



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

Published Weekly by Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

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October 21, 2018

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

CALL COMMITTEE / COUNCIL UPDATE

Council is pleased to announce the dates our primary candidate will visit Muhlenberg. Please mark your calendar with these two important dates:

Thursday, November 8 – The Call Committee will host an evening (time to be announced) of Desserts, Coffee and Pleasantries. This will be an opportunity for you to meet and greet our candidate.

Sunday, November 11 – Our candidate will preside and preach at all three services.

A congregational meeting will be held immediately following the 11:00 service. The only business to be conducted is voting on extending a call to our candidate and approving a compensation package. Watch your mail for a formal invitation.

These are very important dates for the body of Christ at Muhlenberg.

A bio about the candidate will be mailed approximately November 1; limited copies will also be available at the Connection Center Sunday, November 4. Information about the compensation package will be included in the mailing.

We are excited to announce these dates and are elated about good things to come!

Peace,

Tim Peifer, President of Congregation Council

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

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."

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

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS

“With Your Lives Adore Him” is the theme of our fall stewardship emphasis. Last Sunday and today, we are sharing the biblical meaning of what a “steward” is. Thanks to Knute Leidal for his Temple Talk today.

On Reformation and All Saints Sundays, we look forward to being inspired by the gospel message to reflect on our own stewardship and how we are managing the gifts God has given us. By mid-November, we will invite everyone to respond to God’s call to use our Time, Talents, and Treasures for the Lord’s work through Muhlenberg’s ministry. All of these gifts we will offer to the Lord on Christ the King Sunday, November 25.

Here at Muhlenberg we are blessed beyond measure! As we consider calling a new pastor, we ask the Lord to increase our faith so that we might be good and productive stewards of the gifts we have received from God!

Your Stewardship Ministry Team

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

TODAY 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.

SOUTHERN VALLEY WELCA

FALL GATHERING

TODAY, 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.” Join us and bring a friend. *Visit the Connection Center for details.*

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	62	Wed. Noon	14
9:30 Worship	110		
11:00 Worship	<u>116</u>		
Total	288		

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	\$	6,149.38
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	<u>2,942.50</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$	9,091.88

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.



To give online, scan here →

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

PASTOR'S CLASS

God in Odd Places is the topic of a six-week course Pr. Mark will teach **Tuesdays through 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. **You can still join even if you missed the first class.** Everyone is welcome!

To access the syllabus and links to the readings and other materials, see the Members Pages section on the church's website.

CONFIRMATION ON REFORMATION

NEXT SUNDAY, October 28, is Reformation Sunday! Students will be confirmed at the 11:00 worship service. Please join us for a reception honoring the confirmands in the Gathering Area.

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.



Rather than discarding your old winter outerwear, consider donating the used items to charity, e.g. a homeless shelter. After you buy a new winter wardrobe, go through your closets and gather the coats, hats and gloves you haven't worn in a while and donate them to charity. This is also the time of year to ask if shelters are in need of warm blankets.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

COMMUNION IN THE PEWS

For those who desire communion and are unable to come forward, **white grape juice** and **gluten-free** bread are now available.

Please indicate your preference for juice to the Lay Assisting Minister and take gluten-free bread from the small container beside the regular communion bread.

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.

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)*.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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 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).

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@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) or see the

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. The 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.

REMINDER

PRAYER CARDS

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.



Prayer Requests

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.

Stewardship ... Time, Talent, Treasure

“Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Our hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,
And with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.”



How do we, as souls Christ died to save, use our lives ... our time, our talents, and our treasure ... to adore Him? How does this return of thanks to God, through our gifts to Muhlenberg, enrich and bless us even more?

TIME ... doesn't always have to involve a lot of hours or a weekly commitment.

“I volunteered to chaperone a youth trip in order to encourage my teenager's participation. This was outside of my comfort zone, but to my surprise, it changed me and my relationship with God in important, life-altering ways. Spending time with the amazing high school youth of this congregation led me to a powerful, unexpected reconnection with my own faith.”

TALENT ... can be shared in small, quiet ways as well as in more public ways such as singing in the choir or making repairs to church property. “I know from being a recipient, how much my gifts of showing up at a support group, a kind word, shared tears, a hug, a card, an email, or text support at just the right moment, are invaluable sources of comfort and strength to others in difficult journeys. I have been humbled and honored to provide prayer support for others when life is too complex for them to find the words for prayers themselves.”

TREASURE ... can be a tithe, a regular offering, a one-time contribution, or whatever you can afford ... no gift is too small. “I don't have a lot of extra room in my budget, but I give what I am able. I use Simply Giving to make small monthly contributions. When I have a little extra, I put money in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Every time I do, I remember my father teaching me as a small child to share my “wealth” with God.”

LOCAL & GLOBAL MINISTRY

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Recently multiple natural disasters have devastated areas both here and abroad – Hurricanes Florence & Michael and the Indonesia earthquake and tsunami to name a few. 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.

CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

Reach our pastors at any time (including emergencies and urgent needs) by calling the church office (434-3496). During office hours, ask to speak with Parish Administrator Linda Depoy. After hours, leave a message on their voice mail and it will be forwarded to their respective mobile phones at that time. They will respond as soon as possible.

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**
Wednesday, **October 24**.

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 on **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.**



CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS
Special *busy bags* for children
are available from ushers

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

SHARING GOD'S WORD

All children age 3 to 3rd grade **begin at 9:30 on Sunday mornings, in the sanctuary** for a time with the Pastor. Those in Pre K will go upstairs to the Teddi Nelson Education wing and be picked up there by their family.

Children in K - 3rd grade go to the MAC (behind the church) on the 1st & 3rd Sundays; the 2nd & 4th Sundays, they go to the Nielsen Room for Children's Church and then return to their parents in worship.

Youth in 4th and 5th grades will start promptly at 9:30 upstairs in the MAC.

Children's Church during the 11:00 service for children 3-7 years old is held the 1st & 3rd Sundays. 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.

JAMers

THIS Saturday, October 27 we go to Camp Caroline Furnace, the Lutheran camp in Fort Valley to take part in their Fall Fun Day!. We will meet in the back parking lot of the church at **9:45 am.** and travel to camp. We will play camp games, go hiking, eat lunch (camp is providing lunch) and carve pumpkins.

This is a great time for your child to experience the beautiful camp and have fun with their church friends. Families are also invited. JAMers can attend even if your family does not. Let Diane know if your child and family will attend!

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. Please list 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 are grateful for all the love and support our Muhlenberg family gave us during Audrey's illness and death. Thank you for the prayers, calls, cards and concern.

Norwood Beery & Family

✦ 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 qualified by the licensing regulations of Virginia Social Services, and 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. Hebrews 6:1-12 **Thu. Hebrews 7:1-10**
Tue. Hebrews 6:13-20 **Fri. Hebrews 7:11-22**
Wed. John 13:1-17 **Sat. Mark 8:22-26**
Sun. Mark 10:46-52

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 22-28, 2018

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting

Tue. 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

Sat. 9:45 am JAMers to Caroline Furnace

Sun. Reformation Sunday
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
11:00 am Confirmation

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