



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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August 19, 2018

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee is looking forward to welcoming two pastoral candidates to the Shenandoah Valley in the very near future. When each of the candidates comes to Harrisonburg, there will be time dedicated for a formal interview with the Call Committee as well as informal time for us to lead them on tours of the community and visits to Muhlenberg.

I wish I could tell you when these visits will be taking place, but I cannot do so. I trust that you understand. **Truly, it is essential to the process that we be respectful of these pastors' current commitments and ensure that we do our very best to safeguard the confidentiality of their engagement in our call process.**

I can assure you of this: It is the Call Committee's hope and prayer that in due time these next steps will lead us closer to a Sunday when a candidate will be welcomed by all of us and lead our worship service.

Ted Sudol, Call Committee Chair

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

SUMMER SCHEDULE EVALUATION

Please help us evaluate our summer worship schedule and fellowship hour! You should have received a green evaluation form from the ushers this morning. Please fill it out and leave it at the back of the church in the designated box or return it to the church office. You may either sign the form or remain anonymous. We would like to hear from every member including our youth. For the next several weeks, the form will be available at the Connection Center.

Remember that our summer worship hours extend through September 2. On September 9 we return to three worship services at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am.

Thanks to everyone who assisted in any way with worship this summer and to those who hosted the fellowship hour!

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.



TODAY (CONT'D)

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION



In the Gathering Area, we are collecting *granola bars (Costco or family size)* to serve as snacks for students at Second Home. If

you wish to help and prefer to make a cash donation, designate "Second Home food" on your check and envelope.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

We bless K-12th grade students, teachers and staff at each service. We pray for a year of successful learning and healthy relationships.

SOUTHERN VALLEY CONFERENCE GATHERING



Today at 4:30 pm at Salem Lutheran Church (417 Salem Church Road, Mt. Sidney). Meet with Bishop Bob Humphrey and his staff as the Synod office works to bridge connections with congregations. They want to hear from you how the Synod office can best serve its churches and their communities.

Who We Are and Christian Formation brochures are available at the Connection Center today!

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	105	Wed. Noon	14
10:30 Worship	<u>124</u>		
Total	229		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through July 2018			
	Y-T-D <u>Actual</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	Y-T-D <u>Last Year</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$399,183	\$474,038	\$429,365
Total Receipts	\$453,433	\$527,900	\$481,269
Expenses	\$479,360	\$563,777	\$506,207
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$25,927)	(\$35,877)	(\$24,938)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$	6,513.36
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	4,095.25
Total Giving for the Week	\$	10,608.61

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.

July Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$36



To give online, scan here →

BE ALERT!



Second Home and Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care Center have geared back up after the summer break. We have approximately **200 children on our campus** Monday - Friday, along with all the pedestrian and car traffic that comes with hosting them.

Please be extra alert and slow down in the parking lot to avoid accidents and injuries. Pedestrians, use sidewalks instead of walking behind cars to avoid potential injury.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST (55+)



Go-Go
Group

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the Go-Go Group at Thomas House in Dayton **THIS**

Tuesday, August 21, 8:30 am. Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information about the group and its activities.

CONFIRMATION MEETING

Confirmation students in grades 6, 7 & 8 and their parents will meet **Sunday, August 26, 11:45 am** in the Nielsen Room.



FUN & FELLOWSHIP!



Annual Church Picnic

Purcell Park, Shelter #2
(same as last year)

NEXT Sunday, August 26
4:30 pm Fellowship & Corn Hole
5:30 pm We Eat!

Hotdogs and bottled water
will be provided.

Bring a dish to share
if you are able.

Please bring a chair
(and a friend!)

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

ATTENTION ALL CHOIR MEMBERS (AND NEWBIES TOO!)

Rehearsals begin this week! Thanks to all of our “current choristers” for your ongoing participation and dedication to singing God’s praises! If you are new to Muhlenberg or simply new to singing and are interested in one of our choral groups, *please contact Music Minister Elizabeth Williams (williams@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).*



WE HAVE A GROUP FOR YOU!

Celebration Singers (10th grade and up)
Begins **Tuesday, August 21**, and rehearses **6:30–7:30 pm**. A “joy of singing” is your only requirement!

Sanctuary Choir (10th grade and up)
Begins **Wednesday, August 22**, and rehearses **7:15–8:45 pm**. Former choral singing is graciously welcomed!

Cherub Choir (ages 4 – 2nd grade)
Begins **early September**. Day and time to be announced soon.

SonShine Singers (grades 3 – 6)
Begins **early September**. Day and time to be announced soon.

Gloria Dei Ringers (Handbell Choir)
Begins **Tuesday, August 28, 7:00–8:30 pm**. If you are interested in learning more about this group, please contact Handbell Director Kath Wissinger (longwalk3@aol.com).



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

God's work.
Our hands.

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully. The **2018 "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is September 9** or a time that works best for individual congregations and their projects.

This event has quickly become an anticipated way to be "church together" and "church for the sake of the world." It 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!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable.

Grace Lutheran Church has invited Muhlenberg to join them and 11 other churches in the Southern Valley Conference for a *Rise Against Hunger* event **Saturday, September 8, 9:00 am** at Kate Collins Middle School, Waynesboro. Last year we sent 12 volunteers, and we would like to send at least 15 this year. Youth are welcome. The goal is to assemble and package 15,000 or more dehydrated meals for distribution to disaster locations at a cost of \$0.35 per meal. Local & Global Mission is donating \$300 toward the cost of food.

Please sign up to help in the notebook at the Connection Center by Sunday, Sept. 2. *For more information, contact Karen Matthias (kfmatthias@gmail.com or 434-4625.)*



BLOOD DRIVE

The Care ministry is sponsoring a Virginia Blood Services drive here **September 9, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm**. What better way to serve than to give the gift of life! Sign up at yablood.org. Click on *Blood Drives*, then *Schedule An Appointment*. On the scheduling page, scroll down to choose "Muhlenberg" and "select" below. Choose the time you'd like to donate and fill in your information. If you prefer, sign up in the notebook at the Connection Center under "Special Events." *Contact Linda Morrison (glenm778@comcast.net or 383-5085) with any questions.*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christian Formation's Day of Service activity will be packing lunches for Second Home students **September 9**. Following Children's Time at the 9:30 service, children Pre-K to 3rd grade will join 4th & 5th grade students and adults in the MAC. The lunches will be sent home with the students Monday, September 10. *Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberg.lutheran.org or 434-3496) for details.*



HURRICANE RELIEF TRIP

We have reserved the workweek of November 5-9 for our Florida adult mission trip. Can't go on the trip but want to help? Monetary donations can be made to Muhlenberg, designating Adult Mission Trip on your check and envelope.

Visit the information table in the Gathering Area **Sunday, September 23**. You can learn more about the trip and purchase/order your Muhlenberg sweatshirt. Proceeds will help defray the cost of the trip. *Contact Herb Amato (amatohk@jmu.edu or 540-830-7910) for more information.*



CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AT 9:30 AM

Class information for September 2018 – May 2019

SHARING GOD'S WORD



Christian Formation is *Sharing God's Word* by providing Bible studies, women's groups, an elementary youth group, fellowship, and Sunday morning Christian Formation groups. Here are opportunities for all ages, birth to adults:

Newborns to 2-year-old children meet in the nursery. The Nursery Coordinator will bring children into worship for Children's Time with the pastors and then return them to the nursery where they will listen to simple Bible stories and songs.

***Children 3 years to 3rd grade** begin in the Sanctuary. After Children's Time with the pastors, children go to their classes listed below:

- Preschool children go upstairs to the Teddi Nelson Education Wing.
- Children K-3rd Grade will go to the MAC (Muhlenberg Activities Center – behind the church) on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays, they will go to the Nielsen Room for Children's Church and then return to their parents in worship.

***Children in grades 4-5** start at 9:30 upstairs in the MAC.

* **Special project Sept. 9: K-5th graders take part in ELCA Day of Service.** *See details p. 5*

All children should be picked up from their classes immediately following the end of the 9:30 service.

Grades 6-12 – watch *The Chimes* for Youth Ministry information.

All adults are invited to take part in one of these adult classes that meet downstairs:

- **No Experience Necessary:** An in-depth Bible study suitable for everyone. You need have no experience, and all are welcome. Meets in the Library.
- **40-Day Journey:** Readings, Reflections & Spiritual Growth: an interactive class where Christian literature is read and discussed. Meets in the Kairos Room.

Children's Church at 11:00 on the 1st & 4th Sundays is for children 3-7 years old (*held downstairs in the Nielsen Room*). Children will join their families in the Sanctuary during the Offertory.

You are encouraged to pick up a green **Christian Formation brochure** from the Connection Center. It includes information about all our Christian Formation opportunities. We hope you will find one or more that fulfills your needs as we grow together in faith!

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

MUHLENBERG NEWS

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED



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

Sign up in the notebook at the Connection Center for

September 9-30. 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). If you prefer to sign up online, follow the path below from our website:

Worship + Community > Worship: What to Expect > Worship + Music Leadership

Prefer to work behind the scenes? We have many opportunities – talk with Kathy to learn how you can serve.

ATTENTION

MINISTRY/GROUP LEADERS:

The fall schedule is already filling up. Be sure to get your requests in early. Do not assume space used in the past will be available again without booking it.

BUILDING USE REQUESTS

We joyfully share our campus with many different ministries and groups. We need your help to ensure the space you want to use or a suitable alternative is available. To schedule space, contact Building Use Coordinator Lori Reich **before you plan an event**. Also let her know about changes to previous requests.

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

SECOND HOME GALA



Second Home will hold its fundraising Gala **September 27, 6:00 pm** at Bluestone Vineyard. Tickets will be available in the Gathering Area Sundays, August 26 and September 2, 9, & 16.

If you are interested in **sponsoring a basket for the silent auction**, scan the QR code to sign up for a theme basket, contact Tammy Offenbacher-Koogler (tammyok123@gmail.com). There will also be a sign-up sheet at our ticket table in the gathering area. If your item is too big for a basket, we will still gladly accept it. Feel free to partner with someone to sponsor a basket! Items should be new and in excellent condition. If you include donated gift cards, please include a contact name so we can thank them separately. We can provide baskets and wrapping! Baskets are due no later than Sunday, September 23 in the MAC. Please turn yours in sooner if it is ready or needs wrapping!



REMINDER

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

California fires have devastated the areas they hit. 100% of your gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response go directly to aid in disaster relief. Here are ways you can give:

- **Online:** www.elca.org.
- **Phone:** 800-638-3522 Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 Central Time.
- **Mail:** send checks made payable to Lutheran Disaster Response and designated for *California Fires* to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering plate:** make check payable to MLC and designate *ELCA Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent Financial members can direct their Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a personal donation that will be matched by Thrivent. Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.

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.



Switch to an all-natural dishwasher detergent. Your dishwasher detergent probably contains petroleum-based products. Petroleum, made from the same crude oil used to manufacture gasoline, is a known carcinogen. Opt for vegetable-based dishwasher detergent that is milder and made from all natural ingredients.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

SUMMER CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Children PreK – 5th grade start in the sanctuary at 8:45 to hear the Pastor's message, then go to the MAC for their class.



Summer of Service Projects

Children and adults are invited to a time of serving. Meet in the MAC the following Sundays at 9:00 am!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency/Projects</u>
TODAY	Second Home Snack Boxes
Aug 26	People Helping People Summer Survival kits

RUTH SIGMON WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Ruth Sigmon Women's Circle will be using *Gather* magazine for its study this year. Pick up your copy of *Gather* from the table outside Diane Bayer's office. Contact Diane with any questions (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

The Circle will meet **Monday, Sept. 3, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. Louise Johnson will present a program on prayer. This is our first meeting of a new year, and we invite all Muhlenberg women & friends to join us. For more info, contact Louise (gfriend07@verizon.net or 433-1047).

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

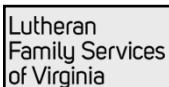
This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. Please lift these up as a part of your daily prayers. To share joy, thanks, or concern (e.g. birth, illness, injury, or death of an immediate family member; thank-you and congratulatory notes, etc.), contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (434-3496 or depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the editor and pastors.

Local and Global Mission received thank you notes from the following organizations:

✚ Blessed Sacrament Church for a \$250 donation to help cover costs of cleaning the church after hosting Muhlenberg's service week for Open Doors thermal shelter in February, 2018.



✚ Lutheran Family Services for a \$500 donation to assist with providing nutritious breakfasts to students at Minnick School – Harrisonburg for the last quarter of the 2017-18 school year, including summer session.



✚ The International Health Partners and Children's Hospital of Zinga, Tanzania sent us a thank you note for a one-time \$500 (matched gift) donation toward completion of The Mary Ellen Kitundu Birthing Center. This project is an effort to bring a first class Women's and Children's Hospital to an underserved area. The note and some photos are posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. *For more information, contact Ann Foltz (afoltz62@gmail.com or 437-8997) or visit International Health Partners' website at www.ihptz.org/?q=node/288.*



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. Ephesians 5:1-14
Tues. 2 Peter 3:14-18
Wed. John 6:35-40
Thur. Acts 6:8-15
Fri. Romans 16:17-20
Sat. John 4:7-26
Sun. John 6:56-69

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

August 20-26, 2018

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.
Tue. 8:30 am Go-Go Group Breakfast
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir
Sun. 8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion
9:00 am Summer Christian Formation
11:45 am Confirmation Meeting
4:30 pm Church Picnic

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)