



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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October 14, 2018

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

CALL COMMITTEE / COUNCIL UPDATE

We are pleased to share that after much diligence and honest discernment, along with the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we have a primary candidate to present to you! Over the past several months, the Call Committee thoroughly considered all the candidate profiles we received from the Synod office. Ultimately, the Committee decided on the candidate to recommend to Council for further consideration. In turn, Council interviewed the recommended candidate and voted to designate this individual as our primary candidate. By taking this step prior to the candidate coming to preach, we are able to present our primary candidate to you with great confidence. We believe it's important for you to know that this person is unanimously recommended to you by both the Call Committee and Council.

Honoring the Bishop's recommendation, we will respect the confidentiality of the Call process and hold off sharing any details about our primary candidate until we get closer to the Sunday (still to be determined) the candidate visits to meet everyone and preach. You will receive a bio and information about the offered

compensation package with sufficient time to review prior to the primary candidate's visit. The Executive Committee is working to confirm this date and will announce it in *The Chimes*, so stay tuned! We are in a good place and give thanks for how the Spirit has worked among us to bring us to where we are.

We understand the level of anticipation is high, but we must ask that for now you trust us and have confidence in our work as the Call process moves forward. Peace,

Tim Peifer, President of Congregation Council

Ted Sudol, Chair of the Call Committee

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 repair work.

The Property Committee

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 tomorrow.

FORWARDING FAITH CELEBRATION



This morning we give great thanks for the commitments our members made to the VA Synod *Forwarding-Faith* campaign. Our members have committed to give **\$28,636** to the endowment. If you were not able to commit last Sunday and would like to participate, it's not too late! Please visit the Connection Center for a Statement of Intent form. Completed forms can be placed in the wooden box at the Connection Center, in the *ForwardingFaith* mailbox, or left in the church office. Please do not leave money now; simply fill out the intent form indicating how you would like to structure your gift over the next three years. All funds go directly through the Virginia Synod, who will contact you directly with instructions. Thank you for supporting our Synod’s very important faith development activities. *For more information, contact Kati Derrick (coachkati@hotmail.net).*

JAMERS

Meet **TODAY, 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.*

GATHERING IN 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 of Advent. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to observe how our saints link us together in faith.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	70	Wed. Noon	10
9:30 Worship	91		
11:00 Worship	<u>147</u>		
Total	308		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2018			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$507,425	\$610,194	\$537,560
Total Receipts	\$584,854	\$687,115	\$612,864
Expenses	\$622,068	\$728,294	\$638,023
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$37,214)	(\$41,179)	(\$25,159)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 13,257.70
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>5,799.00</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 19,056.70

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.



To give online, scan here →

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the Go-Go Group at Thomas House in Dayton **THIS Tuesday, October 16, 8:30 am.** Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information about the group and its activities.

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!

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION



NEXT 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.

CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

Reach our pastors at any time by calling the church office (434-3496).

- During office hours, ask to speak with Linda Depoy. She has the pastors' schedules and can assist you.
- After hours leave a message on their voice mail and it will be immediately forwarded to their respective cell phones. They will respond as soon as possible.

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.



You probably have dozens of plastic shopping bags lying around the house. Use them to line your garbage cans instead of buying a box of trash bags at the supermarket. For every ton of plastic bags that are reused, the energy equivalent of 11 barrels of oil is saved. If you live in the City of Harrisonburg, you could take them to the Recycling Convenience Center, 2055 Beery Road (434-5928), where there is a bin for plastic bags!

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

November. 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.

NEW MEMBER PHOTOS

Below are photos of new members who joined last Sunday. A brochure with more information is available at the Connection Center.



Robert “RW” Carneal and Emily Wicht



Jeannette Norfleet

**Note corrected name/email:
jeannettenorfleet@gmail.com**



Sue Utterback

MARK YOUR CALENDAR


BONHOEFFER LECTURE SERIES

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, 6:30 pm.** For details, contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muehlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) or see bulletin boards.

SOUTHERN VALLEY WELCA FALL GATHERING

Sunday, October 21, 2:30 pm (registration at 2:00 pm) at St. Jacob’s – Spaders Lutheran (3555 Spaders Church Road, Mt. Crawford). The program is Women and Justice with a concentration on “Women and Opioids.” Presenters are Detective Corporal Daniel Long and Detective Gavin Lam. Join us and bring a friend. *Visit the Connection Center for details.*

BRIDGE OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

You are invited to the annual Locavore dinner fundraiser for Bridge of Hope  *Supportive Friendships For Lasting Impact* **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 EMU. 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 (whamilton48@gmail.com or 289-7817).

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 that 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 **TOMORROW Oct. 15, 7:00 pm** at Memorial Hall, JMU. 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 **TOMORROW 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.)*

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. This month, we add the Hymn of Praise, “Glory to God.”



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.

DAY OF SERVICE PROJECTS 2018

Thank you to all who participated in service projects throughout August and September. Due to your generosity and hard work we...

- Painted 24 doors at Minnick School
- Helped package over 23,000 freeze-dried meals for Rise Against Hunger to ship to hungry school children in Haiti. Donated \$300 to purchase food items
- Packed 104 bagged lunches for the students at Second Home (Christian Formation)
- Donated 13 blood products to the Red Cross
- Donated \$1371.50 to the Adult Mission Trip fund for their November mission trip to Florida for 2017 hurricane relief.

All thanks and glory be to God for inspiring Muhlenberg servants to share time, talent and resources, not just during September, but whenever we individually or collectively see or hear of a neighbor in need!



Volunteers Needed!

- ★ Meet new people
- ★ Face new experiences or challenges
- ★ Make a difference in the lives of others



Volunteers needed for Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:45-11:30a.m

Serving our community at
Muhlenberg Lutheran Church
281 East Market St. Harrisonburg
Call for more information (540) 433-7286 or
www.phpharrisonburg.org

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 17, & 24.**

ALPHA TEENS (6TH – 8TH GRADES)

Lock-in **October 19-20** at the church. *Contact Mycah for details.*

CONFIRMATION CLASS

No Confirmation Class **TODAY**. Please go to worship and fill out worship notes!

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 with a deposit of \$75 – deadline **TODAY**.

JCREW

For more information, contact Clay Arthur
(clay@muhlenberglutheran.org or 540-758-3208).

J Join us for a beach retreat at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Virginia Beach is **November 9-10!** We will join St. Michael and Epiphany Lutheran for an awesome time at the beach! Games, music, worship, fellowship and an adventure park! The cost per person is \$30 for the retreat. More information and registration forms will be out soon. **Deadline to sign up is October 28.**

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 information about classes for children and adults.

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.

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.

✚ The Care Committee wishes to thank those who were able to join us for the Diamond Jubilee luncheon last Sunday. We thank Mycah McNett & the Alpha Teens for serving and assisting with clean up and tear down! We enjoy this annual event and the opportunity to honor our members.

✚ Second Home is delighted their Benefit Gala raised \$13,000. We would not have been able to do this without your support and participation and all the hard work of the organizers. The funds will be used for our program's general operating expenses and specifically towards teacher wages. Second Home works with teachers who are not only qualified by the licensing regulations of Virginia Social Services, but who are also trained and understand the adverse effects of poverty and low income.



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. Rev. 7:9-17 **Thu. Romans 15:7-13**
Tue. Rev. 8:1-5 **Fri. Rev. 17:1-18**
Wed. Luke 16:19-31 **Sat. Luke 22:24-30**
Sun. Mark 10:35-45

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 15-21, 2018

Mon. 6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.
7:00 pm Faith in Action Meeting

Tue. 8:30 am Go-Go Group Breakfast
4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:00 pm God in Odd Places
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
Second Home Food Collection
9:30 am Christian Formation
2:30 pm WELCA Fall Gathering

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)