



# 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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**July 1, 2018**

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## **WHAT'S THE BUZZ**

✚ On behalf of the Call Committee, I am delighted to share with you that we are currently reviewing the profiles of a healthy number of candidates who have expressed an interest in being considered. While we know well that the process will involve a series of thoughtful and prayerful considerations, we are committed to moving forward with equal measures of diligence and urgency, ever mindful of the importance of this work as we all contemplate the future of our congregation. Your prayers support us and the Spirit guides us.

*Ted Sudol, Call Committee Chair*

## **TODAY AT MUHLENBERG**

### **SUMMER WORSHIP CHANGES**

For the summer months, our liturgy will be more streamlined with several notable changes. We will use a different musical setting, *Now the Feast and Celebration*, written by Marty Haugen. This setting was commissioned by Pacific Lutheran University and has been in use for many years. Each of its components is found in our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

In addition to a different musical setting, we will have the children's message before the readings, read the psalm responsively, use an abbreviated prayer of thanksgiving, and hear the prelude prior to the beginning of the liturgy. On occasion, the pastors may read the gospel and preach from the aisle.

We hope that these differences will give a sense of change to our Sunday worship and allow us to focus on what is most important, the good news that is Jesus Christ.

Summer Schedule, July 1 – September 2:

**8:45 am**      **Worship**  
**9:00 am**      **Christian Formation** (see p. 7)  
**9:50-10:20**   **Fellowship** Gathering Area  
**10:30 am**      **Worship**

## **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 to securely register online visit us at*

*[www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org).*



## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

### FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

TODAY we wear **name badges** to be welcoming and learn each other's names. Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

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

### ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW, July 2, 7:00 pm** in the Kairos Room. Contact Jennie Warner (476-2020 or [mjwarner1@aol.com](mailto:mjwarner1@aol.com)) for details.

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

We hope you have a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. **The office will be closed, and there will be no noon service Wednesday, July 4.**

### HEIFETZ CONCERT

The unique excitement and stunning artistry of a summertime Heifetz concert will be available to audiences all around Virginia for the first time, starting here at Muhlenberg **NEXT Sunday, July 8 at 3:00 pm.** Their *Sundays in*

*Virginia* series will feature a broad array of faculty, students, and outstanding alumni of the Music Institute. Catch the memorable experience of a Heifetz concert. Bring a friend. Tickets are \$15.



## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	65	Wed Noon	7
9:30 Worship	89		
11:00 Worship	<u>145</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>299</b>		

### MINISTRY OF THE WEEK: FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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

The Fellowship team is fun! We just finished providing VBS suppers for our children and adults. We work great together to provide food and fellowship for Muhlenberg members!

We are now planning the **church picnic scheduled for Sunday, August 26, 4:30 p.m. at Shelter #2 in Purcell Park.** Our ministry includes potluck meals and any other fun activity you'd like us to do. Would you be interested in joining our team? We'd love to have you! Contact Machel Rader at [raderpm@jmu.edu](mailto:raderpm@jmu.edu) or 540-820-4784.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through <b>May 2018</b>			
	Y-T-D <u>Actual</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	Y-T-D <u>Last Year</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$290,119	\$322,072	\$294,416
Total Receipts	\$332,101	\$365,096	\$336,113
Expenses	\$341,230	\$403,972	\$362,645
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$9,129)</b>	<b>(\$38,876)</b>	<b>(\$26,532)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan: \$ 5,570.96  
 Giving to Other Designated Funds: \$ 8,637.31  
**Total Giving for the Week \$ 14,208.27**

*See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.*

To give online, scan here →



## FLOODING UPDATE



When we arrived June 3, we were met with 2-3 inches of standing water in two-thirds of our basement. **Now, we are working hard to get the downstairs area back in working order.**

A contractor tested moisture levels and found most of the areas with drywall had 100% moisture readings near the bottom of the walls. Our carpets and vinyl floors were still holding moisture as well.

Using professional grade equipment, the contractor was able to save all of the carpet downstairs. They hope to start putting things back together Monday, July 2 if drying continues as planned. The contractor also found two problems with door leading out of the Nielsen room that allowed water to come in. They have corrected the problems and hopefully this will protect that room from future floods.

We recognize the disruption this is causing with meetings and other gatherings during this time. We greatly appreciate your understanding and patience.

**Evening meetings can still take place in their regular location.**

**If you have a daytime meeting scheduled, please contact Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496) to determine the best space for your group.**

*Chris Harbin, Property Chair*

## 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](mailto:rsanders9@verizon.net).*



Show your support for local growers by shopping at the farmers market. You'll find an array of locally grown fruits and vegetables, homemade preserves, baked goods, flowers, plants, and crafts. The produce sold is grown on nearby farms and harvested at its peak to ensure freshness. Farmers markets are also an excellent source of organic produce. Take time to sample the products and talk to the farmers about how their produce was grown.

### 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 and training are 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 contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (434-3496 or [depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)). In compliance with state regulations and Safe Church policies, there is an interview and application process.

## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

### PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



**People  
Helping  
People**

The Local & Global Mission Committee will hold our **annual fund drive for People Helping People July 15 and 22**. Please help us to reach our goal of \$1,000 to help our local neighbors in need. Make checks payable to Muhlenberg, designating People Helping People on the memo line of your check and envelope, and place in the offering plate.

PHP is an ecumenical, cooperative ministry supported by 57 local congregations. They provide financial assistance to community members living in poverty that are facing emergency situations. Assistance is provided for utilities, medicine, obtaining birth certificates, identification cards, and other basic needs. Referral to other local resources is also provided as needed. The ministry, which serves on average 2,500 families each year, is funded totally by community donors. PHP has been on Muhlenberg's campus since the beginning and is currently housed here in the MAC. Muhlenberg donates space for their use and several Muhlenberg members are volunteers and/or serve on the PHP board. Over the past 9 years alone PHP has distributed over \$1,000,000 dollars to clients in our community! All donations stay within the Harrisonburg/Rockingham community, including payroll.

*For more information about PHP, or to volunteer to help, call their office at 540-433-7286 or visit their website:*

[peoplehelpingpeople-harrisonburg.org/](http://peoplehelpingpeople-harrisonburg.org/)

*Donations can be made to PHP via the offering plate at any time. Just write your check payable to Muhlenberg and write People Helping People in the memo line of your check and on the envelope.*

## “GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.”

**Sunday, September 9**

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness



**God's work.  
Our hands.**

boldly and serve joyfully. The date for the **2018 “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is September 9** or a time that works best for individual congregations.

Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this dedicated day of service, gathering to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God’s people. The event has quickly become an anticipated way to be “church together” and “church for the sake of the world.” One of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: All of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. You work every day to make your community a better place. Let’s do this work together!

On **Saturday, August 18**, Muhlenberg volunteers will **paint classroom doors at Minnick School** (located at 1661 Virginia Avenue). The school is a part of Lutheran Family Services of VA and offers students age 5 to 22 a chance to achieve academic, behavioral and developmental goals in an alternative setting.

Coordinators for events this year are Susan Lawrence and Jackie Wells. *Contact Susan ([lawrensj@comcast.net](mailto:lawrensj@comcast.net) or 540-908-0073) for details.* If you would like to paint, sign up in the notebook at the Connection Center.

*LGM news continued on p. 6*

## VBS UPDATE

### THANK YOU, VBS WORKERS

We thank members involved with VBS from those who donated food and service project supplies to the teachers, helpers, kitchen workers, snack workers, music leaders, game leaders, service project presenters, and anybody who gave of their time to be part of our VBS Faith Forming program. A big thank you to Thrivent Financial for the funds that paid for the delicious meals. We also thank the wonderful children who attended from our own church, Second Home, Day Care and surrounding neighborhood. You made this a great time filled with learning about God's love, serving others and making new friends.

- Flowers & vegetables were planted relating to the Parable of the Mustard Seed.
- Personal *Get Ready* care bags we made relating to the Parable of 10 Bridesmaids
- 2 x 4 boards had pictures drawn and prayers written on them relating to the Wiseman Built his house on the Rock
- Soup was made for Our Community Place relating to the Rich Young Man's Question
- Cat & dog bags were made for the SPCA relating to the story of the Good Shepherd

***"I have been made a servant of the church by God who gave me this task to perform. It is the task of fully proclaiming the Message..."***  
***Based on Colossians 1:25-39***

*See VBS photos in next column and on p. 7.*



## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION NEWS (CONT'D)

### SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

Second Home is a wonderful ministry offered here at Muhlenberg. Without it, many young children in the Muhlenberg neighborhood would be going 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 *peanut butter* **Sunday, July 15**. Place donations in the designated bin in the Gathering Area.

### PICTORIAL DIRECTORY NEWS SPRINGTIME UPDATE

Have you moved since we last updated the directory? Has your family grown? We'd love to reflect any changes in the Muhlenberg Pictorial Directory.

Are you in the pictorial directory yet? If not, watch *The Chimes* for photo opportunities. The whole process takes about 5 minutes.

*Mycah McNett & Neil Alexander*

### SOFTWARE UPDATE

Do you use our Pictorial Directory App? If yes, it just updated on iOS - you may have to sign in the next time you view the directory. Fun new features include being able to look at members by groups - which we have **organized as Shepherd Areas**. Say 'hello' to your Muhlenberg neighbors next time you see them!

## VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

### WALKING IN NEWNESS OF LIFE



### POWER IN THE SPIRIT July 12-14, 2018

Roanoke College, Salem, VA

Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for everyone who wishes to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible study, keynote addresses, workshops, and fellowship.



*Details and registration information are available at the Connection Center.*

### **ONLY BY GRACE CAN WE STAND**

Highlights from this year's Synod Assembly are available at the Connection Center. The theme for this year was *Only by Grace Can We Stand*. The scripture was from Ephesians 2:19-21 and Bishop Bob helped us explore the theme. If you want to know more, talk to one of our delegates: Tim Peifer, Bill Compton, Phil Perry, Diane Bayer, and Mycah McNett.

### **BISHOP HUMPHREY'S SERMON**

Bishop Bob preached a wonderful sermon at the Saturday evening service titled *The Bridge that Binds Us Together*. Copies of the sermon are available at the Connection Center.

## YOUTH & CAMPUS NEWS

### JUNIOR HIGH SERVANT EVENT

At the Water's Edge is a weeklong servant event **July 15 - July 20** held in Virginia Beach for youth who have completed the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and their adult advisers. We spend the week experiencing Christian life through worship, fellowship, service, and fun at the water's edge! If you are interested in going, contact Mycah McNett ([mcnett@muhlenberg.lutheran.org](mailto:mcnett@muhlenberg.lutheran.org) or 434-3496).



### FORWARDING FAITH CAMPAIGN

Over the past 36 years the Virginia Synod has seen youth events expand to five+ excellent opportunities for over a thousand youth every year. Many of those kids have come back as small group leaders and are sending their own kids to Virginia Synod youth events, The **ForwardingFaith** campaign is all about continuing this legacy.

Each of us has the opportunity to help make certain youth events continue for many years. You can do so by donating to the Virginia Synod ForwardingFaith Campaign. At the Connection Center, you will find more information about [ForwardingFaith and the impact VA Youth Ministry has made for others!](#) Watch The Chimes for details about **Muhlenberg's campaign that will run September 15 - October 31.**

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer (434-3496 or [bayer@muhlenberg.lutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberg.lutheran.org)) for more information.

### SUMMER CHRISTIAN FORMATION Starting TODAY!

Children PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade start in the sanctuary at **8:45 to hear the reading of the scripture and the Pastor's message.** After that children all go to the MAC where they will hear a Bible story related to the scripture for the day. Several Sundays they will work on a service project for Minnick School, People Helping People and Second Home! Adults are welcome!



Children should be picked up **immediately** following the 8:45 liturgy and before fellowship in the Gathering Area so children and leaders can be part of the Fellowship time.



2018 VBS Bible story time

## 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 (434-3496 or [depoym@muehlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muehlenberglutheran.org)). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the editor and pastors.*

✚ You are invited to the *Dedication of Spaders Community Center and 175 Years of Ministry* at St. Jacobs-Spaders Lutheran Church (3555 Spaders Church Road, Mt. Crawford) **NEXT Sunday, July 8, 11:00 am-2:00 pm**. There will be food and door prizes.

✚ Thanks to the generosity of all who participated in the Orphan Grain Train (OGT) collections in late April, Muhlenberg sent a variety of much needed school supplies, 24 comforts, and \$495 to assist our neighbors in need in Liberia, Sudan, and/or India. A special thank you to our Comfort Makers for the time and talent they so generously share in making comforts for a host of God's suffering people locally and across the globe, and to Hans Barthmus for transporting the goods to Maryland for shipping.

*Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in the US and around the world. For more information visit [ogt.org](http://ogt.org) or speak with Hans Barthmus. Donations can be made to OGT at any time via the offering plate. Make your check payable to Muhlenberg and note Orphan Grain Train on your check and envelope.*



## 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.** Acts 27:13-38  
**Tues.** Acts 27:39-44  
**Wed.** Mark 6:45-52  
**Thu.** 2 Corinthians 7:2-16  
**Fri.** 2 Corinthians 8:1-7  
**Sat.** Luke 4:31-37  
**Sun.** Mark 6:1-3

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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 2-8, 2018

**Mon.** 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting  
7:00 pm Eldercare Support Group

**Wed.** Independence Day  
Church Office Closed  
*No noon service*

**Sun.** 8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion  
9:00 am Summer Christian Formation  
3:00 pm Heifetz Concert

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 ([depoym@muehlenberglutheran.org/434-3496](mailto:depoym@muehlenberglutheran.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/muehlenberglutheran](https://facebook.com/muehlenberglutheran)