



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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November 4, 2018

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

MESSAGE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE CHAIR

(Members, a letter with details was mailed Thursday, 11/1. The Chimes you receive at church will also have details.)

This is indeed a special day the Lord has made. The day we finally share with you the identity of our primary candidate to serve as our next pastor. Next week, the congregation will have the opportunity to see first-hand why the Call Committee was not just unanimous in our recommendation, but, even more, we were downright enthusiastic about it!

The pastoral candidate deeply believes they are called to serve at Muhlenberg at this point in their ministry. We prayerfully hope the congregation will share this view after meeting, worshipping with and hearing the candidate preach.

Why is this candidate the choice of the Call Committee? During our review of all the candidates, watching and listening to their sermons, and engaging in meetings, dinners, and interviews, this candidate stood head and shoulders above all others. In our time with them, they revealed warmth, maturity,

and authenticity. Their experience is extensive and passion for all aspects of ministry is inspiring. Due to family commitments out-of-state, I cannot be with you next Sunday. This is my chance to share my sincere hope that you see in the candidate all that your Call Committee has seen – and, that you will join us in believing that they are the right person to serve as our next Pastor. *Ted Sudol*

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Here we are, the place we all want to be, drenched in the exhilaration of the Spirit's work, calling a new Pastor for Word and Sacrament. In Council's interview with the candidate, we felt at ease with their dedication to call to preach the gospel and lead in worship. We are confident in the candidate's strengths for ministry and building up the body of believers, and believe in their ability to lead Muhlenberg forward. You've put your confidence in Council and the Call Committee. Now I pray you see what the Spirit revealed to us — a faithful leader of Word and Sacrament. Kristy and I made prior plans to be away on the 11th but will be with you in spirit. You're in good hands for this important call. *Tim Peifer*

See p. 3 for details about the pastoral candidate's visits.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Today we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us, for the saints of God who are living, and for saints still to come. We are especially thankful for the witness and works of those who have died in the faith as they modeled what it means to be both saint and sinner. Today we remember by name those who died in the past year. We look forward to sharing with them the life that is eternal. *Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

CROSSES & LINKS

The names of saints past and present adorn the sanctuary today in celebration of All Saints Sunday. The white crosses represent our pastors, past and present. The red and white links represent names of individuals the congregation has named as important in their life of faith. The collection will be displayed through Sunday, December 3.

FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

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

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



STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS

With Your Lives Adore Him is the theme of our fall stewardship. Today we will be 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, Talent and Treasures for the Lord's work through Muhlenberg's ministry. All 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!

Stewardship Ministry Team

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	118	Wed. Noon	12
9:30 Worship	123		
11:00 Worship	<u>200</u>		
Total	441		

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	\$ 25,954.56
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 54,032.00
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 79,986.56

See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.



To give online, scan here →

THIS WEEK

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **TOMORROW, November 5, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room for a program based on “Faithful Repentance” from *Gather* magazine. All women & friends are welcome. *Contact Louise Johnson (433-1047) for information.*

ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW, November 5, 7:00 pm** in the Kairos Room. *Contact Jennie Warner (mjwarner1@aol.com or 476-2020) for details.*

PASTOR’S CLASS

God in Odd Places is the topic of a six-week course Pr. Mark is teaching **Tuesdays through November 20, 6:00 –7:00 pm** in the Nielsen Room. **You can still join the class.** Everyone is welcome!

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

GO-GO GROUP (55+)

Join the Go-Go Group for lunch **THIS Wednesday, November 7, 1:00 pm at Harrisonburg Sports Bar** (at Valley Mall). *Call Dan Werner (433-3912) for more information.*

BONHOEFFER LECTURE

Eastern Mennonite University will host a lecture on *Discipleship in a World Full of Nazis: Reclaiming Bonhoeffer’s Christ-Centered Life & Theology*, **Wednesday, November 7, 6:30 pm.** *For details, contact Diane Bayer or see bulletin boards.*

PASTORAL CANDIDATE VISITS MUHLENBERG

MEET & GREET

THIS Thursday, Nov. 8, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, the Call Committee will host an evening of potluck desserts, coffee and pleasantries in the MAC. This is an opportunity for you to meet and greet our pastoral candidate. Please bring a dessert to share if you are able.

PASTORAL CANDIDATE PREACHES

NEXT Sunday, November 11, our candidate will preside and preach at all three services. If you miss the Meet & Greet and attend the 11:00 service, you may want to come early to meet the candidate before the service starts.

CALLED

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Called Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the 11:00 service **NEXT Sunday, November 11.**

The only business to be conducted is voting on extending a call to our candidate and approve a compensation package. A letter with details was mailed this past week to all members. Extra copies are available at the Connection Center today.

We plan to have parking attendants who will help find available spaces for members returning to church for the meeting.

See p. 5 for additional parking information.

As our constitution requires, we are informing you of Muhlenberg Lutheran Church's

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, November 18 at 12:15 pm in the MAC

The Purpose of the Meeting:

- **Elect Trustees**
- **Review & Vote on 2019 Spending Plan**
(available at the Connection Center)
- **Purchase of Property at 65 Ott Street**

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As per our Constitution & Bylaws, the property of the congregation is held in trust by four trustees elected by the congregation and appointed by the court according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Trustees serve a term of five years and must abide by the decisions of the congregation. After many years of service, Norwood Beery and Katie Ray are resigning their positions. We have asked two candidates to consider serving as Trustees:

- **Neil Alexander** has been a member for about 55 years. He has served in many roles with a focus on Christian Formation. When he retired 3 years ago, he began serving as a volunteer office assistant and has become very active on the Property Committee. Neil says, "It would be an honor to serve as a Trustee."
- **Diane Walton** has been a member since 2007. She serves on the altar guild, rings handbells with Gloria Dei Ringers, helps maintain the Parish Register, and serves as a teller and volunteer office assistant. Diane says, "It would be an honor and privilege to serve in this new capacity."

PROPERTY AT 65 OTT STREET



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 conversation with Katie. Should things progress favorably, our Constitution requires approval by members for Council to purchase the property. This will be addressed at our Annual Meeting Sunday, November 18. *If you have concerns or questions, please contact Tim Peifer (dseries4@gmail.com or 438-9167).*

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our beautiful library is put back together following the flooding downstairs! Many thanks to Lesa Calleo for numerous hours of sorting and putting books back on the shelves. You are welcome to borrow books and/or resources and then return them to the library.

We ask that you do not donate books to church library before contacting *Diane Bayer* (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496). If you have books to donate, consider Book Savers of Virginia at Gift and Thrift.

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.



Leaf blowers emit carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, and hydrocarbons. Consider raking your leaves instead. You'll get a good workout and keep pollutants, including noise pollution, from harming the environment.

PARKING ALERT!

If you park in a numbered space at the lot on the corner of Ott and Water Streets (behind the MAC), **your car may be towed!** That lot is leased by Urban Exchange and no other vehicles are permitted.



You may park in the "sister lot" with un-numbered spaces closer to the church (beside the white house) for worship services and weekday church activities after 5 pm.

Additionally on Sundays, you may park in the **Farm Credit lot** across E. Market St. or the law office **Wharton, Aldhizer & Weaver lot** between West Water Street and Newman Avenue. Visit the Connection Center for a parking map.

PARKING COURTESY

From young families juggling little ones to older members and all those in between, there are many folks whose lives could be made a little easier or safer by parking closer to the church entrances. While we have a few designated handicapped parking spots, at times on Sunday morning those can be full.

For the November 11 Called Congregational Meeting and festival Sundays, let's be especially hospitable to each other and visitors who might simply be helped by a closer space. If you usually park closer, maybe take a spot a little further back so that others may have a safe spot. Thank you for your consideration.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Ministry teams of Christian Formation and Local & Global Mission are offering many opportunities to make your Advent and Christmas a time of sharing with others. By providing these different opportunities, we hope you find one that touches your heart. Another way you and your family can take part is by praying for those who are in need in our world! Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) with any questions about these projects.

ANGEL TREE



We are sponsoring a Salvation Army Angel Tree. If you would like to help make this season of giving part of your Advent journey, **please stop by the Caring Corner TODAY** and take an angel from the Angel Tree. There will also be angels designated for Second Home and Minnick School students.

Your unwrapped gifts need to be **returned to the tree on Sunday, December 2**. Thank you for sharing.

GOOD GIFTS ADVENT TREE

And Advent Devotional Calendars

Coming soon there will be a small tree in the Caring Corner with ELCA Good Gifts ornaments. The ornaments will have different opportunities to give to World Hunger. Remove an ornament and make a donation to **ELCA World Hunger** by visiting ELCA.org/goodgifts. You can make a general gift by writing a check to Muhlenberg and designating World Hunger in the memo line! Also you can pick up an ELCA World Hunger Advent Devotional Calendar.

SECOND HOME NEWS

THANKSGIVING MEAL

Second Home's annual Family Thanksgiving Meal is **Thursday, November 15, 5:00 - 6:30 pm** in the MAC.



We invite you to share the meal and fellowship with us. Come meet our families, staff, and board members.

Our new partnership with JMU Campus Kitchen and other generous food donors make it possible to offer this meal free. If you are interested in participating, please sign up at the Connection Center no later than Sunday, November 11 at 12:30 pm. Donations of food items are welcome. Please fill out the food donation form attached to the sign up sheet. If you are willing to donate a turkey, please deliver frozen uncooked turkeys by 6 pm Monday, November 12. Please deliver your dessert donations by 5:00 pm on Thursday, November 15.

For more information, contact Krisztina Szekely (2ndhomedirector@gmail.com or 432-7989).

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

For this month, we ask you to donate *apple sauce* (individual cups or large cans) **Sunday, November 18**. Place donations in the designated bin in the Gathering Area. If you wish to help and prefer to make a cash donation, designate *Second Home food* on your check and envelope.



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.

CAMPUS & YOUTH NEWS

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

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY (LCM) November 9-11, LCM at Muhlenberg is pairing up with LCM at Virginia Tech for a weekend retreat at Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp! We'll take a hike, roast marshmallows, and spend time together as a community of faith before the holiday season and the end of the semester.

JMU students, faculty, and staff are all welcome to join the LCM group that meets for lunch in DHall on the first Tuesday of every month. Our next gathering is **November 6**.

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. Contact Mycah **TODAY**.

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

JAMERS FAMILY THANKS GIVING DINNER AND SERVICE PROJECT

JAMers (grades 2-5) and their families will have a Thanksgiving meal **Sunday, November 11, 12:45-2:15 pm**. Parents are invited to bring a food item to share and should *contact Sarah Eppard (sarah.eppard@merck.com or 298-2055)* to let her know what you are bringing and how many in your family will attend for food planning purposes.

As a way of giving thanks for all our blessings, we will collect food items to go into our **Thanksgiving box**. These items will be given to those who come to **People Helping People** so they might enjoy a Thanksgiving meal with their families. **We will collect stuffing mix, instant potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, green beans, corn, etc.**

We hope you can join your friends for a time of fun, food and fellowship as you thank God for all His gifts to you.

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 would like to thank our Pastors and members for the love and support given to our family during the loss of our mother, Duane Click. Your prayers, calls and visits were truly appreciated, and we are blessed to have such a caring congregation.

The Duane Click Family

✚ Thank you to all who contributed crackers to help stock Second Home's pantry on October 21. We collected 30 boxes of crackers to help feed our hungry students! Our next collection will be November 18. *See p. 6 for details.*

Also, many thanks to those who are regularly supplying perishables (such as grapes, carrots, ranch dressing, cream cheese, etc.). *Contact Susan Gallaher (palosva@gmail.com or 540-867-5017) if you would like to help by contributing perishables on a regular basis.*

✚ 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 for a copy of her "Month Two Update."

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. Rom. 12:17-21; 13:8-10

Tue. Acts 7:17-29

Thu. Rom. 5:6-11

Wed. John 13:31-35

Fri. Hebrews 9:15-24

Sat. Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Sun. Mark 12:38-44

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 5 - 11, 2018

Mon. 6:30 pm Ruth Sigmon Circle

7:00 pm Eldercare Support Group

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

1:00 pm Go-Go Group Lunch

7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thu. 6:30 pm Meet & Greet with

Pastoral Candidate

Sun. Pastoral Candidate Preaches

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion

9:30 am Christian Formation

12:15 pm Called Congregational Meeting

12:45 pm JAMers Thanksgiving Meal

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.

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