



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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May 28, 2017

ASCENSION SUNDAY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

NIELSEN ROOM DEDICATION!

Today we dedicate our newly renovated Nielsen Room on the lower level, west wing. Each service will include a prayer of dedication. You are encouraged to go downstairs to see all the new furnishings, technology, and décor and enjoy refreshments provided by our Refreshment Team!

Thanks to a major gift from an anonymous donor and the creative talents and hard work of our Property Team co-chaired by John Mulder and Chris Harbin; our renovation team led by Tom Pippert and Bob Runion with design help from Mark Byerly; and our interior decorators led by Kristy Peifer, Karen Dotson, Kathy Alexander and Tim Peifer, we now have a beautiful, versatile, and functional space for groups of 30-50 or more! Thanks be to God and to these servants of God!

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

ASCENSION SUNDAY

So, Jesus rose on Easter, appeared to disciples. . . then what? How did he get to “the right hand of the Father” as we typically picture? The answer is **Ascension**, which the church marks as a festival 40 days after the resurrection, according to the account at the end of Luke's gospel. We transfer this festival to Sunday (today) to celebrate! Since we do not believe that God literally lives up in the sky, two 4th century ways that theologians have spoken of the ascension may be helpful: Christ rose from death to fill the cosmos, and Christ ascended into the Eucharist (holy communion). Where do you see the Ascended Christ present today?

GRAND RELEASE

OF PHOTO DIRECTORY!

Online access opens for the directory **TODAY!** Printed copies for folks who have previously requested one are available today and June 4 in the Gathering Area. Information for online access (*preferred method*) will also be available for folks who have lost or didn't receive a green instruction sheet.

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.



THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

We wish you a
happy and safe
Memorial Day.



The church office is closed tomorrow.

EASTER SEASON

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

THIS Wednesday, May 31 will be the final session for the Wednesday Evening service and the Micah 6:8 group. We will announce summer plans for the Micah 6:8 group as they are available.

WHAT'S FAITH ALL ABOUT?

Have doubts? Questions? Animate: Faith continues THIS Thursday at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm in the Nielsen Room. In each of this study's 7 sessions, we'll hear from a leading Christian speaker/ thinker, and dive into a beautifully illustrated, powerfully compelling journal to engage our reflection and questions of faith. *Contact Pastor Brett for more info.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST

NEXT Sunday is Pentecost Sunday! Wear red and join us for this major festival and fun celebration of God's Spirit in our midst.

BLESSING OF HS GRADUATES



High school graduates will be blessed **NEXT Sunday, June 4** during the **11:00** worship service. Join the graduates for a reception in the Gathering Area at 10:30.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	79	Wed. noon	15
9:30 Worship	131		
11:00 Worship	<u>131</u>		
Total	341		

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

CONGREGATION CARE

This space will feature one committee each week. Updates and highlights are provided so we may become more familiar with committees and their work. Join us Ministries Night (2nd Monday each month) to learn more.

Congregation Care is a collaboration of members helping members. We have about 9 committee members, 1-2 shepherds for each of 26 geographical neighborhood groups, and 2 "head" shepherds. Shepherds are members who try to find help for their neighbors in need when illness, grief, or a happy event like a new baby occurs. A meal, card, call, or a ride can demonstrate our care for each other. We also sponsor Christmas and Easter caroling and the annual Diamond Jubilee meal for our 75+ senior members. Meals and receptions for funerals are also coordinated by Congregation Care.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 2017			
	Y-T-D <u>Actual</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	Y-T-D <u>Last Year</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$239,997	\$262,717	\$227,621
Total Receipts	\$275,568	\$299,572	\$256,835
Expenses	\$291,279	\$314,793	\$286,258
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	\$(15,711)	\$(15,221)	\$(29,423)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan: \$ 7,466.75
 Giving to Other Designated Funds: \$ 2,517.00
Total Giving for the Week \$ 9,983.75

May Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$13

To give online, scan here →



MUHLENBERG NEWS

ATTENTION! SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Those planning VBS need your help. We need the following items for service projects for the SPCA and Free Clinic:

- 1 - 20 lb. bag of Kibbles and Bits
- 3 bags of Cat Chow
- 2 large boxes of Milk-Bone dog treats
(medium size)
- 20 boxes of Band Aids
- 20 Personal size packs of tissues
- 20 boxes/packs of cough drops

In the past few years, service has been a central theme of VBS. By donating supplies, you can be part of the service. Place these items in the bin marked VBS in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your help. *Contact Diane Bayer (434-3496) for more information.*

FAITH IN ACTION

FIA will start a new listening campaign in June to identify concerns our congregation members have about issues affecting basic human needs and rights in our community. In 2015, our team interviewed over 50 Muhlenberg members to learn what they thought was working well and what needed to be changed in local policies and practices. We need your help to carry the conversation forward. Would you be willing to make a short-term commitment to help with interviews from June to September? Would you be willing to be interviewed regarding your own concerns? If so, please *contact Nancy Martin-Finks* (nanmart777@comcast.net / 540-421-8199) or *Russell Presnell* (russellepresnell@gmail.com / 540-746-3562).

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 rsanders97@verizon.net.



A whole-house surge protector can save your home appliances from lightning strikes that can “fry” circuitry. Installation is cheaper than the cost of replacing one major appliance and saves on appliance production resources and manufacturing pollution.

IDEAS, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS?

Do you have ideas, questions or concerns to share? Please know that your pastors are always willing and eager to meet with you at the church or over refreshments at a local shop. Our staff, Council, and ministry team chairs are also glad to hear from you. Let us know what you are thinking! We strive to be faithful disciples together!

LET'S GET CONNECTED!

Are you on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter? Why not Like or Follow Muhlenberg? Get informative updates regularly throughout the week, photos, prayers, and inspirations/devotionals. It is also a great way to let your friends know about your church and our ministry. Find us on Facebook by searching for Muhlenberg Lutheran Church, or follow us on Instagram and Twitter at @MuhlenbergLC.

PRAYER CARDS

Thanks to the suggestion of one of our thoughtful youth, we have a prayer request box on the welcome desk. You can find prayer request cards in the back inside cover of the worship book in your pew or at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Area.

REMINDERS

CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

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

PARKING ALERT!



If you park in a numbered space at the lot on the corner of Ott and Water Streets (behind the MAC), your car may be towed!

That lot is leased by Urban Exchange, which rents the spaces to tenants. No other vehicles are permitted.

You may park in the “sister lot” with un-numbered spaces closer to the church (beside the white house) for worship services and weekday church activities after 5 pm.

Additionally on Sundays, you may park in the **Farm Credit lot** across E. Market St. or the law office **Wharton, Aldhizer & Weaver lot** between W. Water Street & Newman Avenue.

PARKING COURTESY

From young families juggling little ones to older members to others in between, there are many folks whose lives could be made a little easier or safer by parking closer to the church entrances. While we have a few designated handicapped parking spots, on Sunday morning those can be full. Let's be hospitable to each other and visitors who might simply be helped by a closer space. If you usually park closer, maybe take a spot a little further back so those that need it may have a safer spot. Thank you for your consideration.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Karen Mathias (434-4625 or kfmathias@gmail.com) or Jess Weimerskirch (333-1938 or jessicaweimerskirch@gmail.com) for more information.

For financial gifts to any organization supported by LGM, make checks payable to MLC and indicate the organization / project on your check and envelope.

LGM's focus is to provide relief for unmet needs for food, water, clothing, housing, health issues, and disasters both locally and globally. This weekly column is a place to share requests that have come through LGM, and to encourage regular and prayerful consideration of congregational use of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

PATCHWORK PANTRY

Provides an emergency food supply monthly for persons at or below the poverty line. Here are **CRITICAL NEEDS**:



- Volunteers for Wednesdays, 7-8 pm (70 S. High Street); 433-2148 for more info.
- Donations (because savings are being used to purchase food).

NEXT Sunday, June 4, we collect non-perishable food items, paper products, cleansers, diapers, and personal hygiene products for Patchwork Pantry. No glass jars please. Thank you for your support.

BOOK DRIVE FOR MINNICK SCHOOL

 A Lutheran Family Services school that helps students achieve academic, behavioral and developmental goals so they may return to their home public school or pursue a path to meaningful work.

- Donate books on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Go to Accounts and Lists on the top tool bar, and drop down to “Find your list or registry.” Search for lists (not a registry) and type in LFSVA. Harrisonburg Minnick Library is on the left.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

SUMMER OF SERVICE Intergenerational Program Sundays all Summer June 4 – August 27, 9:30 am



We have had wonderful success with our Intergenerational Summer Sunday school program the last two years, so we are offering it again this year. Below is this year's schedule of agencies we will learn about and service projects we will complete for them.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
June 4	Salvation Army	Newborn Kits
June 11	Generation Crossings	Activities Kits
June 18	Minnick School	Snack Pack Kits
June 25	Healthy Families of the Blue Ridge	Infant/Toddler First Aid Kits
July 2	<i>no meeting due to 4th of July holiday</i>	
July 9	New Bridges Immigrant Resource Ctr.	Welcome Boxes
July 16	Harrisonburg Fire Dept.	<i>A Thank You Meal</i>
July 23	People Helping People	Summer Survival Bags
July 30	Second Home	Breakfast Packs
Aug. 6	Harrisonburg Rescue Squad	<i>A Thank You Meal</i>
Aug. 13	Anicira Veterinary Center	Pet Rescue Bags
Aug. 20	Camp Caroline Furnace	Science Water Test Kits
Aug 27	The ARC of H'burg & R'ham Co.	Activities Kits

STARTING SUNDAY, JUNE 4 AT 9:30.

Children newborn-2 years old have a class in the nursery. Children 3 years – 5th grade meet in the church for the Pastor's Children's Time, then go to the MAC to join 6th - 12th grade youth and adults of all ages.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

“KINGDOM STORIES”



Come and join the fun
at VBS 2017!

Date: **SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

Time: **9:30 am - 4:00 pm**

Place: **the MAC**

Who: **children 3 years old to 5th grade**
(6th -12th graders are asked to be helpers)

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

Registration forms are available
in the Gathering Area today!

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

MUHLENBERG CAMP WEEK AT CAROLINE FURNACE

July 9-14

Do you enjoy being outside in the sun playing games, hiking, singing, swimming? What about sitting outside on a beautiful summer evening looking at the stars, enjoying a fire and toasting marshmallows? If you said yes to any of these things, you will want to be part of the Muhlenberg week at camp. We hope a lot of Muhlenberg kids will attend camp together.

The theme for camp this year is “EXPLORE,” from the passage “*When you pass through the waters I will be with you*” *Isaiah 43:2*. Come and explore how we grow to know and love God deeper: through God’s word, service to others, worship, fellowship with other Christians and exploring God’s beautiful creation. **Campers are children who are rising 1st graders – rising 12th graders.**

EXPLORERS (rising 1st – 3rd graders)

PIONEERS (rising 4th – 6th graders)
Traditional

ADVENTURE (rising 7th – 9th graders)
Hiking

QUEST (rising 9th – 12th graders)
Whitewater Rafting

Visit the Connection Center for details and register online at www.carolinefurnace.org.



MORE REMINDERS

MISSED 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 been missing. Additionally, you can get sermons and *The Chimes* from our website, www.muhenberglutheran.org.

ATTENTION

MINISTRY/GROUP LEADERS



Is your Bible study, Circle meeting or other activity taking a break for the summer? **To ensure the building space you desire is available when you return this fall, reserve it now** by contacting Building Use Coordinator Loretta Harris:

- Email your request to buildinguse@muhenberglutheran.org or
- Leave a message via building use voicemail (434-3496) or
- Complete a request form (located beside the church mailboxes). Return completed forms to the building use mailbox.

Please note that Loretta volunteers her time to coordinate building use. She will answer your request as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience and planning ahead is helpful.

YOUTH NEWS

Contact Pastor Brett Davis (434-3496 or davis@muhenberglutheran.org) for more information.

JCREW (Senior High Youth Group)

NEXT Sunday, June 4 we are saying GOODBYE to our graduating high school seniors at the 11:00 service. A reception will be held before the service at 10:30 in the Gathering Area.

Following the 11:00 service, all JCrew and their families are invited to a cookout at 1212 Woodcrest Circle, Harrisonburg. There we will say another goodbye, and a huge HELLO to rising 9th graders joining JCrew in the fall. Be sure to bring a dish to share and a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, condiments, and utensils are all provided.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer (434-3496 or bayer@muhenberglutheran.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 at 11:00 for children 3-7 years old (held in the Nielsen Room). **Today is the last Children's Church of the season – it will resume September 10.**

**Summer schedule
begins NEXT Sunday!**
See p. 5 for details.

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 the family of Eudrice “Edie” Timmons who died April 23. A memorial service will be held at MLC May 31 at 10 am. All are welcome.
- ✚ We offer sympathy to the family of Bernice Roberts following her death on May 20. A service was held Thursday at Kyger Funeral Home.
- ✚ A special thanks to all the JAMers and their families for a wonderful picnic last Sunday. With over 50 in attendance it made for a delightful afternoon. Parents, great job playing the kids *FAITH TALK* questions game. Blessings to all those in fifth grade who will rise up to Alpha Teens. I have enjoyed each of you over the last 4 years and will miss all of you! *Diane Bayer*
- ✚ Congratulations to Bud Whitmire as he celebrates his 93rd birthday on May 31. (address: 1011 Rockingham Drive, Harrisonburg 22802)



DAILY DEVOTIONS

PRAYING OUR FAITH TOGETHER!

For individual and family use. Scripture citations taken from ELW's 3-Year Daily Lectionary, p. 1121-1132, (Year A).

Mon. 1 Peter 4:1-6 **Thu. Acts 2:1-11**
Tue. 1 Peter 4:7-11 **Fri. Romans 8:14-17**
Wed. John 3:31-36 **Sat. Matthew 5:1-12**
Sun. Day of Pentecost John 20:19-23

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

May 29-June 4

Mon. Memorial Day – church office closed

Tue. 6:30 pm Celebration Singers

Wed. 7:30 am Before Work Bible Study
10:00 am Simmons Funeral
12 noon Holy Communion
6:30 pm Holy Communion
7:00 pm Micah 6:8
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thu. 10:30 am Animate: Faith
7:00 pm Animate: Faith

Sun. Day of Pentecost
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 Holy Communion
10:30 am Reception for HS Graduates
11:00 am Blessing of HS Graduates
12:30 pm JCrew Cookout

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)