



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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November 25, 2018

CHRIST THE KING

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

SHE SAID YES!



I am pleased to share with you that through the work of the Holy Spirit, Muhlenberg has new pastoral leadership. Pastor Lauren Miller has accepted the call to become our new Senior Pastor.

At our November 11 congregational meeting, Council recommended that the congregation extend a call to Pastor Lauren. Out of 133 valid ballots cast, 129 voted in favor (97%) of the recommendation and the motion passed. In a second motion from Council, the compensation package was unanimously approved as recommended. Pastor Lauren will begin at Muhlenberg January 1, 2019.

Tim Peifer, Congregation Council President

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

BRING TO THIS SACRED ALTAR THE GIFTS HIS GOODNESS GAVE

Today we offer our hearts and lives to the One who gave his life for all!

At the time of the offering, please place your time/talent inventory and commitment card in the basket that is passed and your regular offering in the offering plate. These gifts will be dedicated today to the work of Christ through this congregation.

If you have not had the opportunity to receive our stewardship materials, they are still available at the Connection Center. You may respond after today by filling out the time/talent inventory and commitment card and placing them in the box at the Connection Center or handing them in at the church office.

Thank you for showing your love of the Lord who is so good and gracious to us!

The Stewardship Ministry Team

CROSSES & LINKS

The names of saints past and present adorn the sanctuary through Sunday, December 3. The white crosses represent our pastors. The links represent individuals the congregation has named as important in their life of faith.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

PASTOR'S CLASS

God in Odd Places is the topic of a course Pastor Mark is teaching **Tuesdays through December 4, 6:00 – 7:00 pm** in the Nielsen Room (no class on Nov. 20). **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.

FOOD COLLECTION REMINDER

We will collect non-perishable food items for Patchwork Pantry **NEXT Sunday, December 2** in the Gathering Area. No glass jars please. The Pantry is also in need of paper products (paper towels, wraps, food storage bags, toilet tissue, etc.), cleansers (dish, laundry, all-purpose), diapers, and all types of personal hygiene products. Thank you for your support.

ADVENT-URE SUNDAY

A Whole Congregation Event!



The Christian Formation ministry team invites everyone to start the Advent season by joining us for *Advent-ure Sunday*, **NEXT Sunday, December 2, 12:15 pm in the**

MAC. We will begin with lunch. Then we will have crafts for the whole family, including making Advent wreaths with fresh greenery. If you have one, please bring your straw wreath form from past years to redecorate. If not, we will have wreaths available. Visit the Gathering Area **TODAY** for a preview of this year's event! *Call Diane Bayer (434-3496) or Kristy Peifer (438-9167) with any questions.*

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

END-OF-YEAR-GIVING

If you are 70 ½, you can give to Muhlenberg from your IRA with no tax liability. Have the check sent directly to MLC from your IRA and there will be no tax to pay on this withdrawal. *A great way to support Muhlenberg! Call Terry at 437-0038 or Janet at 434-5258 with any questions. The Finance Committee*

FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES, SEE P. 4 AND VISIT THE CONNECTION CENTER.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	71
9:30 Worship	84
11:00 Worship	<u>122</u>
Total	277

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through October 2018			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$561,093	\$667,505	\$600,900
Total Receipts	\$643,389	\$749,695	\$681,384
Expenses	\$689,235	\$804,842	\$701,215
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$54,846)	(\$55,147)	(\$19,831)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 6,854.72
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>14,516.99</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 21,371.71

See Connection Center notebook for details.

October Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$591

To give online, scan here →



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

You know all that singing you do in the car, all that Christmas cheer going to waste? It's time to share it with your brothers and sisters from Muhlenberg who aren't able to make it to church! We will be caroling **Sunday, December 9**, at 12:15 pm and really need your voice to add to ours. The more singers we have, the more seasonal love we can share. We like all ages of singers and whole families are encouraged to join us. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up at the Connection Center for food planning purposes. Please think about sharing a couple of hours that will mean so much to our homebound members. See you on the 9th!

Sponsored by the Care Committee

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **Monday, December 3, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room to share Christmas memories, articles, poems, & a brief program. All MLC women and friends are invited to attend.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

CREATION CARE TIP

 Let family and friends know that your Christmas gift to the planet is a smaller carbon footprint and suggest a single holiday party. Make plans to get together on one day to celebrate the season. It might take a little more planning to host a single gathering, but the impact on the environment will be huge. No matter how many holiday parties you attend this season, be sure to carpool.

ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Last Sunday the congregation **passed the proposed 2019 Spending Plan**. It remains relatively flat to 2018 and supports good ministry outreach and programing within the Church.

We also recognized and gave thanks to two of our Trustees, Katie Ray and Norwood Berry. Both of them have served faithfully for our congregation and their terms of service expired. The congregation **voted in two new Trustees, Diane Walton and Neil Alexander**.

The congregation also **gave Council the approval to move ahead with conversations and negotiations to purchase the Rivera house at 65 Ott Street**.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

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

THIRD SUNDAY SERVICE

PROJECT FOR K-3RD

Every third Sunday of the month, K-3rd graders are doing a service project in the MAC. We invite parents to participate in this activity with their children. The next service project is **December 16**.

A REMINDER TO PARENTS

OF PRE K-5TH GRADE STUDENTS

Sundays, December 2, 9, and 16 all students in this age group will be in the MAC practicing for our Children's Christmas Program which will be held Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. There will be no Children's Church on Sunday December 9.

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

✚ Many thanks to our Muhlenberg family for your prayers, cards, and visits during Jane's recent illness and recovery. We greatly appreciate the love you have shared.

Billy and Jane Walton

✚ We offer prayers to the family of Arlene Killian (Karen Matthias' mother) and Susan Morningstar (Ruby Lineweaver's sister) following their deaths last weekend.

REMEMBER & HONOR LOVED ONES

Want to remember or honor a loved one with a poinsettia? **Cost per plant is \$15.** To reserve your poinsettia, do the following:

1. **Sign up** at the Connection Center in the notebook under the "Flowers" tab.
2. **Pay** for poinsettias (write "Poinsettias" on the memo line of your check.) Place your check in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. **Payments reserve poinsettias.**

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 9:00 pm service on Christmas Eve.

Sign up deadline is Sunday, December 9

(no additional flowers will be ordered after that date).

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ALTERNATIVE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

If you prefer, we offer local and global opportunities in Our Community Place (OCP) and ELCA Disaster Response.

1. **Sign up** in the notebook at the Connection Center (**blue forms in the front of the book**).
2. **Make your contribution.** Ensure correct credit/designation by indicating "**OCP Christmas Gift**" or "**Disaster Response Christmas Gift**" on your check.

Sign up deadline for Alternative Christmas Giving is Sunday, December 16.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

PRAYING OUR FAITH TOGETHER!

For individual and family use. Scripture citations taken from ELW's 3-Year Daily Lectionary, p. 1143- 1153, (Year C).

Mon. Rev. 11:1-14 **Thu. 1 Thess. 5:1-11**
Tue. Rev. 11:15-19 **Fri. 1 Thess. 5:12-22**
Wed. John 16:25-33 **Sat. Luke 21:20-24**
Sun. Luke 21:25-36

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 26 — December 2, 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
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir
Sun. First Sunday of Advent
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
Food Pantry, Lay Communion & Name Badge Sunday
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:15 pm Advent-ure Sunday

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@muhlenberg.lutheran.org/434-3496).

Additionally, **requests to utilize space in the Gathering Area on Sunday or post information at the 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)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Please sign up at the Connection Center to serve Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.