



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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April 7, 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

CALL COMMITTEE NEWS

I am happy to report that the Call Committee has actively begun the call process for an Associate Pastor. We met with a Synod representative and are now reviewing information on several candidates. We plan to hold interviews this month. On behalf of the Call Committee, I look forward to keeping the congregation updated on our progress.

Karen Thomsen, Call Committee Chair

COUNCIL NEWS

Dear Muhlenberg, through a very busy 2018 and the excitement ahead for 2019 there's so much to do! And in that scenario lies the rub. I need to take a break for myself. I'm relinquishing my role as Council President but will continue to serve around the table as a Council member. I need to take a breather and rebalance some things in my life. I give thanks for all we accomplished together and look forward to how the Spirit will continue to work among us.

Peace, Tim Peifer

*Council will elect a new President
at its April 15 meeting.*

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

CHORAL CONCERT TODAY, 7 PM

The Turner Ashby Performing Choir and Chamber Singers will present a concert in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm. Under the direction of Wesley Dunlap, the 51 member auditioned Performing Choir has received superior ratings at State Assessment each year for the past ten years. The Chamber Singers, a 16 member select group, also has received superior ratings. One of our very own Muhlenberg members, Sarah Furr (daughter of Gary & Pat Furr), sings in this group!

In addition to hearing beautiful choral music, Aaron Looney (grandson of Terry & Linda Looney) will delight us with an organ solo.

You don't want to miss hearing this group of young, talented singers and instrumentalists. The concert is free! Come and bring a friend!

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

FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

TODAY we wear name badges to be welcoming and learn each other's names. We receive **non-perishable food donations** in the Gathering Area for local area food pantries. **Lay Communion Ministers** will take Holy Communion to our sick and homebound members.

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, April 9, 1:30 pm** in the Kairos Room. Join us in seeing how Jesus meets us with mercy, healing, and hope in the face of judgment, rejection, and grief. For details, contact *Marilynn Jarrells* (marilynnjarrells@gmail.com or 246-5753).

MIDWEEK LENTEN DINNER CHURCH

Join us for the final Lenten Dinner Church **THIS Wednesday, 6:15 pm in the NIELSEN ROOM AND WAYLAND HALL** (downstairs in the church).

LENTEN MIDDAY RECITAL SERIES

Join us for the final Lenten Recital **THIS Thursday at noon.**

April 11 Florence Jowers, organ

John Bullard, classical banjo

Florence: Minister of Music, Christ Lutheran

and Pastor Paul Weber's wife

John: freelance musician from Richmond.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	81	Wed. Noon	11
9:30 Worship	128	Wed. PM	52
11:00 Worship	131		
Total	340		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through **February 2019**

	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$102,094	\$122,412	\$104,253
Total Receipts	\$126,537	\$148,279	\$128,502
Expenses	\$143,414	\$176,995	143,400
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$16,877)	(28,716)	(\$14,898)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan \$ 28,208.00*

Giving to Other Designated Funds \$ 2,847.81*

Total Giving for the Week \$ 31,055.81*

*Includes Simply Giving

See Connection Center notebook for details.

February Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$344

To give online, scan here →



PALM SUNDAY INFORMATION

NEXT Sunday our worship will begin in the Gathering Area with the Blessing of Palms and a procession into the sanctuary, reenacting Jesus' procession into the city of Jerusalem. The sound system will make it possible for those in the sanctuary to hear and participate.

As Palm Sunday is also the Sunday of the Passion, our liturgy includes a dramatic reading of our *Lord's Passion According to St. Luke*.

You are encouraged to make a commitment to attend Holy Week services.

See p. 4 for details.

A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM SECOND HOME ...



The students and staff of Second Home Learning Center have been working hard to present *Disney's Peter Pan Jr.* to their families, church members, and the wider community. Come enjoy the fun and bring a friend!

Second Home Learning Center Proudly Presents

Disney **Peter Pan Jr.**



April 12 at 7:00pm

April 13 at 7:00pm

April 14 at 3:00pm

at

**Muhlenberg Activities Center
281 East Market St. Harrisonburg**



HOLY WEEK & EASTER



WEDNESDAY NOON EUCHARIST – APRIL 17

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18 – 7 PM

Worship with foot/hand-washing and Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19 – 7 PM

Dramatic procession with the cross and passion narrative

Ecumenical walk downtown, 12 noon

EASTER VIGIL, APRIL 20 – 8 PM

Begins in Woodbine Cemetery (next block)

This powerful service focuses on baptism and moves us from the stark Good Friday experience to the celebration of Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Festival Worship at all morning liturgies - **8:00, 9:30, 11:00**

Children's Activities – 9:30

Following the children's message at the 9:30 service, Christian Formation leaders will take children ages 2-5th grade to the MAC for an easter egg hunt, story time and craft. If preferred, parents may take children to the MAC and rejoin the service in the Sanctuary.

Join us – all are welcome!

THE AMAZING THREE DAYS

Attention parents of children ages 2 ½ to 10 years old, please pick up the information on the table in the Gathering Area explaining the *Amazing Three Days*. This information will help you prepare with your children for Holy Week services.

LENT AT MUHLENBERG

CULTIVATING & LETTING GO

CULTIVATING AND LETTING GO

Visit the Gathering Area for all the information and supplies needed to participate in our Lenten program, *Cultivating and Letting Go*. You will find a devotional, origami instructions and materials, extra weekly coloring pages and a large coloring page that ties each week's theme together.



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.

Look for a complete list of needed items at the Connection Center. Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) with any questions.

TODAY, April 7, we collect **NAIL CLIPPERS** (metal, attached file optional) in a designated box.

NEXT Sunday, April 14, we collect **SOAP** (individual packages) or **MORE NAIL CLIPPERS OR LIGHTWEIGHT, DARK COLORED TOWELS**.

EASTER OPPORTUNITIES

EASTER LILIES

Want to help beautify our church for Easter and remember/honor a loved one? Cost is **\$17 per plant**. Sign-up deadline is TOMORROW, APRIL 8. To reserve your lily (limit 30) and have information published on Easter Sunday, do the following:



1. **Sign up** in the notebook (*under the "Flowers" tab*) at the Connection Center.
2. **Pay for lilies** by placing your check in the offering plate (write "Easter Lilies" on the memo line/envelope).

Payment will reserve the lilies. Lilies may be picked up after the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday. Remaining lilies will be distributed as needed on Thursday (April 25).



ALTERNATIVE GIVING



*Alternative Giving
Opportunity*

If you wish to remember/honor a loved one in a different way, choose a local or global opportunity in **Second Home** or **ELCA World Hunger**:

1. Sign up in the notebook (**lavender forms in the front cover pocket**) at the Connection Center. **Sign up deadline is APRIL 14**.
2. **Make your contribution** by placing your check in the offering plate. Ensure correct credit/designation by indicating "**Second Home Easter Gift**" or "**World Hunger Easter Gift**" on the memo line of your check/envelope.

On Easter Sunday, we will publish the names of loved ones remembered with Easter lilies or alternative giving.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

COMFORT MAKERS UPDATE

Muhlenberg recently gave comforts to several community groups. May they be a blessing to all who receive them.

- The American Red Cross – 40, box of lap robes
- First Step (women's and children's shelter) - 10
- Refugee Resettlement - 20 regular size, 2 children's and 5 baby comforts

HOME HEALTH SUPPLIES

There is a considerable number of walkers, bath and raised toilet chairs, crutches, etc. available in our church attic. *Please contact Linda Morrison (383-5085) or Sandy Randolph (820-9654) if you have a need for any of these.*

CREATION CARE TIP



Composting is something that people have done for generations. With separation from our food source, it has become easy to see food scraps as nothing more than trash. Leftovers, organic trash, and even leaves raked from lawns are collected together. With time and tending, decomposition generates heat that break these items down. They become rich soil for new planting.

On this Lenten journey we embrace God's desire to create in us a new creation. It is not an instant process. Instead it is perhaps more similar to composting. You take all of the hurts, mistakes, problems and bring them together. Talk them through with God and one another. There may be heat, but the continued result of forgiveness, reconciliation, and healthier relationships is worth it. We are indeed a new creation in Christ.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

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

GREAT COMMUNITY GIVE

Promoting charitable giving in our community, the Great Community Give (GCG) is a single day of giving to partnered local nonprofits. The GCG is an initiative of The Community Foundation Harrisonburg-Rockingham. Help make this year's Give Day successful. Show your love on April 17 (6:30 am – 8:00 pm) by giving a little and together, we'll do a lot for the causes we care about. Whether you donate \$10, \$100 or more, it adds up to an incredible day of support for the nonprofits that meet needs, enrich lives, and build a community we all enjoy.



Second Home (SH), Lutheran Family Services of Virginia (LFSVA [Minnick School-Harrisonburg]), and Faith in Action are three of the 85 agencies participating in the event this year. **The fundraising goals are \$5,000 (SH) and \$3,000 (LFSVA).** Can we count on your support?

To donate or see all the participating agencies, go to greatcommunitygive.org. You can also scan the QR codes below to go directly to donation pages. Second Home is setting up its event headquarters in the MAC April 17. Volunteers will be happy to help you make your online donations to your favorite non-profit agencies. Visit the Gathering Area **TODAY** for more information.

(Second Home) (LFSVA)

(FIA)



SECOND HOME NEWS

BAKED GOODS NEEDED

Please consider providing concessions type items for the upcoming musical production of *Peter Pan, Jr.* by Second Home. Brownies, cookies, cupcakes or other snack items are needed. Brownies and cookies should be placed in sandwich bags 2 or 3 per bag. **All items should be brought to the MAC before 5:00 pm THIS Friday, April 12**, which is the day of the first performance.

Please respond to Tammy Offenbacker-Koogler (torkrk@aol.com) to let her know what you are willing to contribute.

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

 For this month, we ask you to donate *wheat crackers (family size)* **Sunday, April 28 (one week later than usual due to Easter).** 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.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW MEETING

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) will hold Legislative Reviews around the state to share what happened during this year's 2019 General Assembly. Muhlenberg will host a meeting **Wed., April 24 at 2 pm** in the Nielsen Room. Kim Bobo, Co-Executive Director of VICPP and Amanda Silcox, Economic Justice Program Manager (and former ELCA YAGM) will present the program. Many in the Harrisonburg area including members of Muhlenberg did advocacy work during this year's session. This is a great way to hear more!

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 **Monday, April 8, 12 noon** in D-Hall.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

For more information, contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

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.

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

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Saturday, April 13, 9:30 am.

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.**



JAMERS (LOCATION CHANGE)

Meet **Next Sunday, April 14, 4:00 – 5:30 pm in WAYLAND HALL** to assemble *Baskets of Promise* kits and enjoy fellowship with your church friends. We hope to see all 2nd – 5th graders there!

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.

⊕ Last week, I met with Virginia Synod's Candidacy Committee to begin the process of pursuing ordination and explore ways to attend seminary while continuing to live and serve God's call at Muhlenberg. As I move through candidacy, I know I am surrounded by an incredible cloud of witnesses at this church. This includes past and present candidates, Alex Zuber, Daniel Hess, and Matt Leonard who discerned their call through their time in Muhlenberg's Lutheran Campus Ministry. Also included are Ellen Clough and Remington Willis who grew up in Muhlenberg. Many thanks to all of you who have been part of numerous conversations as I discerned a call to ordained leadership, and to everyone who is praying for me! *Mycah McNett*

⊕ A new Synod Attorney, Brad Moyers, was appointed by Synod Council. Mark Reed had previously served in this role prior to his retirement. The Synod thanks Mark for his many years of faithful service and looks forward to working with Brad in this new capacity.

⊕ Thank you for the cards, visits, food and prayers during the illness and death of my husband Charles "Bus" Sipe. *Doris Sipe*

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.	Hebrews 10:19-25	Thu.	Hebrews 2:1-9
Tue.	1 John 2:18-2	Fri.	Hebrews 2:10-18
Wed.	Luke 18:31-34	Sat.	Luke 22:1-13
Palm Sunday: Luke 22:14—23:56			

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

April 8-14, 2019

Mon.	5:30 pm	Executive Committee Mtg.
	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
Sat.	9:30 am	First Communion
Sun.	Passion/Palm Sunday	
	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.