



# 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*

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

E-mail address: [info@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:info@muhlenberglutheran.org) † Website: [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)

Senior Pastor Lauren Eanes: [eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org) Associate Pastor Alex Zuber: [zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)

**June 20, 2021**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## **WHAT'S THE BUZZ?**

### **VIRGINIA SYNOD ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS**

Members of the Congregation Council along with Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex attended the 2021 Virginia Synod Assembly via Zoom. There was a focus on *Women in the Church* with offerings from the Synod Assembly going to support the **ELCA International Women's Leader's Fund**, which strives to equip women to be leaders in the church, and the **Faith, Finances, and Freedom Fund**, which works to strengthen the financial situation of rostered ministers and congregations in the Virginia Synod.

The gospel text for our Festival Worship service was Mark 5:21-43, where Jesus heals two women, one of which suffers from hemorrhages. Congregations across the Synod are invited to collect menstruation hygiene products for their local schools or food banks to share with those who need them. *See page 5 for more information about how Muhlenberg plans to respond to this need.*

To watch the Assembly or to download full highlights, click [HERE](#).

## **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the various opportunities for sharing thoughts and ideas about Muhlenberg's Strategic Plan. Congregation Council will make final revisions to the plan at our June meeting based on your feedback. We look forward to sharing the adopted version of our Strategic Plan with the Congregation in July.

## **HABITAT FAITH BUILD Fundraising Goal Met**

**Our goal of raising \$10,000 toward the Habitat Faith Build has been met!** Thank you to all who gave to this special appeal. The work continues on the duplex at 658 and 660 Virginia Avenue with hopes for a July dedication.

## **THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG**

### **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

### SCAM ALERTS

In addition to the recent email scam some in our congregation received, **there is now a new texting scam** that a few members have reported. The scam involves texts from a number claiming to be “Pastor Lauren” to members of the Muhlenberg congregation, “urgently” asking for “a favor.” The texts address the recipient by name.



**If you receive one of these texts, we ask that you do not respond, block the number, and delete the text.** If you have any questions, please contact Communication Minister Christian Perritt...

[perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org)

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

- 6/6    8:30 Communion (in person-24 + Zoom-10)...34
- 10:00 Outside/Communion.....52
- 11:00 Total Live Views.....51
- Total Views this Week .....211
- Hours Viewed this Week ..... 60.2
  
- 6/13    8:30 Communion (in person-16 + Zoom-11)....27
- 10:00 Outside/Communion.....45
- 11:00 Total Live Views..... 38

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through May 2021			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$232,656	\$344,320	\$251,663
Total Receipts	\$279,342	\$387,047	\$313,912
Expenses	\$352,541	\$411,667	\$335,117
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$73,198)</b>	<b>(\$24,620)</b>	<b>(\$21,205)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan    \$ 9,071.00  
 Giving to Other Designated Funds         \$ 1,345.00  
**Total Giving for the Week                    \$ 10,416.00**



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](https://rsvp.church/r/2yUWXSEz) will be required** to give us your name, the number attending and a confirmation email address. 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 the latest 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](https://www.facebook.com/MuhlenbergLutheran) or [www.youtube.com/c/muhlenberglutheranchurch](https://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](https://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](mailto: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](http://muhlenberglutheran.org/vbs2021).

### Adult Learning

- **UPDATE ~ Faith Lens Sunday School class** — **Meets 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](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades this fall to look forward to an exceptionally joyful and enthusiastic Winter Celebration 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



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

### CREATION CARE TIP

The best way to attract birds and keep them coming back is to grow natural plantings that offer food, shelter, and cover. Create irregular shaped borders. and plant native fruit/seed-bearing bushes. Establish a spot for a brush pile. Allow annuals and perennials to go to seed. Provide different kinds of bird seeds and bird feeders.

## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Karen Thomsen ([kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com) or 540-421-4431) for more information.

### FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS COLLECTION

In response to the Synod's request, Muhlenberg's Local & Global Mission ministry team is sponsoring a collection of feminine hygiene products **June 20 & 27**. **Please bring your donations to church at the 8:30 or 10:00 service**, and place them in the large donation boxes. You may also call the church office to make arrangements to drop off your donations.

We will make sure all donations are delivered to schools and organizations in our area with the greatest need.



## HABITAT FAITH BUILD UPDATES

### Fundraising Goal Met

**Our goal of raising \$10,000 toward the Habitat Faith Build has been met!** Thank you to all who gave to this special appeal. The work continues on the Duplex at 658 and 660 Virginia Avenue with hopes for a July dedication.

### Many Hands Make Light Work

Team Muhlenberg was present to help lay laminate flooring on Monday, June 14. Under the supervision of Nate Eanes and his son Donovan, Malcolm Wilfong and I learned how to lay the flooring. There was definitely blood, sweat, and laughter, but thankfully no tears. There is plenty of flooring left to be laid so if you want in on the fun, contact me. We hope to get a few more days coordinated these last two weeks of June.

*Karen Thomsen*

540-421-4431 or [kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com)





## SECOND HOME NEWS

It's a circle of life, and we have come full circle! Second Home Learning Center is once again preparing for a musical. Lions, wildebeest, and hyenas are coming to town **June 24 – 27** as **students perform The Lion King Jr at 8:00 pm nightly**. The excitement is high among students and staff, especially since we get to try out a new, outdoor location for the performance **at Back Home on The Farm** (2915 Willow Run Road). Bring a blanket or chair to sit on. Admission is by donation at the door.

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 would love to see you there!**

**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 Mancoske, 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 "Lau-Hawaiian Treat" written by Yel Yee 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 Kazuo Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

Songs, music, and all other material © 2015 Disney Broadway Junior and MTI's Broadway Junior collection are registered trademarks of 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**

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

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

## VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

### 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.

As our world emerges from over a year of pandemic life, many are hoping for a return to “normal.” The task before the Church is to focus our hopes in the right direction. This seems like the perfect reason to celebrate “**Advent in July!**”

Advent is always a season in which the Church waits and hopes. At *Power in the Spirit Online*, we’ll explore how Advent can guide our hopes and expectations for life in a post-pandemic world. In addition to this timely topic, you can expect to see old friends, make new connections, and enjoy the fellowship of the Power in the Spirit community. If you sign up to attend, you can also expect:

- A daily devotional to arrive in your email each morning, Sunday through Thursday. Here you’ll receive readings, brief videos, and guides for at-home arts and crafts.
- An invitation to daily Zoom workshops, from 6:15 - 7:25 pm, Sunday through Thursday. Listen to presenters from across our Virginia Synod share from their areas of expertise. Sign up for the sessions that interest you most!
- A closing vespers service at 7:30 pm, live and online, under the leadership of *George Donovan, Director of Music for Bethel, Winchester*. Each weeknight you’ll participate in different ways of worship, even while physically apart.

**One workshop you will want to attend is a special presentation about “The Legend of General Pete: The Muhlenberg Family and the Founding of our Nation” being held Wednesday, July 14, 6:15 - 7:30 pm.** Henry Melchior Muhlenberg is regarded as the patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America. His oldest son, John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg who is 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.

**Registration is now open, and it is easy!** First, review the schedule and workshop topics by clicking [HERE](#). Then, visit the registration page [HERE](#). Be sure to select your preferred workshops! For more information, visit [www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/](http://www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/).



## REMINDERS

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### 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 ([depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496).

### EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

Have you been receiving our weekly and occasional email newsletters? If not, make sure they didn't end up in your spam or promotions folders. To subscribe or verify that you are on the list, send your email address to Linda Depoy ([depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

### 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](mailto:compton1080@gmail.com)).

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

June 21-27

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

- Mon. 2:00 pm** Weekly Staff Meeting  
**6:30 pm** Congregation Council mtg.
- Wed. 10:30 am** Wed. Morning Bible Study via [ZOOM](#)
- Sun. Fifth 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  
**10:45 am** VBS: Compassion Camp  
**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**

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:*

*([depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org)/434-3496)*

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