



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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June 2, 2019

ASCENSION SUNDAY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

PASTORAL CANDIDATE PREACHES

(**Members, a letter with details was mailed Wednesday, 5/22. The Chimes you receive at church will also have details.**)

TODAY we welcome our pastoral candidate, who will preside and preach at both services. A letter that includes details about the call process, a bio, and the proposed compensation package was mailed to members May 22. Extra copies are available at the Connection Center.

MESSAGE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Today the congregation will have the opportunity to see firsthand why the Call Committee and Congregation Council are thrilled to recommend our pastoral candidate to be our new Associate Pastor.

The candidate deeply believes they are called to serve at Muhlenberg at this point in their ministry. We prayerfully hope the congregation will share this view after meeting them, worshipping with them, and hearing them preach.

The candidate was the unanimous choice of the Call Committee. After extensive interviews, viewing of sermons, meetings, dinners, and discussions with all the candidates, it was clear that this candidate's gifts in ministry would be a perfect fit for Muhlenberg. Their strength and passion for preaching, teaching, and building community are truly impressive. They believe they are at their best when they work as part of a ministry team and desire to build strong relationships with church staff and all members of the congregation.

This is an exciting time for our future.

Karen Thomsen, Call Committee Chair

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The new schedule begins today.

(see p. 3 for details.)

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

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?

CONGRATULATIONS PASTOR LAUREN & NATE!

Today we celebrate the marriage of Pastor Lauren and Nate with a reception between services in the Gathering Area. We finish our collection of cards for the newlyweds **TODAY**. Please leave your card in the basket at the back of the sanctuary or drop it off at the church office during the week.



CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Called Congregational Meeting will be held **TODAY** immediately following the 10:30 service (approx. 11:45). The only business to be conducted is to vote on extending a call to our candidate and approving a compensation package.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	92	Wed. Noon	15
9:30 Worship	70		
11:00 Worship	<u>115</u>		
Total	277		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 2019	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$231,661	\$273,132	\$232,615
Total Receipts	\$267,821	\$311,915	\$267,822
Expenses	\$279,355	\$336,155	\$278,780
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$11,534)	(\$24,240)	(\$10,958)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan \$ 7,135.31

Giving to Other Designated Funds \$ 2,881.78

Total Giving for the Week \$ 10,017.19

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



LINDA DEPOY OUT OF THE OFFICE

Parish Administrator Linda Depoy is having back surgery June 10. She will be out of the office 6 – 8 weeks, likely returning late July. She will work from home after the first few weeks, as her doctor allows.

Administrative Assistant Crystl Whitmire will continue her own work and pick up some major priorities from Linda's position: preparing worship booklets and *The Chimes*, answering emails and calls, and providing support to others when she can. She will not be in the office every day, but our faithful volunteer office assistants will be. Please email Linda as you normally do — she or Crystl will provide assistance as soon as possible.

SUMMER SCHEDULE STARTS TODAY!



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: 8:45 & 10:30

Last year's summer service schedule was a big hit with many members. **Starting TODAY, service times will be 8:45 and 10:30.** We will have fellowship between services every Sunday, and Christian Formation will meet five Sundays throughout the summer. (*see details below*)



INTERGENERATIONAL SUMMER SUNDAYS

11:45 am - 2:00 pm

June 9 & 30, July 14 & 28, August 11

Starting **NEXT Sunday, June 9, beginning at 11:45 in the MAC**, we will have an intergenerational program. In the past, we have had wonderful success with our **Intergenerational Summer Sunday School**. Lunch will be provided, and various agencies will come and share what they are doing. We will 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. **All ages are invited to take part in these meaningful family activities** (remember a family is whoever lives in your home).

JUNE 9 PROGRAM DETAILS

The first program **NEXT Sunday, June 9** will be presented by the Migrant Education Program. We will put together personal hygiene kits and have a clothing drive (*see p. 5 for details*). *Please contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) with questions.*

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

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

GO-GO GROUP LUNCH (55+)

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the Go-Go Group **Wednesday, June 5, 1:00 pm at Taste of Thai**. Call Dan Werner (433-3912) for more information.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION UPDATE

Christian Formation classes are taking a break for the summer. Our Intergenerational Summer Sundays begin **NEXT Sunday, June 9 at 11:45** (see p. 3 for details).

WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST

NEXT Sunday, June 9 is Pentecost Sunday! Wear red and join us for this major festival and fun celebration of God's Spirit in our midst.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

Second Home is a ministry here at Muhlenberg. Without it, many young children in the neighborhood would go to an empty house after school.



With their parents working, the children would be on their own to do homework and feed themselves a healthy snack.



For this month, we ask you to donate **animal crackers** **Sunday, June 16**. 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.

POWER IN THE SPIRIT

Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for anyone who wishes to explore God's Call to serve through joyous worship, Bible study, keynote addresses, workshops and fellowship. This year's theme is, "Children of the Same Heavenly Father." Join Lutherans from all across the state for this faith-filled conference held **July 11-13 at Roanoke College**. For more information ...



- Visit the Connection Center
- Contact Diane Bayer (434-3496 or bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org)
- Visit vasynod.org

MUHLENBERG NEWS

BOOK ON REVELATION

Pastor Lauren has placed orders for books requested. Some of them are in and are available from the table outside her office in the administrative hallway.

CREATION CARE TIP

Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. For more information, contact Ramona Sanders (rsanders9@verizon.net or 433-1165).



It might be tempting to flush unused medication down the toilet, but many prescription meds have high concentrations of metals and other substances that are harmful to the environment and wildlife. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has expressed concern that prescription medications flushed down the toilet can enter lakes and streams, causing deformities in the fish and waterfowl. Place unused or expired prescriptions in designated containers at Sentara RMH Pharmacy or Harrisonburg Police Headquarters where they will be disposed of properly.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

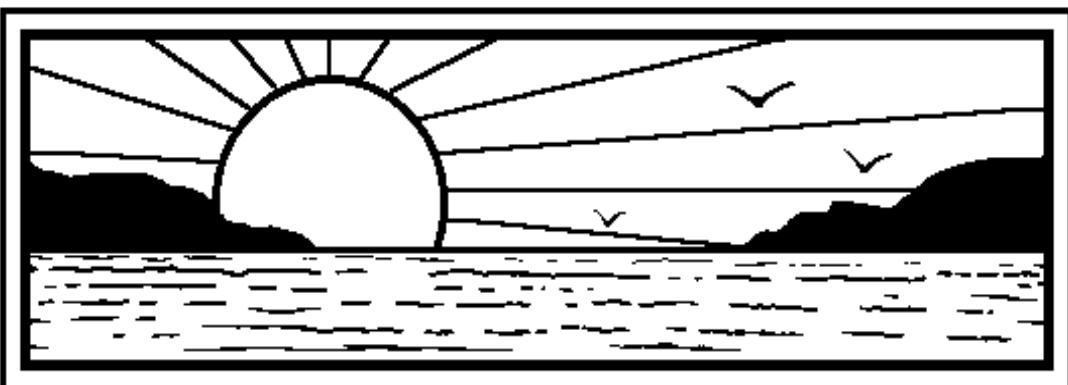
Contact Local & Global Mission Chair
Karen Matthias (kmatthias@gmail.com or 434-4625)
for more information.

CLOTHING DRIVE

In coordination with the June 9 Intergenerational Summer Sunday, we will collect gently used or new cool weather clothing for young male workers who will be living in the nearby migrant camps this fall. Needed most are men's small and medium sized (and some large) sweatshirts and sweatpants, jeans, hoodies, sweaters, jackets, long sleeved shirts, underwear and socks. Occasionally a family may need children's warm clothing for ages 8-13. Place donations in the designated bins in the Gathering Area **TODAY and next Sunday, June 9.**

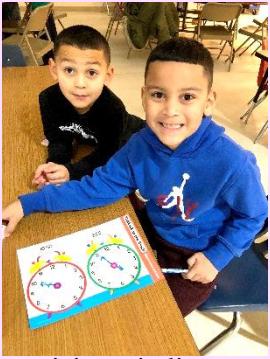


Then on June 9, stay through lunch and early afternoon to learn more about Migrant Education here in the valley as part of the intergenerational event!



SECOND HOME NEWS

“... whoever is kind to the needy honors God.” Proverbs 14:31



It is hard to believe that Second Home’s 11th school year is almost over. What a year it has been! The program was full to capacity. Our fantastic staff assured that 54 students in the before school care program had breakfast, a safe and friendly place, and made it to school on time every morning. As of now, Second Home is still the only before school care program in the city, that is affordable for working class families and is open early enough (6 am) for parents to get to morning shifts.

90 kids in the after school care (many of whom came in the morning as well) had time to play and make friends, enjoy the outdoors, complement their nutrition with well-balanced snacks, get homework help and participate in literacy, math, science, and art enrichment.

Field trips, *Girls on the Run*, and a spring musical were only a few of the enrichment they took part in. Second Home is unique in the way it cares for the whole family, not just the children. We also help parents connect to local resources. For the first time, through a partnership with JMU Campus Kitchen, we were able to provide families with weekly take home dinners. Fresh vegetables were also provided through a gleaning program at the Farmers Market.

We have been blessed by the support of Muhlenberg members. Many of you volunteered your time and talent to work with children, make costumes, and create a nicer play area for Second Home kids. Because of your food donations, we were able to serve more nutritious snacks, including fruits and vegetables. Your school supply donations allowed us to budget more money for teacher wages. Your cash donations and participation in our fundraising events help us keep our fees low and offer scholarships to families who need them.

The actual cost of taking care of one child for the school year is \$1,600. Student fees only cover part of this. While we work hard to make up the difference from grants, as a small agency, it is difficult to find the funding. That is why we are so dependent on the community’s help. Second Home is one of the local outreach ministries of Muhlenberg, and we appreciate how you support this program.



The children at Second Home are part of the future — the future of our community, the future of our country. It takes a village to raise a child, and we are all part of that village.

Second Home Director Krisztina Szekely

YOUTH NEWS

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

ALPHA TEENS SUMMER TRIP

Attention rising 7th - 9th graders: this summer's trip is **July 21-26** at Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp! We will be at the Hammock Hangout. Please sign up through the camp website.

CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS

Special *busy bags* for children are available in the Gathering Area.

REMINDERS

COMMUNION IN THE PEWS

For those who wish to receive Holy Communion and are unable to come forward, communion is served in the pews – just let an usher know about your needs. 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.

WEDNESDAY MID-DAY EUCHARIST

12 Noon – 12:30 p.m.

Every Wednesday

Need a spiritual lift in the middle of your workweek? Come for this half-hour service of hearing the Word, silent meditation, reflecting on scripture, prayer and intercession and the sharing of the Lord's Supper. Food for the soul and strength for the journey!

PRAYER CARDS

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.



On the form, you will see that one option is to share the prayer request with the “prayer chain.” Our prayer chain is an email group that receives and covenants to pray for these requests, as well as holding them confidential. To receive these emails (average of 3 per week), email Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) with your request.

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 (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

LAY COMMUNION MINISTRY

This 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.

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 depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496. Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.

⊕ A thank you note was received from Orphan Grain Train (OGT) for 25 quilts donated by the Comfort Makers. Thank you to all who donate time and talent to care for others around the world with gifts of warmth and comfort. Members can donate via the offering plate by designating OGT on your check/envelope.

Local & Global Mission

⊕ We have received a note from Bridge of Hope thanking us for allowing them to share information about their program on Mother's Day. Several members signed up to volunteer and \$600.00 was raised to support their ministry for single mothers. Donations may still be placed in the offering plate anytime by designating Bridge of Hope on your check/envelope.

⊕ Thanks to everyone for my pretty birthday cards and nice phone calls for my birthday. I greatly appreciate them.

Juanita Propst



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 16:35-40
Tue.	Acts 26:19-29
Wed.	Luke 9:18-27
Thu.	Galatians 5:16-25
Fri.	Galatians 6:7-10
Sat.	Luke 1:5-17
Sun.	John 14:8-17 [25-27]

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

June 3 – June 9, 2019

Mon.	2:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
Tue.	6:30 pm	Celebration Singers
	7:00 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed.	12 noon	Holy Communion
	1:00 pm	Go-Go Lunch
	7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Sun.	Day of Pentecost	

Summer Service Times:
8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion
11:45 am Intergenerational Program

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.