



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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281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 † Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: info@muhlenberglutheran.org † Website: www.muhlenberglutheran.org

Pastor Lauren Miller: miller@muhlenberglutheran.org

March 10, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

CALL PROCESS UPDATE

Good news! With Pastor Lauren settling in, Council sought her input as to what our next pastoral position should look like and the skills needed from that candidate. We agreed that Muhlenberg would post our next Call as a full-time Associate Pastor. At Council's retreat a few weeks ago, we went through the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) the congregation assembled in 2017. The majority of the information was still relevant, but we did update some information for the new call of an Associate Pastor, particularly the top five skills and strengths we are looking for in a candidate. Updated copies of the MSP are available at the Connection Center this morning.

It gives me great pleasure to announce the members of our next Call Committee: **Karen Thomsen (Chair), Brad Moyers, Jenny Gibson, Steve Reich, Adam Copeland and Melissa Perritt.** We are inviting an Assistant to the Bishop to review the call process with our new committee so we can move forward. Please keep Muhlenberg, the candidates, and our Call Committee in your prayers as we move into a new discernment process for our next Pastor. *Tim Peifer, Congregation Council President*

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

NEW WORSHIP BOOKLET FORMAT

You'll notice a new format for our worship booklet today. The details about why we do what we do have been moved from a side column to the back of the booklet. Visitors and members alike will find these descriptions helpful. We hope you find the new format fresh and easy to follow.

LENTEN WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Lent is a season of spiritual gardening, of inviting God to



unearth in us what lies fallow, what needs to be tilled, and what needs to die for new life to emerge. See today's insert for information about our Lenten worship and activities.

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.



TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)



COMFORTS BLESSED TODAY

Are you cozy & comfortable today in the pew? Aren't they beautiful! Imagine the joy one of these comforts will bring to someone who needs warm winter bedding. Over the past 20 years, Muhlenberg has made more than 2,500 comforts to give to local, national and international disaster relief projects.

Comforts can be purchased with proceeds used to help pay for batting. Large-\$55; small-\$35. If interested, pin your name and phone number on the comfort you choose. Safety pins and paper are on the table at the Sanctuary exit.

Join the comfort makers THIS Thursday, beginning at 8 am. Contact Margie Miller (434-8685) or Linda Morrison (383-5085) for more information.



FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	55	Ash Wed. AM	14
9:30 Worship	63	Ash Wed. Noon	41
11:00 Worship	81	Ash Wed. PM	114
Total	199		169

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	\$	28,050.70
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	3,897.71
Total Giving for the Week	\$	31,948.41

See Connection Center notebook for details.

February Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$344

To give online, scan here →



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.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Tomorrow Evening, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Join us as we strengthen our ministries, plan new initiatives, dream new dreams, and serve one another and the wider community! **All committees welcome new members.**

SOPHIE MOELLER CIRCLE

Meets **Tuesday, March 12, 1:30 pm** in the Kairos Room. Come join us to learn how the Gospel of John uses conversations between Jesus and various characters to draw us to a deeper faith. *Contact Marilynn Jarrells (marilynnjarrells@gmail.com or 246-5753) for details.*

SECOND HOME SET BUILDING



Like to build? Want to get your hands dirty and help Second Home? Join us **THIS 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 with this project? *Contact Leanne Shepherd (shepherd.leeanne@gmail.com or 432-7989).*

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

NEXT 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.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARY MARTHA TEA

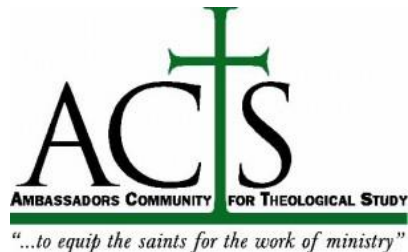
Join the Mary Martha Group, Ruth Sigmon and Sophie Moeller Circles for tea and fellowship **Sunday, March 24 at**



12:30 in the Nielsen Room. The Green Hummingbird, a local fair trade shop, will present a fashion show. All are welcome!

FAMILY CAMP NIGHT

The VA Synod Southern Valley Conference is holding Family Camp Night **for all ages Sunday, March 24, 5:00-7:00 in the MAC.** Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp staff will present an evening with dinner, games and information about camp, including adult activities! Sign up at the Connection Center for food planning purposes. *Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496).*



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 next Monday, March 18.** *Contact Diane Bayer if you are interested.*

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.

This is a prayer from Rebecca Barnes-Davies book, "50 Ways to Help Save The Earth: How you and your church can make a difference."

FAITH MATTERS: God, we recognize the devastation that climate change wreaks across the globe, particularly for people who are vulnerable because of age, poverty, or other living situations. We know you care for all your people and that our actions affect people's lives. Guide us in your good wisdom to honor all people so that we might curb climate change together and find justice for all.

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/training 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 Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depay@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496). In compliance with state regulations and Safe Church policies, there is an interview and application process.

REMINDERS

COMMUNION IN THE PEWS



Holy Communion

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.

COMMUNICATING WITH OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Members of the congregation who are homebound and cannot read *The Chimes* online can request a copy be mailed to them weekly.

If you are interested, or know a member who is, contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depay@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

BE ALERT!

Between Second Home and Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care Center, we have 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 instead of walking behind cars to avoid potential injury.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Local & Global Mission Chair
Karen Matthias (kfmatthias@gmail.com / 434-4625)
for more information.

CLOTHING FUND

The clothing fund will be depleted this summer. Please consider donating via the offering plate with a check made payable to Muhlenberg and indicate "Clothing Fund" on your check and envelope. This fund provides underwear for distribution to needy families via the Trinity (Presbyterian) Clothes Closet, for students' clothing needs at Minnick School, and for other emergency clothing needs that are brought to our attention. Response to this request is usually so generous that we only need to ask to replenish the fund every two or three years. Thank you for considering a donation at this time.

BRIDGE OF HOPE (BOH)



BOH needs Neighboring Volunteer Groups of 6-10 committed people who will walk alongside and encourage a family in its program. BOH works with single-parent families facing homelessness locally. Initial training, ongoing relational support, and planned monthly gatherings are provided. *If interested, contact Director Chris Hoover Seidel (director@hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org or 717-602-0871).*

DID YOU KNOW...

Muhlenberg members can donate to many organizations and Muhlenberg funds via the offering plate at any time. Please designate the name of the organization on your check and envelope. *Visit the Connection Center for a complete list of organizations we support.*

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Tornadoes on March 3 devastated areas of Alabama, Georgia and Florida causing widespread destruction. 100% of your gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response go directly to aid in disaster relief. Visit the Connection Center for more information. 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 *U.S. Tornadoes* to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering plate:** make check payable to Muhlenberg and designate *ELCA Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent Financial 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.

DON'T STRESS OUT!

Please do not feel overwhelmed by the number of opportunities to help our neighbors both near and far. The Local and Global Mission ministry team likes to inform the congregation of the many opportunities to use our time, talent, and/or resources to help others. **If you wish to participate, choose the organization that touches your heart**, knowing that others will be drawn to help with different needs.

SECOND HOME NEWS

TEACHER NEEDED



Second Home has an immediate opening for a part-time after school program teacher to work with 1st and 2nd grade students for the remainder of the school year, with a possibility to renew for next school year. We are open 3:00 - 6:00 pm Monday - Friday on days when Harrisonburg City Public Schools are open.

A love of working with children and degree (or near completion) in education, TEFL, psychology, social work or related areas and/or experience in working with children are required. Any offer will be contingent on a successful national fingerprint background check.

We are looking for a mission oriented, caring person who is able to work both independently and as a member of a small team. Are you interested or do you know someone who may be? *For more information, please contact Executive Director Krisztina Szekely (2ndhomedirector@gmail.com or 432-7989).*

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. See additional information below.

Harrisonburg Women's Service League
presents the
17th Annual Charity Classic
Golf Tournament
Benefiting
Second Home: providing children with a safe
place to learn and grow
Friday, May 3, 2019

Spotswood Country Club
Shotgun start at 1 pm
Dinner & Silent Auction to follow

For more information, please visit www.hwsl.org

COMBINED YOUTH NEWS

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

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!

JCREW NEWS

SAVE THE DATE

For more information, contact Clay Arthur
(arthurt@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-758-3208).

We will travel to Richmond **April 6-7** to gather with youth from Epiphany Lutheran Church. We will enjoy a day of fun with them, spend the night and worship with them Sunday morning. More details coming soon.

J
CREW

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 at 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

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 **TODAY at 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.

- ✚ There are no words to express how grateful we are to be part of the Muhlenberg family. Pastor visits, food, calls and prayers were and are appreciated as Galen continues to heal. We love and appreciate each of you.
Janet and Galen Simmons
- ✚ Congratulations to Paul and Erika Mabrey following the birth of their baby girl. Alice arrived February 28 weighing 7 lbs. 11 ozs.
- ✚ Congratulations to Karl Gabb and Sam Shore. Each received top test scores, top role-play and first place overall in Entrepreneurship Team Decision Making. They will compete at the International Career Development Conference in Orlando, FL April 27- April 30.
- ✚ Remington Willis is serving as a member of the Lutheran Episcopal Volunteer Network in California. To learn about her work, stop by the Connection Center for a copy of her “**Month SIX Update.**”
- ✚ Those who attended 7th Day thank you for your prayers and support. We had a great experience hearing about *The Parable of the Mustard Seed*. We sang, made crafts, did service projects, played games, made new friends and most importantly grew in faith learning that as the Seed of Faith is planted in us we can do great things by sharing God’s love with others!

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 John 2:1-6	Thu.	Phil. 3:2-12
Tue.	2 Peter 2:4-21	Fri.	Phil. 3:17-20
Wed.	Luke 21:34-22:6	Sat.	Matt. 23:37-39
	Sun.	Luke 13:31-35	

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

March 11-17, 2019

Mon.	5:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Ministries Night
Tue.	1:30 pm	Sophie Moeller Circle
	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
	6:15 pm	Lenten Dinner Church
	7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thu.	8:00 am	Comfort Makers
	12 noon	Lenten Recital Series
Fri.	1:30 pm	Second Home Set Building
Sun.	8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am	Holy Communion
		Second Home Food Collection
	9:30 am	Christian Formation
	12:15 pm	First Communion Class

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).