



The CHIMES

MUHLENBERG: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S 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

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

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

Senior Pastor Lauren Eanes: eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org Associate Pastor Alex Zuber: zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org

June 13, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

A note from Pastor Lauren, Personnel Committee Chairperson Mark Warner, and Congregation President Karen Thomsen

We know that the recent departure of Diane Bayer from our staff has raised some questions and concerns. The details of an employment relationship are held in confidence between the employee, her supervisor, and the Personnel Committee. Legally, we cannot share those details with you. However, you may rest assured that your Senior Pastor, all members of the Personnel Committee (who are appointed by your Congregation Council), and all members of the Executive Committee have acted jointly on your behalf. They are in full agreement about decisions made.

You should know that we have an employment policy manual at this church (which you are welcome to review) and that every policy outlined within our handbook has been honored in the handling of this situation. In our employment decisions we seek to balance fairness to the employee with accountability to the mission and ministry of our congregation. We know that you will join us in giving thanks for Diane's ministry among us and wishing her well in her next endeavor.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

KARLEY ANNE RITCHIE Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Karley, daughter of Zachary and Sheryl Ritchie into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family! Karley was baptized last Sunday (6/6) and the video will be part of our worship service. We continue to surround her with our promises and God's promises through our responses in worship.



Karley's sponsors are Jimmie & Kenia Ritchie and Jhon & Lyn Fortuna.

In Filipino culture, parents often name additional sponsors, referred to as "Ninong" and "Ninang." These special people represent the whole community and promise to walk with the child as they grow in faith. We give thanks for Karley's ninongs and ninangs: Jacob Ritchie, Bill & Juliet Cordell, Kenneth & Mariel Fortuna, Michelle McDowell, Mizpah & Alter Sacol, Zeniada, Anthony & Naomi, Tracy, Gretchen, Belen, and Janet. Welcome to the Lord's family, Karley!

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Monday (6/14), 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Join us via [ZOOM](#) tomorrow evening – all are welcome! You may also join us by phone:

Meeting ID: 833 4118 0538

One tap mobile +13126266799,,83341180538#

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Meets **10:30 am** via Zoom using this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/200491556>

The study isn't limited to Muhlenberg members, so feel free to invite a friend.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

EMAIL SCAM ALERT

Some members received fraudulent emails recently that look like they are from Pastor Lauren asking for a reply and/or gift cards. **Our pastors will never contact you via email to ask you to buy gift cards.** And you can trust that our email system was not hacked. Scammers are able to skim information off church websites to set up fake accounts that look legit, but they aren't actually accessing your personal information.

Please ignore and delete any email that appears to come from someone on staff asking for money or gift cards. Authentic emails from our pastors end in "muhlenberglutheran.org." See their email addresses highlighted on page 1.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Communication Minister Christian Perritt at perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org.

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

| | | |
|------|--|------|
| 5/30 | 8:30 Communion (in person-31 + Zoom-10)... | 41 |
| | 10:00 Outside/Communion..... | 66 |
| | 11:00 Total Live Views..... | 52 |
| | Total Views this Week | 212 |
| | Hours Viewed this Week | 76.5 |
| 6/6 | 8:30 Communion (in person-24 + Zoom-10)... | 34 |
| | 10:00 Outside/Communion..... | 52 |
| | 11:00 Total Live Views..... | 51 |

FINANCIAL REPORT

| Through April 2021 | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Y-T-D Actual | Y-T-D Budget | Y-T-D Last Year |
| Gifts & Offerings | \$175,203 | \$267,999 | \$198,024 |
| Total Receipts | \$213,912 | \$304,777 | \$253,214 |
| Expenses | \$288,489 | \$335,740 | \$272,056 |
| Excess Income/ (Expenses) | (\$74,577) | (\$30,963) | (\$18,842) |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Giving in support of our Spending Plan | \$ 8,881.00 |
| Giving to Other Designated Funds | \$ 9,613.00 |
| Total Giving for the Week | \$ 18,494.00 |

To give online, scan here →



Muhlenberg is not suspending its ministry through this unprecedented time, and we ask you not to suspend your financial contributions either. We are committed to maintaining our ministries, even if they are in a different form for now. We also want to be able to continue to support the needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

You can make a one-time or recurring donation through the [donation page](#) on our website, or mail your check to the church: 281 E. Market Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 AM HYBRID SERVICE: IN THE SANCTUARY AND ON ZOOM

In-Person Attendance

- In-person attendance will be limited, and **advanced registration at rsvp.church/r/2yUWXSEz will be required** to give us your name, the number attending and a confirmation email address (see graphic on right). At the beginning of each week, registration will open for the following Sunday. If you do not have internet access, you may call Karen Thomsen at 540-421-4431 to register by phone.
- **A well-fitted facemask is required** at all times in the building.



Online Participation

- **To connect online, simply go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878>.** To join in Holy Communion, have bread and wine or juice ready before the service.

10:00 AM OUTDOORS: IN THE OTT ST. PARKING LOT (BEHIND THE MAC)

- **Bring your own chairs, shade and/or coolers! When you arrive, please check in at the Welcome Tent.** There will be special music but no congregational singing at this service.
- **UPDATE:** Given new CDC recommendations, we are making masks **optional at this outdoor service.**
- **THIS SERVICE IS WEATHER PERMITTING.** If weather does not allow us to gather, an email will be sent Sunday morning by 8 am, and a notice will be put on Muhlenberg's website.



11:00 AM WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE

- **Join in worship wherever you are at www.facebook.com/MuhlenbergLutheran or www.youtube.com/c/muhlenberglutheranchurch**
- **Sing hymns and enjoy special music, as well as a full Service of the Word with sermon, prayers, etc.**
- **Practice generosity through online gifts at muhlenberglutheran.org/give**

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Vacation Bible School: Compassion Camp 2021 ~ Sundays, June 27 - July 18

UPDATE ~ Compassion Camp is coming back to Muhlenberg, and it's for kids, youth and adults of all ages! Join us for a summer of compassion as we learn about changing the world with lovingkindness! For four Sundays, we'll have in-person and online opportunities to engage in learning and service together.



Each session starts at 10:45 (after the 10:00 service) **and lasts 40-45 minutes.** We'll gather in the grassy area by the MAC for activities:

- Participants will get popsicles and gather for an opening chant, song, and skit.
- The art station will feature prompts like mosaic, self-portrait, sculpture, etc.
- Community service projects include making birthday kits for the Food Bank, planting flower boxes for the Habitat Build, and more.
- We'll close with yoga, a song and prayer.

Save the dates and invite your friends! Contact Ashley Saunders (oli.lola.mom@gmail.com or 540-746-8102) to let her know if you want to volunteer or participate, as well as if you're doing so virtually or in-person. For more information, visit muhlenberglutheran.org/vbs2021.

Adult Learning

- **UPDATE ~ Faith Lens Sunday School class: Starting today the summer the class will meet at 11:00 am using a hybrid model: in person (in the Nielsen Room) and on ZOOM.** Faith Lens offers opportunities for conversation, reflection and occasional service projects. To learn more, contact Jean Helmick (jean.helmick@gmail.com or 540-830-1930).
- **Wednesday morning Bible study:** This adult class meets via **ZOOM** on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am, and will meet throughout June and July. Led by Pastor Lauren, the group will dive deep into the book of Ephesians.

High School Youth

Sadly the decision has been made to cancel Online Kairos this year (originally scheduled for June 27-30). In addition to experiencing some logistical difficulties, Synod leadership recognized that there will not be not enough participation to make the event possible. We would like to encourage our youth who will be in 9th - 12th grades this fall to look forward to an exceptionally joyful and enthusiastic Winter Celebration on January 21-23, 2022. We hope this event will be a truly special and memorable way to celebrate our return to in-person events. Here at Muhlenberg plans are coming together to gather informally over the summer with our high school students, so keep an eye on *The Chimes* for information in the months to come!

MUHLENBERG NEWS (CONT'D)

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Thank you to all who participated in the conversations about Muhlenberg's strategic plan! Communication Minister Christian Perritt did an excellent job facilitating these lively, thoughtful conversations. The energy and excitement about our future was palpable! Our pastors are compiling all the feedback received, and Congregation Council will be reviewing and recommending changes at their June meeting. We want to hear from you! If you have thoughts about the Strategic Plan, don't hesitate to reach out to the pastors and/or council members with your hopes and dreams for Muhlenberg moving forward.



Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. Contact Ramona Sanders for more information: (rsanders97@verizon.net or 433-1165).

CREATION CARE TIP

For several weeks we have had tips on *How to Grow an Organic Garden*. In order to produce vigorous growth, your organic garden needs adequate nutrients, helpful bacteria and animal and plant organisms, and a good structure to allow it to "breathe" and absorb moisture. Use these instructions for quick compost that may be ready in as little as 12 days (though most well-managed piles will produce usable compost in 4 to 8 weeks):

Pick a level, well-drained spot in full sun for the compost pile. Build a compost bin out of easily available materials. Feed it. Compost works best layered with coarse and fine materials. Keep it going. Make sure the pile is at least 3 feet square and 3 feet high.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Karen Thomsen (kethomsen25@gmail.com or 540-421-4431) for more information about the Habitat Build or to volunteer.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Our Habitat Faith Build Duplex on Virginia Avenue is moving right along. The vinyl flooring in the bathrooms has been laid, and we are ready to install the laminate flooring. We could use a couple more sets of hands to make the work go quicker. Nate Eanes will be guiding us, along with Habitat's construction manager. If you have ever wanted to save money by laying your own laminate, then come help **Monday, June 14** and learn how to do it, by doing it. I'm told it isn't difficult so I plan to give it a go. **We will be at the duplex at 658/660 Virginia Avenue at 8:00 am.** If you can spare an hour, a half day, or the whole day, we'd love to have you. Feel free to contact me for more information.

Karen Thomsen
540-421-4431 or kethomsen25@gmail.com



SECOND HOME NEWS

It's a circle of life, and we have come full circle! Second Home is once again preparing for a musical performance. Lions, wildebeest, and hyenas are coming to town **June 24 - 27**. The excitement is high among students and staff, especially since we get to try out a new, outdoor location for the performance. As usual, we will offer a concession stand, raffle, and silent auction to round out the experience and offset some of the costs of the show. We had to build part of a stage, make costumes, buy and build set pieces, not to mention all the time and effort our staff has been putting in to make this an unforgettable experience for our students and the audience.

We need your help! We are looking for items that could be raffled off or entered into our silent auction (crafts, jewelry, gift cards, plants, etc.) and baked goods or concession items to sell.

If you are willing to donate something, contact Krisztina (2ndhomedirector@gmail.com or 540-432-7989) by THIS Friday, June 18 for details. Thank you!

To find out more about the show, click below or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/823107548416084>

SECOND HOME LEARNING CENTER

PRESENTS:

Disney THE LION KING JR.

JUNE 24 AT 8:00PM

JUNE 25 AT 8:00PM

JUNE 26 AT 8:00PM

JUNE 27 AT 8:00PM

Music & Lyrics by
Elton John & Tim Rice

Additional Music & Lyrics by
Lebo M, Mark Mancos, Jay Kohn, and Hans Zimmer

Book by
Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi

Based on the Broadway production directed by
Julie Taymor

Music Adapted & Arranged and
Additional Music & Lyrics and
"Lulu Hawaiian Tost" written by Will Van Dyke

"It's a Small World" written by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

Disney's The Lion King Jr. is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International
421 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019
Script, music, and all other material © 2015 Disney
Broadway Junior and MTI's Broadway Junior Collection. See it all thanks
to Music Theatre International. All rights reserved.

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE

AT BACK HOME ON THE FARM STAGE

2915 WILLOW RUN RD, HARRISONBURG, VA 22802

DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR.

BRING A

BLANKET

OR CHAIR

WATCH FOR DETAILS

ON FACEBOOK OR

SECONDHOMEVA.COM

BACK HOME
on the FARM

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

EMMANUEL 9 COMMEMORATION Thursday, June 17 at 7:00 PM



On June 17, 2015, Dylann Roof, a member on the rolls of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Charleston, SC entered Mother Emanuel AME church for a prayer meeting. He proceeded to shoot and kill 9 of the people in an act born of white supremacy and racial hatred.

Two years ago, at our churchwide assembly, the ELCA voted and approved a resolution to set aside June 17 as a *Day of Remembrance and Repentance for the Emanuel 9*. Acting on this resolution, the Virginia Synod's Tapestry team is hosting its 2nd Annual Zoom worship service Thursday, June 17 at 7:00 pm for a time of remembering the Emanuel 9, prayer, speakers, and an Affirmation of Baptism centered in racial justice.

The time to take steps toward healing the deep wound of racism in our country is now. Please join us and invite others to the service as well. Hosting a Zoom watch party is a great way to encourage discussion and action steps. Please register for the event [HERE](#). The zoom link for the event will be emailed to you.

Resources are available at ...

www.vasynod.org/ministries/tapestry/.

POWER IN THE SPIRIT

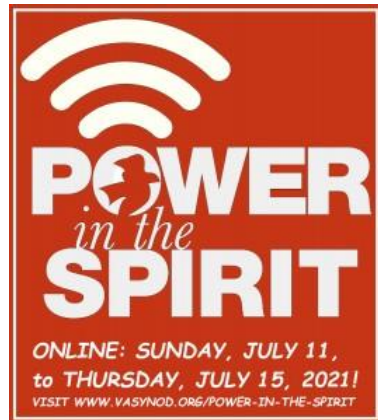
Sunday, July 11 – Thursday, July 15

Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for people of all ages who wish to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible studies, keynote addresses, workshops, games, and fellowship.

More information will be available soon, but you'll want to mark your calendar and register for a special presentation about "**The Legend of General Pete: The Muhlenberg Family and the Founding of our Nation.**" Henry Melchior Muhlenberg is regarded as the patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America. His oldest son, John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg (our church's namesake), a.k.a. General Pete, gained his fame on the territory of the Virginia Synod. We'll tell his tale and review scholars' thoughts on its veracity. We will also review the contributions of other Muhlenbergs to government, science, and more.

The presentation will be held **Wednesday, July 14, 6:15 - 7:30 pm**. You can choose to attend one or multiple presentations. To register or learn more, visit ...

www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/



REMINDERS

NEW NICHEs AVAILABLE

An additional 24 Columbarium niches have been added to the Caring Corner. The Property Committee has made upgrades to this room with new lighting, including eternal spotlights shining on the niches. If you are interested in a niche or want additional information, please contact Bill Compton (437-8933 or compton1080@gmail.com).

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 we have your updated information by contacting Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS

Are you on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter? Why not Like or Follow Muhlenberg? Get informative updates regularly throughout the week, photos, prayers, and inspirations/devotionals. It is also a great way to let your friends know about your church and our ministry. Find us on Facebook by searching for Muhlenberg Lutheran Church, or follow us on Instagram and Twitter at @MuhlenbergLC.

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

June 14-20

If viewing electronically, you can click the links below to access meetings and services.

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Ministries Night
via [ZOOM](#)

Wed. 10:30 am Wed. Morning Bible Study
via [ZOOM](#)

Sun. Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
[Sunday am ZOOM link](#)
8:30 am Hybrid Communion Service
9:00 am [ZOOM](#) "Coffee Hour" begins
10:00 am Outdoor Worship
11:00 am Faith Lens Class via [ZOOM](#)
11:00 am Service Livestreamed
via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join your Muhlenberg friends and family for education and fellowship via [ZOOM](#) each **Sunday from 8:30 – 9:30** using this link [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84731416878](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878) or call 1-301-715-8592 and enter the Meeting ID: 84731416878.

No internet access? Call Wellstream Phone:
[1-434-205-8777](tel:1-434-205-8777)

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 Parish Administrator Linda Depoy:*

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

Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).