monday, March 4, 7:00 pm** in the Kairos Room. Contact Jennie Warner (mjwarner1@aol.com or 476-2020) for details.

GO-GO GROUP LUNCH (55+)

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the group for lunch **THIS Wednesday, March 6, 1:00 pm** at O'Charley's. Call Dan Werner (433-3912) for more information.

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

The average American uses 2,200 two-ply paper napkins per year. Switch to cloth napkins and you'll help keep more than 662 billion paper napkins out of the trash. Choose cloth napkins made from organic cotton, which is grown without harmful pesticides. You can be even more eco-friendly by washing your cloth napkins in cold water and hanging them to dry. If you must use paper napkins, make sure they're made from 100% recycled paper content.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	71	Wed. Noon	13
9:30 Worship	108		
11:00 Worship	<u>150</u>		
Total	329		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through January 2019			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$48,402	\$64,742	\$55,138
Total Receipts	\$54,516	\$71,351	\$60,639
Expenses	\$85,975	\$101,192	\$82,188
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$28,459)	(29,841)	(\$21,549)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$	8,271.25
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	<u>15,030.50</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$	23,031.75

See *Connection Center notebook* for details.



To give online, scan here →

COMMUNION IN THE PEWS

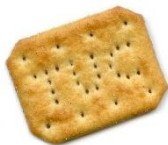
For those who wish to receive Holy Communion and are unable to come forward, communion is served in the pews – please let an usher know. In addition to bread and wine, **white grape juice and gluten-free bread** are also available. Please indicate your preference for juice to the Lay Assisting Minister and take gluten-free bread from the small container beside the wheat communion bread.



Holy Communion

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION



Sunday, March 17 we ask you to donate *wheat crackers (family size)*. Place donations in the designated bin in the Gathering Area. If you wish to help and prefer to make a cash donation, designate *Second Home food* on your check and envelope.

SECOND HOME SET BUILDING

Like to build? Want to get your hands dirty and help Second Home? Join us **Friday, March 15 from 1:30-8:00 pm** to build sets that will be used in Second Home's upcoming production of Disney's *Peter Pan Jr.* Additional time may be needed March 16. All materials provided; bring your own basic tools if possible. Have questions or want to let us know you're willing to help? Contact *Leeanne Shepherd* (shepherd.leeanne@gmail.com or 432-7989).

MARY MARTHA TEA

Join the Mary Martha Group, Ruth Sigmon and Sophie Moeller Circles for tea and fellowship **Sunday, March 24 at 12:30** in the Nielsen Room. The Green Humming-bird, a local fair trade shop, will present a fashion show. All are welcome!

ACTS SPRING COURSE

April 6 and May 11, 9:00 – 3:00 at **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**, Waynesboro. Details and registration forms can be found at the Connection Center. Scholarships cover the cost for Muhlenberg attendees. **Registration deadline is March 18.** Contact *Diane Bayer* if you are interested.

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

HAVE THE HEART OF A SERVANT?

Want to spend a morning or afternoon each week in a welcoming environment while serving your church and community? The church office is looking for members who have time to serve in a volunteer capacity as an office assistant/receptionist in the Narthex and Gathering Area. Orientation and training are provided.

Can't make a firm commitment? You can still help. We also need assistants to *fill in* on occasion. Additionally, we periodically have special projects that may be done at the church office or sometimes from home.

To explore any of these opportunities, please contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496). In compliance with state regulations and Safe Church policies, there is an interview and application process.

COLORED PENCILS WANTED

We will use colored pencils for a special Lenten project. If you have any extras, please bring them to church and place them in the designated box at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. Thank you!

Parish Administrator Linda Depoy

SECOND HOME FUNDRAISER

Harrisonburg Women's Service League's 17th Annual Charity Classic Golf Tournament will be held **Friday, May 3 at Spotswood Country Club**. This year, they have selected Second Home as the charity the tournament will support. Watch *The Chimes* or see bulletin boards for details.

LENT: CULTIVATING AND LETTING GO

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

Lent is a season of spiritual gardening, of inviting God to unearth in us what lies fallow, what needs to be tended, and what needs to die for new life to emerge. This year, our lectionary offers us images and stories with themes of earthiness and grit. We'll explore these texts in worship each Sunday, and through the week engage in an intergenerational art project, Wednesday evening dinner church, and devotional reflections written by Muhlenberg members.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: 7:30 AM, 12 NOON, 7:00 PM



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Ash Wednesday is a solemn day of prayer where we will receive the sign of ashes, an ancient symbol of repentance. Half-hour Ash Wednesday services with the Imposition of Ashes will be held at 7:30 am and noon on Wednesday, March 6. The complete Ash Wednesday liturgy will be spoken at 7:00 pm. A light meal will be served – details below.

HUNGER AWARENESS MEAL: 6:00 pm in the MAC

Prior to Ash Wednesday worship, Christian Formation will serve traditional Third World beans and rice from Africa, South America and Central America and share information about world hunger. Share God's love for us and for others as together we eat a meal that many around the world eat every day!

***CULTIVATING AND LETTING GO* DEVOTIONS**

Twice a week throughout Lent, reflections on our theme of *Cultivating and Letting Go* written by Muhlenberg members will be emailed to our mailing list. If you are not currently on the email list, you can sign up on our website. Printed copies will also be available each week at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. *If you are interested in submitting a devotion, contact Mycah McNett (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).* Also available in the Gathering Area is a daily Lenten devotional entitled "Lasting Hope." This beautiful, full-color booklet explores the Lenten Psalm texts.

Additionally, sign up for daily email devotions at <http://eepurl.com/bcbuf9>. These brief, meaningful reflections will take participants through the gospel of Luke during Lent. They are coordinated by an ELCA church in Michigan, but include a number of authors from Virginia, including Pastor Lauren.

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

WORSHIP CHANGES DURING LENT

The season of Lent brings with it opportunities for us to cultivate and let go of aspects of our liturgy and worship practice. Such changes are intended to highlight the journey we make to the cross and engage us in a time of repentance, introspection, and discipline.

- Today we let go of the word “Alleluia” for the season of Lent. Based on the Hebrew word, hallelu yah, meaning “praise the Lord,” alleluia has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the church. Because of the penitential character of the Lenten season in the Western church, singing or saying the word alleluia has historically been suspended during Lent’s forty days.
- On Ash Wednesday, worshipers are invited to receive the imposition of ashes.
- There are no flowers during this penitential season, and we receive unleavened wafers at communion.
- Through the season of Lent, communion will be received at the altar rail, either standing or kneeling as you are able.
- In our worship we sing only the “Kyrie” and not the Hymn of Praise, “Glory to God.” We use a musical setting that is more chant-like. It may feel new, but actually comes from the 1958 Service Book and Hymnal.

The use of these options invites us to consider what we are cultivating in our lives as well. They also provide a refreshing break until we return to a fuller expression of worship in the Easter season.

MIDWEEK LENTEN DINNER CHURCH

On Wednesdays during Lent, worship will take place around the table: the dinner table. Think of a good dinner party with a spiritual twist – and then add art (music, poetry, Scripture), robust conversation, and prayerful moments (embracing simple liturgy and silence). Together we’ll cultivate relationships with each other and with God.

We’ll begin at 6:15 pm in the MAC and wrap up by 7:15 pm. This casual yet meaningful experience is great for all ages.

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

LENTEN MIDDAY RECITAL SERIES

Martin Luther said...

"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world."

Please join us **Thursdays at noon** during the Lenten season as we feature a variety of incredible musicians. Each week this 30-minute program offers an opportunity to temporarily release the stress of the day and be rejuvenated through the power of music. Concerts are free and open to all. Artists performing this season:

Mar 14 MLC Members

Instrumentalists/vocalists from the MLC community

Mar 21 Gianne Ghe Zhu, piano

DMA Candidate at JMU, and Music Ministry Accompanist at MLC

Mar 28 Elizabeth Williams, organ & piano

MLC Music Minister

April 4 Edward Gant, cello

JMU Music Faculty

**April 11 Florence Jowers, organ and
John Bullard, classical banjo**

Florence: Minister of Music, Christ Lutheran, Staunton; John: freelance musician from Richmond, Va.



LENTEN COLLECTIONS

ELCA WORLD HUNGER BOX

Boxes are available in the Gathering Area. Funds raised will be used to help feed the hungry all over the world.

BASKETS OF PROMISE

During Lent Christian Formation (through the JAMers elementary youth group) and Local & Global Mission are sponsoring Lutheran World Relief's *Baskets of Promise* appeal by collecting items for personal care kits.

We will **start collecting Sunday, March 10**. Look for a complete list of needed items at the Connection Center. *Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) with any questions.*

Sunday, March 10, we collect **BARS OF SOAP** (individually wrapped in original wrapping).

March 17, we collect **BATH TOWELS (lightweight, dark colors, 52" x 27")**. We ask for lightweight towels because they dry quicker in the sun!



COMBINED YOUTH NEWS

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

CONFIRMATION CLASS

No Confirmation Class TODAY! Karen Thomsen and Mycah McNett are out of town and hope that families have a wonderful Sunday!

MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE IN DC



Calling all youth and families! JAMers, Alpha Teens, and JCrew youth groups are planning a trip to the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC **Saturday, May 18**. If you are interested, please sign up in the youth binder at the Connection Center. Pricing is still to be determined - right now we are looking for interest in the trip and how many people want to attend!

ALPHA TEENS OUTING!

THIS Saturday, March 9 we will meet at Valley Jump Trampoline Park, Route 33 in Penn Laird at 10:20 for a 10:30 jump session. The cost is \$12 for an hour of jumping and \$2 for jump socks (unless you already have them). Sign up in the youth binder at the Connection Center.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

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

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

We invite JMU students, faculty, and staff to fellowship during lunch. Mark your calendars to join us **Mondays, March 11 and April 8, 12 noon** in D-Hall.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer
(434-3496 / 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.

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

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Today and Sundays, March 17 & 31 at 12:15,

led by Pastor Lauren. We ask that one parent/guardian



attend the class with your child. *Please contact Diane Bayer if your child plans to attend.*

Saturday, April 13, students will make communion bread in the MAC and go to the sanctuary to review the service for their First Communion. They will **receive communion with their families Palm Sunday, April 14**.

Most often, first communion class is for students in the 3rd or 4th grade whose parents/guardians think this is the appropriate time for their child to start the class. Younger or older children are welcome to participate. If you have a younger child that you feel is ready for communion, they are invited to the class and may commune after parent/guardian consultation with Pastor Lauren.

JAMERS

Meet at church **NEXT Sunday, March 10, 12:15**. We will go to Camp Caroline Furnace for lunch, a camp tour, games, and s'mores. **Bring a brown bag lunch and wear old shoes** for hiking (trails may be a bit muddy). **We will return to the church by 4:30**.

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 offer sympathy to Barbara Roadcap following the death of her mother, Mildred Byrd, last Sunday. Mildred had suffered from long-term illness.
- ✚ We offer sympathy to the family of Lewin Armentrout following his unexpected death February 26. A service was held at Muhlenberg yesterday.
- ✚ Thank you to all who took the time to learn about the Industrial and Commercial Ministry program in January. We had four members inquire about becoming chaplains and raised \$265 for the program!
- ✚ Please remember in your prayers our youth and their advisors as they travel home today from 7th Day, a Synod youth event for 5th & 6th grade students held at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg. We thank the congregation for your support in the faith formation of our youth.

TIME CHANGE THIS WEEK

Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour THIS Saturday night before you go to bed. You don't want to be late for church on Sunday morning!



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. | Acts 10:9-23a | Thu. | Acts 7:30-34 |
| Tue. | Acts 10:23b-33 | Fri. | Acts 7:35-42 |
| | Ash Wed. Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 | | |
| Sat. | John 12:27-36 | Sun. | Luke 4:1-13 |

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

March 4-10, 2019

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mon. | 6:30 pm | Ruth Sigmon Circle |
| | 7:00 pm | Eldercare Support Group |
| Tue. | 4:45 pm | SonShine Singers |
| | 5:30 pm | Cherub Choir |
| | 6:30 pm | Celebration Singers |
| | 7:00 pm | Gloria Dei Ringers |
| Wed. | Ash Wednesday Services | |
| | 7:30 am, 12 noon & 7:00 pm | |
| | 1:00 pm | Go-Go Group Lunch |
| | 6:00 pm | Hunger Awareness Meal |
| | 7:15 pm | Sanctuary Choir |
| Thu. | 8:00 am | Comfort Makers |
| Sat. | 10:20 am | Alpha Teens Outing |
| Sun. | First Sunday in Lent | |
| | 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am | Holy Communion |
| | 9:30 am | Christian Formation |
| | 12:15 pm | JAMers |

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).