



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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281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 † Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: info@muhlenberglutheran.org † Website: www.muhlenberglutheran.org

Pastor Mark Radecke: radecke@muhlenberglutheran.org † Pastor Paul Weber: weber@muhlenberglutheran.org

October 7, 2018

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

CALL COMMITTEE / COUNCIL 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 working with the Call Committee 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 that 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

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 AT MUHLENBERG

PASTOR MARK ON VACATION

Pastor Mark is celebrating "Part Two" of his daughter's wedding. She married a German citizen, and the *Hochzeit* (wedding) celebration continues on the other side of the Atlantic. He will return to the office October 15.

FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

TODAY we wear **name badges** to be welcoming and learn each other's names. We receive **non-perishable food donations** for the **Salvation Army**. **Lay Communion Ministers** will take Communion to our sick and homebound members.

NEW MEMBERS

We receive new members **TODAY during the 11:00** service. There will be a reception in the Gathering Area at 12:15.

See today's insert for details.

DIAMOND JUBILEE LUNCH

For our members 75+ years old

TODAY at 12:15 in the MAC. Didn't receive your invitation or RSVP? No problem, please join us.



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

FORWARDING FAITH CAMPAIGN

Today is the day our congregation has the opportunity to commit to support the Virginia Synod *Forwarding Faith* campaign. After hearing about the impact of the Virginia Synod faith formation activities in the lives of several of our members over the last three weeks, today we commit to continued support of teaching about God's good deeds in the lives of youth, adults and families in Virginia.

Please use the enclosed Statement of Intent form (extras available at the Connection Center) to commit, as you are able, to a gift to the *Forwarding Faith* campaign. Your gift can be structured in several different ways:

- A one-time gift
- A yearly or monthly gift over three years
- Or some combination of the two

Please **DO NOT** put your Statement of Intent in the regular offering plates. **We will have a second offering for all Statement of Intent forms. Please do not include any money with your Statement of Intent.** All *Forwarding Faith* commitments will be collected directly through the Virginia Synod office. Please remember that this is a three-year pledge, and you will receive regular statements from the VA Synod office.

If you are not in church to submit a pledge but would like to participate in the campaign, please visit the Connection Center for Statement of Intent forms and return completed forms to the wooden collection box there.

For more information, contact
Kati Derrick (coachkati@hotmail.net).

INSTALLATION: NEW DATE

You are invited to the installation of Pastor Bill Nabers **TODAY at 4:00 pm** at St. Jacobs-Spaders Lutheran Church. See bulletin boards.

CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICE

Our Sanctuary Choir will be featured as the Guest Choir for the Choral Evensong Service at Emmanuel Episcopal **TODAY at 5:00 pm**. This service offers an opportunity for prayer, singing hymns, chanting Psalms, and listening to beautiful choral music. Please join us!

BALCONY CLOSURE

Due to ceiling repairs, the balcony will be closed for the next several weeks. Thank you for avoiding this "construction area" during the repairs.
The Property Committee

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	66	Wed. Noon	15
9:30 Worship	129		
11:00 Worship	<u>128</u>		
Total	323		

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	\$	24,138.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	<u>12,701.83</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$	36,839.83

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.



To give online, scan here →

THIS WEEK

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Tomorrow, Oct. 8, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Help Muhlenberg continue to grow during this time of transition by joining in as we strengthen our ministries, plan new initiatives, and serve one another and the wider community! **All committees welcome new members.**

SOPHIE MOELLER CIRCLE

Meets **Tuesday, October 9, 1:30 pm** in the Kairos Room. Katie Ray will have the program. All are welcome!

COMFORT MAKERS FALL ACTIVITY

Thursdays in October, 8 am – 12 noon in Wayland Hall. *For details, contact Margie Miller (romar57@comcast.net or 820-3995) or Linda Morrison (glenm778@comcast.net or 383-5085).*

JAMERS

Meet **NEXT Sunday, October 14, 12:15-4:00.** We will have pizza in the MAC and then go to the Mulberry Farm Pumpkin Patch. Youth will walk the patch to pick a pumpkin, visit the Petting Zoo, and return to church to bob for apples! Christian Formation will cover costs. *We will try to reschedule if the weather is bad!*

SUICIDE ALERTNESS TRAINING

Last Saturday Mycah McNett and people who work in youth ministry in our conference attended a Suicide Alertness Training through Living Works with Rev. Carl E. Trost. This series will continue in 2019 when we will arrange a time to equip youth with the tools to healthily support peers and guide people toward professional assistance.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

GATHERING IN THE NAMES OF SAINTS

Through October 28, please share with us the names of saints (persons living or deceased) who have enriched your spiritual life or the life of the church.



On the table by the back door of the Gathering Area is a basket of red and white links and pens. We invite you to take a link and write the name of an individual who has helped you in your spiritual growth. You may take as many links as you like. Place completed links in the basket provided.

Links will be displayed in the Sanctuary beginning All Saints Sunday through the first Sunday in Advent. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to observe how our saints link us together in faith.

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.

Consider using a natural toothpaste. Most toothpastes are filled with hard-to-pronounce ingredients like polyethylene glycol, methylparaben, and triclosan that are bad for your health and the environment. Eco-friendly toothpastes are made with natural ingredients like baking soda, spearmint, and tea tree oil that have no harmful effects.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION



Sunday, October 21 in the Gathering Area, we collect *Cheez-It* crackers (individual bags or larger boxes) to serve as a snack to Second Home students. If you wish to make a cash donation, designate *Second Home food* on your check and envelope.

FALL ACTS COURSE

FALL 2018 ACTS COURSE
LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS COURSE
LED BY THE REV. DR. TIMOTHY WENGERT

OCTOBER 20
.....
NOVEMBER 10

This year's fall ACTS (Ambassadors Community for Theological Study) course will be held **October 20 and November 10** at Grace Evangelical Lutheran in Waynesboro (or at two Simulcast locations). The Rev. Dr. Timothy Wengert will present on Lutheran Confessions.

For more information or to register, visit vasynod.org, click on ACTS and choose Waynesboro registration. Muhlenberg covers the cost so under payment, indicate you are with the Muhlenberg group.

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER LECTURE SERIES AT EMU

Eastern Mennonite University will host a lecture series on *Discipleship in a World Full of Nazis: Reclaiming Bonhoeffer's Christ-Centered Life & Theology* **October 23 & November 7 at 6:30 pm**. For details, contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) or see bulletin boards.

BRIDGE OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

You are invited to the annual Locavore dinner fundraiser for Bridge of Hope



Saturday, November 3, 5:30 pm in the MAC.

The dinner theme is Neighborhood "The Word became flesh and moved into the neighborhood." (John 1:14, the Message). This year's featured speaker is Melody M. Pannell, local board member and social work professor at Eastern Mennonite University.

The event will include locally-sourced food deliciously prepared by A Bowl of Good, both a silent and live auction, and hearing from a recent Bridge of Hope program participant.

Tickets are \$40/person or \$300 per table of eight and are available from their website: www.hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org. For details, contact Wanda Hamilton (wahamilton48@gmail.com or 289-7817).

CONTACT INFORMATION

With our ever-changing lifestyles, it's sometimes difficult to be sure everyone has your correct contact information. Have you recently ...



- moved?
- cancelled your home phone?
- changed your cell phone number?
- changed your home/work email address?

If so, please be sure your information is updated with the church. Contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

FAITH IN ACTION NEWS

IMPORTANT UPDATE



As you may remember, Muhlenberg is a member of Faith in Action, an interfaith group of congregations in the Harrisonburg/ Rockingham County area which is focused on addressing issues of social justice from a faith-based perspective. The current focus is on Criminal Justice Reform.

On Monday, October 15, the Community Criminal Justice Board is meeting at Memorial Hall to discuss reforms to our present system. One of the “asks” from Faith in Action is for the creation of a Community Justice Planner in our local system. Over \$3,000,000 has been budgeted already for a software system that collects data about our criminal justice practices.

The addition of a community justice planner position would add a relatively small amount (\$80,000 for salary and benefits) that could easily pay for itself by finding savings in the costly way justice is administered. The focus would be on low-level crimes impacted by mental health issues and drug or alcohol abuse. Savings could be generated by finding alternatives to incarceration, such as diverting offenders to treatment and/or community services to a greater degree than it is now.

The community planner position is being discussed currently by our City Council and the County Board of Supervisors. A large showing of members of faith congregations at the October 15 meeting would show that there is strong community interest in Criminal Justice Reform.

Muhlenberg members can participate in two ways:

- Attend the meeting **October 15, 7:00 pm** at Memorial Hall. These meetings are usually sparsely attended, so a strong community presence will be noticed.
- Faith in Action and the Northeast Neighborhood Association will sponsor a march **October 15, beginning at 6:00 pm** at the parking lot between Community Mennonite Church and Otterbein United Methodist Church on South High Street. We will march in formation to Memorial Hall and then attend the meeting.

You may attend either or both of these events. If you have questions, *please contact Muhlenberg representatives to Faith in Action Russell Presnell (russellepresnell@gmail.com or 540-746-3562) or Nancy Martin-Finks (nanmart777@comcast.net or 540-421-8199.)*

NEW MUSICAL SETTING

This fall we learn a new musical setting of the liturgy composed by Pastor Paul for his first congregation in Pittsburgh and named for that small congregation, Holy Emmanuel. Muhlenberg is a fine singing congregation. You are encouraged to sing this new musical setting as if you have always known it! But please also be patient in the process as we experience something new.

The music was inspired by Pastor Paul's setting of the Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy), hymn #189 in the ELW. Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh closed several years ago, so we will help carry on their song and mission in the use of the Holy Emmanuel Liturgy.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MINISTRY

ST. PETER LUTHERAN

HELPING THEIR NEIGHBORS

Former Muhlenberg Pastor Dave Nelson now serves a congregation in Southport, NC. Many in that community were affected by Hurricane Florence, and the congregation is reaching out to help through their Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Any who wish to contribute to that fund can do so by making a check payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church, 4843 Southport-Supply Road, Southport, NC 28461 (Memo: Pastor's Discretionary Fund).

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Recently multiple natural disasters have devastated areas both here and abroad – Hurricane Florence and the Indonesia earthquake and tsunami just to name two. 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.

SECOND HOME NEWS

OFF TO A GREAT START!

The school year is off to a great start! Our program is full and yet requests for care are 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's Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services

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

DANCING WITH THE STARS

Muhlenberg members Bill Wightman, Libbi Fitzgerald, and Jackie Baker are participating in this year's Dancing With The Stars of the 'Burg, a fundraiser for the 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 the contestants and pros by attending the dance November 11 and/or voting for them between now and then at hrdaycare.org. Donation is \$1 per vote.

CAMPUS & YOUTH NEWS

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

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY (LCM)

Free home-cooked dinners at **6:00 pm**
Wednesdays, October 10, 17, & 24.

ALPHA TEENS (6TH – 8TH GRADES)

Are you interested in participating in a lock-in
October 19-20? There is a sign up sheet in the
youth binder at the Connection Center.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

No Confirmation Class for 6th -8th grade youth
next Sunday, October 14. Please go to
worship and fill out worship notes! On
October 21 we learn about the Gospel of Luke,
or sooner at the Lock-In.

LOST & FOUND (7TH – 8TH GRADES)

Lost & Found is the Virginia Synod's annual
weekend retreat for 7th - 8th grade youth. It will
be held **November 16-18**. Registration forms
are in the youth binder at the Connection
Center. Please return them to Mycah McNett
with a deposit of \$75 by October 14.

JCREW EVENT

Join JCrew and "Cracked Skull Charlie" for a
Back to Skate party **TODAY!** Meet in the
campus room immediately after worship, and
we will travel together to Westover Skate Park
to welcome Charlie back to the skating arena!
Pizza and beverages will be provided. Bring
your skateboards, rollerblades, roller-skates or
anything else with wheels and join in the fun!
Helmets optional...NOT!!!!

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.

*Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from
the Connection Center. It contains more infor-
mation 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!

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).

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.

✙ We offer sympathy to the family of Pat Jones following her death September 29. A service was held Thursday at Sunnyside's Meredith Chapel.

✙ Muhlenberg's own Remington Willis is serving this year as a member of the Lutheran Episcopal Volunteer Network in California. If you would like to learn more about what Remington is doing, stop by the Connection Center in the Gathering Area for a copy of her "Month One Update."

PRAYER CARDS



Prayer
Requests

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.

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 (an average of three per week), email depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org with your request.

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. 1 Cor. 7:1-9 **Thu. Hebrews 3:7-19**
Tue. 1 Cor. 7:10-16 **Fri. Hebrews 4:1-11**
Wed. Matthew 5:27-36 **Sat. Matthew 15:1-9**
Sun. Mark 10:17-31

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 8-14, 2018

Mon. 7:00 pm Ministries Night.

Tue. 1:30 pm Sophie Moeller Circle
4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers

Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
6:00 pm Lutheran Campus Ministry
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thu. 8:00 am Comfort Makers

Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
No Confirmation Class
12:15 pm JAMers

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