



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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September 23, 2018

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

I am grateful for all the faithful work our Call Committee has done to bring us to an exciting place in our Call process. Council is deliberating with them as we discern candidates.

We greatly respect the process of listening to the Spirit as we seek to engage a candidate whose gifts in ministry best match our needs around Word and Sacrament.

Part of the Call process Council has assigned significant weight to is their wish to interview candidates before we designate a primary status. In that way you are assured that our Call Committee and Council fully support the candidate we put forth for consideration.

We are prayerfully eager for our next steps!

Tim Peifer, President of Congregation Council

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

HURRICANE RELIEF TRIP

Visit the table in the Gathering Area **TODAY** to learn more about our Hurricane Relief Trip to Florida in November 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.*

CONFIRMATION (6TH – 8TH GRADES)

Worship Assistant Training

TODAY at 12:15 Kathy Thompson will lead training for 6-8th graders and their families.

GALA SPONSORING OPPORTUNITY

TODAY is the deadline for Second Home to receive baskets for their Gala silent auction.

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)



*O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. Psalm 71:17*

FORWARDING FAITH CAMPAIGN

Today we continue our *Forwarding Faith* campaign. There is a Temple Talk this morning and another insert in *The Chimes* that provides additional information. Please visit the Connection Center for materials previously distributed.

Congregation Council has challenged members with a three-year pledge goal of \$40,000. Council and staff gave us a head start on our goal by pledging \$7,750. We will share more in the coming weeks about how you can pledge and join in this synod-wide effort to ensure the faith formation activities of the Virginia Synod continue for many years.

*For more information, contact Kati Derrick
(coachkati@hotmail.net or 433-0730).*

MUSICAL SETTING

This fall we are singing a new musical setting of the liturgy composed by Pastor Paul. The music was inspired by Pastor Paul's setting of the Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy), hymn #189 in the ELW. In October, we will add the Hymn of Praise, "Glory to God."

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Hurricane Florence has devastated areas it hit. 100% of gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) 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 LDR to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering plate:** make check payable to Muhlenberg and designate *ELCA Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** members can direct Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a donation that will be matched. Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	70	Wed. Noon	10
9:30 Worship	84		
11:00 Worship	<u>159</u>		
Total	313		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through August 2018			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$450,902	\$538,003	\$486,025
Total Receipts	\$522,084	\$609,355	\$556,274
Expenses	\$557,501	\$652,612	\$575,802
Excess Income/	(\$35,417)	(\$43,257)	(\$19,528)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 4,625.50
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>10,440.50</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 15,066.00

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.

August Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$39

To give online, scan here →



THIS WEEK

COLLEGE PLANNING WORKSHOP

Mark D. Knauff, College Planning Specialist at Thrivent, will host workshops **Tuesday, September 25 at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm** in the Nielsen Room. *For reservations and questions, contact Sherry Ritenour (sherry.ritenour@thrivent.com or 540-325-4233).* Your student is welcome to attend too! Refreshments will be served. *See bulletin boards for details.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **Monday, October 1, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. The Bible study *Repentance* is from the Sept. issue of *Gather* magazine We invite all women to join us. For details, *contact Louise Johnson at 433-1047.*

COMFORT MAKERS FALL ACTIVITY

Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18 & 25, 8 am – 12 noon in Wayland Hall. Join this group whether you can sew or not. All are welcome! *For details, contact Margie Miller (romar57@comcast.net or 820-3995) or Linda Morrison (glenm778@comcast.net or 383-5085).*

DIAMOND JUBILEE LUNCH (75+)

Sunday, October 7 at 12:15 in the MAC. The Care Committee plans an Italian meal. Invitations will be mailed soon. *To RSVP or for details, contact Sandy Randolph (cerprek@gmail.com / 828-2033).*

INSTALLATION: NEW DATE

You are invited to the installation of Pastor Bill Nabers **Sunday, October 7, 4:00 pm** at St. Jacobs-Spaders Lutheran Church. Reception follows. *See bulletin boards for details.*

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER LUNCH & ORIENTATION

Have you recently joined the church? 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 invite you to meet with us for a **Prospective Member Lunch & Orientation, NEXT Sunday, September 30, 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 associate member.

New members will be received Sunday, October 7 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, talk with Kathy Thompson, Chair of the Evangelism Team (thompskb@jmu.edu or 540-578-4830), Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496), or the pastors.*

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*Devotional booklets for
October–December are
available at the Connection Center*

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Second Home Learning Center
presents its

New Orleans Jazz Club Benefit Gala

supporting its mission to provide
the children of Harrisonburg with
safe places to learn, grow &
recognize their true potential

Live music performed by
The Sustainers

New Orleans-style fare
catered by Dayton Tavern

Silent Auction
(cash or check preferred)

September 27, 2018
6:00 PM

Bluestone Vineyard
4828 Spring Creek Road
Bridgewater, VA

\$100 per person

Checks payable to Second Home
281 E. Market Street,
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

COUNCIL NEWS



RIVERA PROPERTY

As good neighbors, Bob and Kathy Rivera worked with Muhlenberg and signed a “Right of First Refusal” which is recorded in the Deed Office of the Courthouse. Since their deaths, their daughter Katie Ritchie is not interested in keeping the house which creates an opportunity for Muhlenberg to purchase the property.

Congregation Council is in the beginning stages of talks with Katie. Should things progress favorably, our Constitution requires a Congregational Meeting and approval by members for Council to purchase the property. Watch *The Chimes* for further developments.

If you have concerns or questions, please contact me (dseries4@gmail.com or 438-9167).

Tim Peifer, Congregation Council President

MUHLENBERG NEWS

SUMMER SCHEDULE EVALUATION

Please help us evaluate our summer worship schedule! If you haven’t participated, green evaluation forms are available from ushers or the Connection Center. Return completed forms to the box at the Connection Center or the church office. We need to hear from you!

AUDIO SERMONS AVAILABLE

Did you miss worship? Did you miss something in the sermon or just want to hear it again? Audio recordings of Sunday sermons are available on our website starting with September 2. You can find them on our website using the path below, where you will also find links to sermon text. Hard copies are available in the administration hallway.

Worship + Community > Worship: What to Expect > Weekly Sermons + Sample Liturgy

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.



Start saving your rainwater. Install a rain barrel beneath your downspouts to help reduce storm water runoff and conserve water. You can purchase a small rain barrel at most home improvement stores for as little as \$50, or find instructions online to make your own. Use the water for everything from watering the garden to bathing the dog, but remember not to drink it or use it for cooking.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

FEEDING HUNGRY CHILDREN

Did you know?

Second Home (SH) offers affordable before and after school childcare and substantial, healthy snacks twice daily to approximately 100 children. Over the past few years, grant money and subsidized foods for snacks have been significantly reduced or eliminated.

We have a perfect opportunity to join in the Virginia Synod's mission to end childhood hunger right here on our campus. We are stocking the Second Home pantry with non-perishable foods on the third Sunday each month. Watch *The Chimes* for what is needed most. Please donate foods with at least a 6 month shelf life, preferably with whole grains and lower sugar content. Regulations do not permit serving food past its expiration date.

In addition, we are recruiting volunteers to provide perishable fruits, vegetables, and dairy (milk, cheese, and yogurt) weekly. Would you consider providing a perishable food once monthly throughout the school year? Example: drop off 50 bananas with a shelf life of 3 days to the kitchen in the MAC on the first Sunday (9:30-10:30) or the following Monday (6 am - 6 pm).

Please contact Susan Gallaher (palosva@gmail.com) or 867-5017) so she can coordinate the timing of donations to assure freshness and avoid waste.

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

Thanks to all who helped with the many projects Muhlenberg members did as ELCA Day of Service projects. See the bulletin board in the Gathering Area for photos and descriptions of the ways our hands helped do God's work.

SECOND HOME NEWS

The school year has been off to a great start! Our program is full and more interest is coming in almost daily. One of the hardest tasks is having to turn down families who are so desperately in need of low cost before and after school care.

In the last 4 weeks, Second Home students have already had the opportunity to create art pieces, learn new songs in the chorus, and learn about Japan from 28 Japanese exchange students from JMU. Our Girls on the Run team is training body and mind to participate in a 5K run in November, and our oldest students are learning skills to help them make good choices as they participate in the Teen Outreach Program by JMU IHHS.

We are dedicated to offering our students not only academic help, but also enrichment opportunities to encourage curiosity and understanding of the world around them.

DAY CARE NEWS

Muhlenberg members Bill Wightman and Libbi Fitzgerald are participating in this year's Dancing With The Stars of the Burg, a fundraiser for Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care Center. Day Care is raising funds to renovate and move into its own downtown building while remaining an affordable, sliding-scale daycare for working families.

Please consider supporting the efforts of Bill, Libbi or other contestants by attending the dance November 11 and/or voting for them between now and then at rdaycare.org. Donation is \$1 per vote.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Muhlenberg Endowment Committee wishes to share its encouragement for continued giving and growth through estate planning, designated memorial gifts, and weekly offerings. Please consider this way of giving to the future – which also results in present day funding of non-budgeted areas that are in keeping with our church mission. The most recent dispersal of funds went to support the Synod's Forwarding Faith campaign (\$1000) and to the JCrew, for their

trip to the National Convention (\$3703.75).

For more information about the Muhlenberg Mission Endowment and the Seminary Scholarship Endowment, please refer to the brochure found at the Connection Center or *contact the Janet Chair Janet Simmons* (gandjsimmons@gmail.com or 434-5258).

CAMPUS & YOUTH NEWS

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

WELCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The Campus Ministry Committee have visited local colleges to meet students and invite them to grow and discern their faith while in college.

Are you faculty or staff at JMU? Mycah McNett and a pastor are eating lunch at DHall the first Tuesday each month. We're calling it *Lutherans who Lunch* - friends welcome! Next date is **October 2**.

We **need church van drivers** to pick up campus students from EMU & JMU Sunday mornings. We have many first year students with no car but eager to worship at Muhlenberg. If you can help, contact Mycah McNett.

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 on the 1st & 3rd Sundays during the 11:00 service for children 3-7 years old. After Children's Time with a pastor, children are escorted downstairs to the Nielsen Room. Children return to their parents in the sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

ADULT CLASSES

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. All are welcome.
- **40-Day Journey:** Readings, Reflections & Spiritual Growth: an interactive class where Christian literature is read and discussed. Meets in the Kairos Room.

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

PASTOR'S CLASS

God in Odd Places is the topic of a six-week course Pr. Mark will teach **Tuesdays, October 16 – November 20, 6:00 –7:00 pm** in the Nielsen Room. Participants will examine and discuss religious themes from various items in contemporary culture, including short stories, cartoons, songs, letters to the editor, TV, movies, and more. Everyone is welcome!

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

✚ We offer sympathy to the family of Audrey Beery who died Tuesday, September 18. Audrey's health had been declining for quite a while. A funeral service is planned for Sunday, September 30 at 3:00 pm. Visitation will take place in the Gathering Area at 2:00 pm, just prior to the service.

✚ Thanks to those who gave blood Sunday, September 9! We received a kind letter from Virginia Blood Services thanking the 15 people who showed up to donate on a very rainy day to help those who need the gift of life! Thanks again!

✚ Thanks be to God for the safe arrival of baby Lillian Irving Wolz, daughter of Katie Sensabaugh and Ryan Wolz on August 30. Proud grandparents are Fred and Patty Sensabaugh and Robert and Michelle Wolz. Thanks to all who have sent prayers, well wishes, and meals!

✚ Second Home would like to thank all the volunteers and supporters who help make our program possible. A special thank you to the many generous Muhlenberg members who are providing snack food, Rebecca Rogers for helping with the art projects, Bruce Matthias for helping the choir with guitar accompaniment, and James Hogan for helping our students with homework and math.

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. Romans 3:9-20 **Thu. 1 Cor. 2:1-5**
Tue. Colossians 3:1-11 **Fri. Romans 11:25-32**
Wed. John 7:25-36 **Sat. Matt. 23:29-39**
Sun. Mark 9:30-37

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

September 24-30, 2018

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
Tue. 4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:00 pm College Planning Workshop
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
7:00 pm College Planning Workshop
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir
Thu. 6:00 pm Second Home Gala
Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:15 pm New Member Lunch/Orientation

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@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.

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