



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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July 11, 2021

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

CARING FOR CREATION: SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES

Beginning Sunday, July 25, we will consider our relationship to God's creation and our responsibility to care for the earth we've been given through a three-week worship and sermon series. The Bible is full of references to trees, rivers, and mountains, so we will use these aspects of creation to discern our role in *Caring for Creation*.

As we prepare for this worship series, you are invited to send in photos that you've taken of **Forests, Rivers, and Mountains** that are special or even sacred to you and your family. Email photos to Christian Perritt at perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org with the location of your photo.



TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

WELCOME OUR GUEST PREACHER

Today we welcome The Rev. Dr. Dave Delaney, Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Virginia Synod, as our guest preacher. Pastor Dave provides vision and strategy for outreach to, and formation of, Virginia Synod ELCA youth and young adults. We are grateful for his presence and leadership today!

COMPASSION CAMP

VBS Compassion Camp continues today. See page 3 for details.

POWER IN THE SPIRIT

Power in the Spirit begins today. See page 6 for details.



THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Monday (7/12), 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#

CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

Reach our pastors at any time by calling the church office (434-3496). Ask to speak with Linda Depoy during office hours or afterward, leave a message on their voice mail and it will be forwarded to their respective mobile phones at that time. They will respond as soon as possible.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED



We need worship servants: Lams, lectors, ushers, communion stewards, helpers and greeters.

For questions or to volunteer contact *Kathy Thompson*

(thompskb@jmu.edu or 578-4830)

Prefer to work behind the scenes? We have many opportunities – talk with Kathy to learn how you can serve.

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT ATTENDANCE

Here are some interesting statistics from our recent online viewership:

6/27	8:30 Communion (in person-21 + Zoom-9).....	30
	10:00 Outside/Communion.....	55
	11:00 Total Live Views.....	45
7/4	8:30 Communion (in person-17 + Zoom-8).....	25
	10:00 Outside/Communion.....	60
	11:00 Total Live Views.....	42

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
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$73,198)	(\$24,620)	(\$21,205)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 14,349.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 9,156.43
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 23,505.43

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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: COMPASSION CAMP 2021

SUNDAYS THROUGH JULY 18

Compassion Camp is back at 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.

Today (7/11): We will dig into the story of the Good Samaritan to learn how to be a good neighbor. We will have fun making friendship bracelets for someone special in our lives, planting flowers to give to our neighbors, and having a VeggieTales Dance Party! *This week's Compassion Action* is to use a reusable water bottle instead of single-use plastic, so bring your bottle to VBS or post a picture of your water bottle on the [Muhlenberg Members Facebook page](#) for a prize!

Week 4 (7/18): We will locate ourselves within an ancient stream of people who have chosen compassion. We will have an ice cream party, enjoy the songs we have learned, make play dough sculptures, and move our bodies. *This week's Compassion Action* is to help a family member with something without being asked.

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.



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. 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.
- Given the latest CDC recommendations, **masks are 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**

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 or 433-1165).

CREATION CARE TIP

Virtually all faith traditions teach stewardship of financial and, especially, of natural resources which support life on Earth. Energy efficiency improves financial stewardship by reducing utility costs. Greater efficiency in your worship facility, members' homes and workplaces can also help protect the Earth for future generations and make life better for everyone. ENERGY STAR is a U.S. Environment Protection Agency program helping business and individuals fight global warming through energy efficiency. Learn more at: energystar.gov.

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*Devotional booklets for
July-September are
available at the Connection Center
and in the Connection Box.*

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LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

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

HABITAT FAITH BUILD

Thank you, Susan and David Lawrence, for helping level the yard at our Habitat Faith Build duplex. There will be more yard work to do next week so if anyone has a day to volunteer next week contact Karen Thomsen at 540-421-4431 or kethomsen25@gmail.com.



SAVE THE DATE

The Habitat Faith Build Dedication will be held July 18 beginning at 6pm. We'd love to see many members of Muhlenberg at the dedication to welcome these families to their new homes at 658 and 660 Virginia Ave. For more information contact Karen Thomsen.

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

POWER IN THE SPIRIT TODAY, 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/.



MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

Did you know there is “live music” each Sunday at the 10:00 outside worship service? And, this “live music” comes in all musical shapes, sizes, and venues!

Instrumentalists including flute, French horn, trombone, tuba, euphonium, guitar; as well as vocal solos, duets, and more! Come see, and hear for yourself how the words of scripture come alive through song!

Upcoming participants to include:

7/11: Elizabeth Williams, vocal solo

7/18: Jenny & Jon Gibson, voice and guitar;

7/25: Wylie Walton & Elizabeth Williams, vocal duet

8/1: Rachel Peters; flute;

8/8: Caroline and Emily Eppard, vocal duet

8/15: Kevin and Brandon Stees, tuba & euphonium

8/22: Catherine Creasy, French horn....



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY AT MUHLENBERG

As you have heard, Congregation Council has been working diligently to update and implement our Strategic Plan. As part of that plan, Council has examined the staffing needs to accomplish our spiritual development goals. One very important component of the plan is to uplift our focus and attention on children’s ministry.

We are pleased to announce that we will be hiring a part-time Children’s Minister. This person will provide dynamic leadership and oversight for our children’s ministry at Muhlenberg. In addition, our new Children’s Minister will nurture a vibrant and growing Christian faith in **children from birth to grade 5, and their families.**

If you or someone you know may be interested in exploring this opportunity, you can find the job description and application instructions on our website or by clicking [HERE](#). Please lift up our search in your prayers.

Children's Ministry
at Muhlenberg



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 depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors and editor.

Dear friends in Christ,

You may have been wondering where I've been the past few weeks! Unfortunately, I've been quite sick with pneumonia and recovery has been quite slow, with some setbacks along the way. I'm not sure when I'll be able to return, but I am hopeful it won't be too much longer.

In the meantime, my family has been taking good care of me. We are very grateful for the meals provided through the Care Committee and our Shepherd Group. We don't have any additional needs at this time, but I do appreciate your prayers!

I give thanks for the faithful work of Pastor Alex and all of the Muhlenberg staff through my absence, and look forward to my return to ministry with you all.

In Christ,
Pastor Lauren

Dear Muhlenberg family:

Thank you so much for the cards and prayers during my recent surgery to repair a torn rotator and bicep. I so appreciate your thoughtfulness during this time of recovery. The docs assure me I will be playing again in no time, perhaps with a brace on for the time being, but I'll be back! ☺

-Elizabeth, Music Minister

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 12 - 18

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

Sun. – Thu. Power in the Spirit

Mon. Staff Holiday – Church Office Closed
7:00 pm Ministries Night
via [ZOOM](#)

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

Sun. Eighth 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](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:*

(depoym@muhlenberg_lutheran.org/434-3496)

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