



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 8, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

WELCOME OUR PASTORAL CANDIDATE!

Today is a very important day in our Call process. We welcome our first pastoral candidate who will lead worship and preach today. He has a wide array of interests and loves serving the Lord in innovative and meaningful ways.

We are excited to have him with us. Next week we will welcome our other candidate.

In an effort to continue to protect the anonymity of our candidates, we will be using only their first names in worship. **We ask you to help us honor their anonymity by not sharing with others outside of our congregation their names or any other information about them.**

After the 11:00 service NEXT Sunday, April 15, we will have a potluck lunch (see details on p. 3.) where you will have the opportunity to informally interact with our candidates. Please plan to attend.

We welcome any feedback you may have on the co-pastor candidates' ability to fulfill the top five ministry tasks that were identified by members who completed the survey: preaching and worship, leadership, interpreting theology, administration, ministry in crisis and

interpersonal climate. We understand that you are not able to observe all of these; however, any feedback is valuable to us.

You may email your feedback to Mark Warner at mjwcarpediem@gmail.com or leave a note at the office addressed to Mark Warner in c/o Linda Depoy. Please provide your feedback by noon on Tuesday, April 17.

We are at a pivotal and exciting time in the life of our congregation. We ask for your continued prayers and support. *God's Peace.*

Tim Peifer, Congregation Council President

Mark Warner, Call Committee Chair

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 to securely register online.



TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

EASTER VISITING/CAROLING

TODAY at 12:15, plan to meet in the MAC, have lunch, and then go out in small groups to bring Easter cheer to our homebound members. It is fun and so appreciated!

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Monday Evening, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Help Muhlenberg continue to grow during this time of transition by joining in as we strengthen our ministries, plan new initiatives, and serve one another and the wider community! **All committees welcome new members.**

NO VOCAL CHOIR REHEARSALS

Vocal choirs will not rehearse this week. Gloria Dei Ringers meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

SOPHIE MOELLER CIRCLE

Meets **Tuesday, April 10 at 1:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. Program is on the Prodigal Son from the Gather magazine.

ISSUES AT THE END OF LIFE

Meets **Tuesday, 5:30 - 6:25 pm** in the Nielsen Room.

THE MONTICELLO STRINGS

A concert featuring The Monticello Strings will be held at Muhlenberg **THIS Thurs., April 12 at 7:30 pm**. This is a faculty-student string ensemble from JMU performing a wide variety of delightful music for string orchestra. They will lead a lively, multi-cultural program of music by George Gershwin and Edward Elgar, and Gwyneth Walker, including a Tango by Astor Piazzolla that features the cello. The concert is free; come and bring a friend!

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

HOLY WEEK + EASTER ATTENDANCE

Maundy Thursday	161	8:00 Worship	136
Good Friday	144	9:30 Worship	356
Easter Vigil	60	11:00 Worship	<u>243</u>
		Total	735
	Wed. noon	8	

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

CONGREGATION CARE

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

The Muhlenberg Care Ministry is all about caring for our members. We organize the shepherd ministry to encourage neighboring church members to get to know and help each other, meals for funerals, the annual Diamond Jubilee, and more. We also sponsor Christmas and Easter caroling to homebound members. This busy ministry can always use more help.

For more info, contact Co-Chairs Linda Morrison (glenm778@comcast.net / 383-5085) or Stephanie Hudy (stephanie.hudy@gmail.com / 896-4725).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through February 2018			
	Y-T-D <u>Actual</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	Y-T-D <u>Last Year</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$104,253	\$120,415	\$115,702
Total Receipts	\$128,502	\$146,732	\$141,143
Expenses	\$143,400	\$169,402	\$150,725
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$14,898)	(\$22,670)	(\$9,582)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan: \$ 30,914.99
 Giving to Other Designated Funds: \$ 6,527.20
Total Giving for the Week \$ 37,442.19

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.

To give online, scan here →



POTLUCK LUNCHEON TO MEET THE PASTORAL CANDIDATE COUPLE

You are cordially invited to a potluck luncheon **Sunday, April 15, 12:15 pm** in the MAC. It will be a great time to meet the pastoral couple! Let's show them a warm welcome by attending this important luncheon.

We are asking members to bring a dish of their choice if they are able:

- **meats**
- **casseroles**
- **side dishes**
- **salads**
- **desserts**

The Fellowship Committee will provide drinks and paper products.

We look forward to seeing you!
Contact Machel Rader (820-4784) if you have questions.



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 Sunday, April 22 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, April 29, 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 an associate member.

New members will be received Sunday, May 20 during the 11:00 service, followed by a reception.

If you are interested in attending the Prospective Member 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, contact Kathy Thompson, Chair of the Evangelism Team (thompskb@jmu.edu / 540-578-4830), Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496), or the pastors.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MOSAIC HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

Benefit concert **this evening, April 8 at 7 pm** at Mountain View Fellowship in McGaheysville. Proceeds from a free will offering will support the Sadie Rose Foundation, which offers support to parents who have lost a child. Muhlenberg's Handbell Director Kath Wissinger also directs and rings in this group. Please come for some great music in support of a worthy cause.

THE PITTSBURGH GIRLS CHOIR CHAMBER CHOIR

Chamber Choir is the premiere touring choir of the Pittsburgh Girls Choir composed of girls from 7th - 12th grades. They will perform at Muhlenberg **Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 pm**. The Chamber Choir sings a varied repertoire of multi-part women's choral music, both classical and contemporary. This choir has performed with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and at the Pacific International Children's Choir Festival and the Pittsburgh Jewish Music Festival. This year's tour theme is "Lux Aeterna" (Eternal Light). This program celebrates the beauty and joy of eternity. The concert is free.

*Pick up the latest edition
of our Who We Are brochure
at the Connection Center today!*

*It includes details about Muhlenberg's
ministry, ideas about how you can serve,
and a contact list to easily reach
Congregation Council members, staff
and committee chairs.*

MUHLENBERG NEWS

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

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

Sign up for the month of May 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)*.

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

REMINDERS

CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

Reach our pastors at any time by calling the church office (434-3496). During office hours, ask to speak with Parish Administrator Linda Depoy. After hours, leave a message on their voice mail and it will be forwarded to their respective cell phones at that time. They will respond as soon as possible.

DID YOU MISS 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. You can also find sermons and *The Chimes* at muhlenberglutheran.org.

FAITH IN ACTION



Faith in Action (FIA) is an interfaith assembly of area faith congregations (25 so far and growing) who act locally as a body to effect policy changes in areas of social justice issues. An issue is chosen every two years by holding listening sessions in our congregation to determine where our congregations see a need. Muhlenberg was one of the founding covenant congregations when the group formed three years ago. We held a second round of listening sessions in the summer of 2017 (53 of our members were interviewed) and in October the Faith in Action assembly chose the issue of justice for our incarcerated population. After reflection and discernment, FIA then came up with three “asks”...

- To eliminate the financial burden of the \$1 per day fee currently paid by family members of inmates at our local jail and the \$3 charged for local inmates transferred to Middle River Regional Jail.
- To engage in a careful and open selection process for the hiring of a well-qualified Community Justice Planner*.
- To establish protocols for all juvenile justice cases to be screened for a restorative justice process.

Our assembly members have initiated conversations with Harrisonburg City Council members, Rockingham County Supervisors, and administrators of both the city and county. They will also soon meet with the Sheriff and Prosecutor.

If you would like to be involved in this process, you can take some steps in the next month:

- Visit Faith in Action’s webpage (www.harrisonburgfaithinaction.org) for more information and opportunities for direct volunteering.
- Attend the **City Council Meeting Tuesday, April 24 at 7:00** when a public hearing will be held on the three “asks.” Council members are more likely to be moved to action when large numbers of people support a position. A county public hearing will be held soon.
- Sign a petition in support of the three “asks.” Petitions are available in the Gathering Area or from either of our covenant representatives who can also provide more information: *Nancy Martin-Finks* (540-421-8199, nanmart777@comcast.net) or *Russell Presnell* (540-746-3562, russellepresnell@gmail.com.)

*WHAT IS A COMMUNITY JUSTICE PLANNER?

Visit the link below for brief video explanation.

<http://www.harrisonburgfaithinaction.org/resources/what-is-a-community-justice-planner/>

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

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



SUMMER OF SERVICE Intergenerational Program Sundays, June 10 – August 26 9:30 in the MAC

The Summer of Service programs held the last three years had wonderful success. We are offering it again this summer! Various agencies in our area will come to share what they do. We hear a Bible story and discuss how we are putting our faith into action as we do a hands-on service project for the agency of the day!

If you have a local agency you would like us to learn more about, please contact Diane Bayer with that agency's name and contact person by **NEXT Sunday, April 15.**

The program will start Sunday, June 10 at 9:30. (Children 0-2 years old have a class in the nursery during the 9:30 liturgy hour.) Children 3 years – 5th grade meet in the church for the *Children's Time*, then go to the MAC to join 6th – 12th grade youth and adults of all ages.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

“JESUS, THE STORYTELLER”



Jesus, The Storyteller
VBS 2018
Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

Come and join the fun
at VBS 2018!

JUNE 24-28 IN THE MAC

Dinner at 5:30
VBS from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

For children 3 years old to 5th grade
(6th -12th graders are asked to be helpers).

Mark your calendars and get ready for a week of fun as we explore faith together!

Registration forms will be available
in the Gathering Area soon.

*Contact Diane Bayer if
you are interested in helping
with this fun, faith-forming event.*

YOUTH & CAMPUS NEWS

JUNIOR HIGH SERVANT EVENT



At the Water's Edge is a weeklong servant event **July 15 - July 20** for youth who have completed the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, and their adult advisers. We spend the week together experiencing the Christian life through worship, fellowship, and service. Of course, being in Virginia Beach, we will also spend some time having fun at the water's edge! If you are interested in going, *contact Mycah McNett* (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496).

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.



Take action to keep even more paper waste out of landfills. Did you know that the cups many coffee shops use aren't recyclable? Thanks to a thin plastic lining, billions of coffee cups are sent to landfills each year. What a waste! One leading coffee shop chain pledged in 2008 to create a 100% recyclable cup, but it has not happened yet. Next time, you're at a coffee shop, (a) take your own travel mug, (b) use their reusable cup, or (c) politely ask them to provide recyclable cups, and a way to recycle them!

Note: There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day **Saturday, April 21, 8 am - 12 pm** at Rockingham County Landfill: 813 Greendale Road, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

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 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.

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

JAMERS

Meet **TODAY, 4:00 – 5:30 pm** in the MAC for some fun activities. We will also put together the kits for Baskets of Promise. We hope to see all 2nd – 5th graders there for fun and fellowship with your church friends. *Contact Diane Bayer at 434-396 for more information.*



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

- ✠ We express sympathy to John Mulder and his family following the death of John's sister Sally.
- ✠ A big thank you to those who made Holy Week and Easter services such a meaningful experience to many.

SECOND HOME PRESENTS



April 20 and 21 at 7:00 pm

April 22 at 3:00 pm

In the Muhlenberg Activities Center

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

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. 1 John 2:3-11 Thu. 1 John 2:18-25
Tue. 1 John 2:12-17 Fri. 1 John 2:26-28
Wed. Mark 12:18-27 Sat. Luke 22:24-30
Sun. John 20:19-31

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

April 9-15

Mon.	5:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Ministries Meetings
Tue.	1:30 pm	Sophie Moeller Circle
	5:30 pm	Issues at the End of Life
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed.	12 noon	Holy Communion
Thu.	7:30 pm	Monticello Strings Concert
Sun.	8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am	Holy Communion
	9:30 am	Christian Formation Classes
	12:15 pm	Potluck Lunch with Pastoral Candidates

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.