



# 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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**July 7, 2019**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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

### **WELCOME PASTOR ALEX ZUBER!**

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5:17*

I greet you with these hope-filled words from the Apostle Paul. Indeed, through the Spirit a new thing is happening here at Muhlenberg! I shared with some of you my mistake in my first interview with the call committee when asked, "Why are you excited about Muhlenberg?" I babbled about how much Muhlenberg meant to me as a student, intern, and one discerning a call to ministry. But that's not why I felt called to be your pastor NOW!

I am here because of the new spirit-led things that lie ahead, not the happy memories that lie behind. I'm overjoyed to begin this new chapter in my ministry in a congregation that takes seriously God's promises that we are being raised up by God's grace for the sake of our community! We are all being made new!

I cannot thank you enough for the warm welcome I've received. I am blessed to serve alongside a wonderful Senior Pastor, a passionate Staff, a faithful council, and so many devoted volunteers! These first months will be a great time to form new relationships, so do not hesitate to introduce yourself and say hello.

May God bless us in this new beginning as we live out what it means to be a *Wellspring of God's Grace- Open, Authentic, Relational, and Serving!*  
*Pastor Alex*

## **GLADNESS AND SADNESS**

It is with **gladness** that we acknowledge Mycah McNett's call to ordained ministry in the ELCA. She will enter seminary this fall. And, it is with **sadness** that we say goodbye. Mycah's last Sunday worship with us will be August 4.

Mycah's service and commitment to Muhlenberg is deeply appreciated and will be missed - especially her involvement in Campus Ministry, youth activity, confirmation ministry leadership, and communication ministry.

We pray God's abundant blessings upon her as she follows Jesus. May she know God's complete love and strength always.

## **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 securely register online at...*

[www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)



## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

### FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Today we wear name badges to welcome Pastor Alex and help him learn our names. Supplies are in Gathering Area.

We receive **non-perishable food donations** in the Gathering Area for local area food pantries.

**Lay Communion Ministers** will take Holy Communion to our sick and homebound members.

## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### MINISTRIES NIGHT

**Tomorrow Evening, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

Join us as we strengthen our ministries, plan new initiatives, dream new dreams, and serve one another and the wider community! **All committees welcome new members.**



### INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAYS July 14 & 28, August 11

Join us **NEXT Sunday July 14, 11:45** in the MAC for an Intergenerational program. This program will be led by Muhlenberg member June Nabers. Lunch is provided. We will learn about the Minnick School of Harrisonburg and put together breakfast and snack kits for the students.

Contact Diane Bayer with questions ([bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496)

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	160	Wed. Noon	11
10:30 Worship	<u>175</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>335</b>		

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through May 2019			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$282,179	\$340,653	\$290,119
Total Receipts	\$324,784	\$386,645	\$332,101
Expenses	\$349,620	\$416,709	\$341,230
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$24,836)</b>	<b>(\$30,064)</b>	<b>(\$9,129)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$	27,767.50
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	<u>10,550.00</u>
<b>Total Giving for the Week</b>	\$	<b>38,317.50</b>

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### THE PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB!

Join Pastor Lauren or Pastor Alex each month to discuss an interesting or provocative book about faith. July's book will be *The Rapture Exposed* by Barbara Rossing (available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or ask Pastor Lauren to order you a copy). We'll gather on Wednesday, **July 17, 6:30-8:30pm** in the Gathering Area for lively conversation!

Like to read ahead? August's book will be *Fire by Night: Finding God in the Pages of the Old Testament* by Melissa Florer-Bixler. We will meet Wednesday, August 21.

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### NEW SEMINARIANS

**Two Muhlenberg members will attend seminary in the fall.** Mycah McNett will attend United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia and Remington Willis will attend Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, OH. Our Seminary Endowment Fund has \$3200 that is available for these two individuals. We would like to send them off with a little more money. If you are interested in helping to further the education of these seminarians, you may do so by denoting "seminary endowment" in the memo line of your check. Congratulations, ladies! We are proud of you and wishes the best!

### CREATION CARE TIP

Turn up the temperature on your air conditioner. Try keeping the temperature set to 78 degrees throughout the summer to save energy and reduce your cooling costs. You'll cut your cooling costs by up to 10% for every degree you raise your thermostat.

### COLUMBARIUM PROMOTION REMINDER

Your opportunity to save \$200 when reserving your columbarium niche ends at the end of July. Did you know that if you change your mind, move, etc. and no longer want to use the niche you reserved, that MLC will refund 75% of your payment in the future. **So don't let your uncertainty keep you from missing out on the promotion.** Applications and FAQ's letter are available at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. *If you have questions please call one of the Columbarium Committee members - Bill Compton, Marion Carr, Pat Costie or Jackie Wells.*

## LOCAL GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

Joining with the Summer Intergenerational Sunday program July 14, LGM will collect funds to assist Minnick School – Harrisonburg (MS-H). Donations will be used to provide breakfast for special education students. A healthy breakfast supports health and learning. Stay for lunch on July 14 and learn more about Minnick School-Harrisonburg, a Lutheran Family Service agency! Checks made payable to MLC with MS-H in the memo line may be placed in the offering plate at any time.

## PROPERTY UPDATE

The Ott Street house (purchased in January) has a late model natural gas stove (white) in good condition. (Hotpoint model rgb526deh1ww). All 4 burners and the oven work. The Property Committee would like to sell this to help recoup some of the "fix up" cost of the house. Bids start at \$100. **All bids must be received by July 21.** Place your bid in the Property mailbox in the administrative hallway. Purchaser is responsible for moving the stove by August 5. *Contact Neil Alexander at 540-405-2569 or [katneil@aol.com](mailto:katneil@aol.com).*

## VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

### ASSEMBLY UPDATE

This year's theme for Synod Assembly was "Faithful + Bold + Serving." Bishop Bob Humphrey preached a wonderful sermon Friday and challenged us to be "Church together." Summaries are available at the Connection Center.

## 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 at [depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496. Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.*

✠ We celebrate the life of Janice Mulder at a memorial service **THIS Saturday, July 13 at 11:00 am**

✠ We pray for those attending the Synod event: “Children of the same Heavenly Father” at Roanoke College this week. May they travel safely and be edified through fellowship and instruction.

✠ We offer prayers of thanksgiving for Linda Depoy and husband Kenny. Linda is recovering at home from surgery. Cards may be sent to 13903 S Sunset Drive, Broadway, VA 22815

✠ We are very grateful for the cards expressing condolences upon the death of Pastor Warren Strickler. Thanks to all who shared personal reminiscences of their friendship with him - he was very much at home at Muhlenberg, and we appreciate all that was done to make his memorial service a fitting tribute to his life. ~ the Strickler Family

## REMINDER

**THERE IS NO CHILDREN’S CHURCH DURING THE SUMMER**  
*Children’s church returns September 8.*

## 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. Galatians 2:1-10**  
**Tue. Galatians 2:11-14**  
**Wed. Luke 8:40-56**  
**Thu. James 4:1-7**  
**Fri. Romans 11:1-10**  
**Sat. Luke 5:17-26**  
**Sun. Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 8 - July 14, 2019

**Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting**  
**5:30 pm Executive Committee Mtg.**  
**7:00 pm Ministries Meetngs**

**Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion**

**Sat. 11:00 am Mulder Memorial Service**

**Sun. Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion**  
**11:45 am Intergenerational Program**

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](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).