



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

July 19, 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

**NEW WORSHIP SERIES
TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK**



What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we're on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be? In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined.

Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed. This worship series will explore 7 stories of unraveled identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These are stories where God meets us in the spiraling, unraveling our plans—and us—into something new.

Our Sunday and Wednesday worship services will focus on these stories, and a daily devotional will continue to be available on Facebook, using the same Facebook group ("Muhlenberg Summer Psalms Devotional"). If you'd prefer an individual journal, a print-at-home journal is available, or you can request a hard copy be mailed by contacting Linda Depoy.

In the messy reality of our lives, our worship in the coming weeks will create space for us to explore the holy and surprising ways God moves in and around us in those moments— weaving together the loose ends of grief, isolation, or loss in our life, while also unraveling injustice and suffering.

TASK FORCE GUIDELINES

Our Gathering Together Task Force has created guidelines for our Muhlenberg community life together over the next two months. A letter was emailed and mailed recently with a summary of the guidelines. To see the complete guidelines document, click [HERE](#) or contact Linda Depoy to request a copy be mailed to you.

*See p. 4 for details about "Spaced Out,"
a member fellowship opportunity!*

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join your Muhlenberg friends and family for education and fellowship via [ZOOM](#) each **Sunday from 9:00 – 11:00** using this link:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84731416878](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878)

- **Sunday School** ~ All are welcome to join.
 - **9:00:** Faith Lens
 - **10:15:** Kids Story Time
- **Pastoral Care** ~ If you would like a private word with one of the Pastors, we will provide a private breakout room for you and the pastor “on call.”
- **Small Group Fellowship** ~ Want to catch up with a small group of friends? We have private breakout rooms for that!

If you don't have a reliable internet connection, call in on Sundays at 1-301-715-8592 and enter the Meeting ID: 84731416878.

Livestreamed worship at 11:00 am on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) continues.

WELLSTREAM PHONE

Are you missing out on worship because you don't have an internet connection? We want all members to have the opportunity to “participate” in worship and hear The Word. **Wellstream Phone is a service that works from your home or cell phone — no internet required. Simply call the number below and select an option. Information will be available by 11 am each Sunday.** Contact Linda Depoy (434-3496) with any questions.

Wellstream Phone Number:
[1-434-205-8777](tel:1-434-205-8777)

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT DIGITAL ATTENDANCE

While we aren't meeting in person, we are able to track our online viewership:

7/5: 102 Total Live Views
437 Total Views
111.7 Hours of Content Viewed

7/12: 103 Total Live Views

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through June 2020			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$318,608	\$405,294	\$341,069
Total Receipts*	\$376,485	\$458,452	\$388,912
Expenses	\$390,836	\$493,418	\$416,958
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$14,352)	(\$34,966)	(\$28,046)

* Includes \$12,000 – federal PPP proceeds

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 7,595.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,700.00
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 9,295.00

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 at 281 E. Market Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

THIS WEEK

VIRTUAL KAIROS

Virginia Synod is hosting Virtual Kairos 2020 for rising 9th- 12th graders. Join in **TODAY - July 23** (Sunday evening to Thursday morning) We are going to try to squeeze as much in-person Kairos into this online event as we can with large group, small group, daily prayer, t-shirts, CLIPPS, Open Talent Mic Show, faith testimonies, comic relief, etc.

The cost of \$25 per participant is required at time of registration. For more information about registration and to register online, visit www.vasynod.org/event/kairos.

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Spend the summer exploring the book of Esther (along with its additional parts in the Apocrypha) and the book of Tobit. All you need is a Bible that contains the Apocrypha, but if you don't have that, don't worry—contact Pastor Lauren and she can get you a copy of the two books. If you have to miss a week, that's no problem, as sessions are recorded for later viewing. Join in from 10:30-11:30 am Wednesdays :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>.

WEDNESDAY NOON SERVICE

We will have a brief prayer service on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com). Tune in live or watch later.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TABLE TALKS ON RACISM

We are incredibly grateful for the willingness of folks to engage in conversation around the topic of racism through our Table Talks. Both previously scheduled talks have filled up quickly and produced great conversation. We are looking at the possibility of scheduling more, so if you are interested in participating in a **Table Talk on Racism**, complete this interest form and the Pastors will be in contact with you about setting up more dates and times:

<https://forms.gle/nDQXWmn9sBMuXRePA>

If phrases like white privilege, systemic racism, or white supremacy are new or challenging, then these conversations may be a great opportunity for you! Sign up today, or schedule some time to speak with the pastors.

JULY PASTORS' CLUB

Wish to continue conversations on anti-racism and dismantling white supremacy with a particular focus on the church? Join us **Wednesday, July 29, 6:30 pm** via [Zoom](https://zoom.us) for a Pastors' Book Club conversation on *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US* by ELCA Pastor Lenny Duncan. Contact Pastor Alex if you would like a copy of the book, or you can find it online [HERE](#). For additional information, see last week's issue of *The Chimes*.

~continued on next page~

Physically Distant Fellowship



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The Fellowship Committee is holding *Spaced Out*, a gathering of Muhlenberg members. You are invited to attend! We plan to hold “new normal” gatherings at various locations and dates. Here are the details on the first gathering:

Sunday, August 2*
Oakdale Park in Bridgewater, Shelter #3
7:00 - 8:30 pm (No Restrooms)

- **Please RSVP** to Fellowship Committee Chair Barbara Roadcap (bbroadcap@gmail.com or 540-830-1896) with the number attending from your family as only **20 guests** from our congregation can attend each gathering . You don't have to live in Bridgewater to attend! First come, first reserved!
- **Bring own chairs and own beverage/snacks**
- **Wear masks or face shields**
- **Observe social distance while at event and follow directional flow**

Please consider attending *Spaced Out* only if you feel safe, well and comfortable doing so for the sake of yourself and others.

** two additional events are planned and will held in other areas in the city and county.
The response to this Space Out event will determine interest additional events.*

MUHLENBERG NEWS

COMMUNICATION MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee conducted preliminary interviews and have given our pastors information on the most qualified candidates for final consideration. We give thanks to Sarah Sunde, Katie McConnel and Linda Depoy for their dedication and hard work to get us to this point in the hiring process.

CREATION CARE TIP



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

Look around the house for things that can be repaired. "Repair" is considered the fourth "R" in reduce, reuse, and recycle. You probably have items around the house that could be repaired instead of being tossed in the trash. Gather all your repairable items together and then go online to find repairs shops in your area. Repairing items you currently own keeps them out of the landfill and may be cheaper than buying new replacement items.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex are working to stay connected with as many people as possible. **Our pastors are returning to in-person pastoral care, when necessary, and with specific guidelines in place as identified by the Gathering Together Task Force.** See *p. 1 for more information.* Additionally, they are both available for phone conversations, email, and video meetings. Simply email or call the church office — they'll be happy to hear from you!

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a new respiratory infection, has been declared a pandemic by the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO). **So far, more than 9 million people around the world have tested positive, and more than 400,000 people have died as a result of COVID-19.**

[Lutheran Disaster Response](#) (LDR) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by **this virus** in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

100% of your gifts given to LDR go directly to aid in relief. Here are ways you can give:

- **Online:** www.elca.org.
- **Phone:** 800-638-3522 (Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 Central Time).
- **Mail:** make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response, designate **COVID-19**, and send to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering:** make check payable to Muhlenberg and designate *Lutheran Disaster Response* on your check and envelope.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent members can direct their Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a personal donation that will be matched by Thrivent. Visit thrivent.com Disaster Response for details.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION NEWS (CONT'D)

Contact Local & Global Mission Chair Emily Wicht Carneal
(emilywicht@gmail.com / 421-1994)
for more information.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

It is only July but...we're thinking about school! Regardless of what "school" looks like for students this fall, students will still need school supplies. As we have in the past, we are asking for your help to provide supplies for students at both Second Home and Harrisonburg Minnick School. Here is how you can help:

HARRISONBURG MINNICK SCHOOL

Use the link below to see Minnick School's wish list for supplies and to order them directly from Amazon. When you order the items, they will be shipped directly to the Harrisonburg Minnick School.

Lutheran
Family Services
of Virginia

www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VQ6VSGJRAYRF?ref=wl_share

SECOND HOME

See p. 7 for the list of desired items for Second Home. **Do NOT have the items mailed directly to the church or Second Home** as the doors are locked at all times and deliveries cannot be received. Please purchase or **have items delivered to your home and then take them to the wooden bin placed at the main entrance to the MAC now through July 24 between 6:30 am and 5:30 pm.** Label your items for Second Home.



SEE P. 7 FOR A COMPLETE LIST

SECOND HOME SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

Contact Second Home (432-7989 or secondhomeharrisonburg@gmail.com) for more info.

You can use links to purchase items directly from. See p. 6 for delivery instructions.

1. Personal (8.5" x 11") Dry Erase Boards
2. Batteries, most types, including AA, AAA, 9v
3. [Expo Dry Erase Markers](#), all colors-Fine Tip
4. [Painters Tape](#)- Green or Blue
5. [White Duct tape](#)
6. [Crayola Markers](#)-Fine or Thick tip
7. [Tissues](#)
8. Sanitizing wipes
9. Hand Sanitizer
10. Ziploc bags-Quart, snack and Gallon
11. [Crayola Colored Pencils](#)-All size packs
12. [Elmers \(liquid\) Glue](#)-Gallon sized
13. [Glue sticks](#)
14. [Card Stock](#) - white
15. [Card Stock](#) - color
16. Pencil Sharpeners
17. [Paint Brushes](#)
18. [Watercolor](#) Paints
19. [Rulers](#)
20. [Plastic Folders with Prongs](#)
21. [Plastic pocket folders](#)
22. [Acrylic Paints](#)-All types and colors.
23. Sharpies permanent markers - All colors, All sizes
24. Spiral Notebooks
25. Marble Composition books
26. [Pencil Boxes](#)
27. Backpacks (full size)
28. Paper plates
29. 5 oz and 8 oz disposable cups

REMINDERS

ENTERING THE CHURCH

Staff continues to work mainly from home, while Harrisonburg-Rockingham Day Care and Second Home are running carefully regulated, pared-down programs for children most in need of care. **All doors are locked at all times.** In order to continue to keep everyone safe, **we ask that congregation members refrain from coming to the church building unless necessary. If you need to be in the building, please use the Gathering Area doors to enter and exit (*NOT* the back red doors which Day Care uses).** We suggest you wear a mask as much as possible. If you have something to drop off at the church, please arrange with a staff person to receive it ahead of time. Do not drop items off at the MAC. Thank you!

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).

PATCHWORK PANTRY

If you would like to donate to the Pantry during the pandemic, please call them directly at 540-433-2148 to learn about current guidelines for accepting donations.

NEED A MASK?

If you need a mask, contact Janet Simmons (434-5258). She will mail or deliver it to you at no charge.

YOUTH & CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

CHILDREN'S STORY TIME

Miss Diane and Miss Kathy invite Sunday school children to join Story Time **Sunday mornings at 10:15** via [Zoom](#). We will hear a Bible story and visit with our church friends. See p. 2 for sign in instructions.

2020 VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COMPASSION CAMP Pre K – 5th Grade

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 9, 4:00** to join us for VBS 2020 “Compassion Camp” social distancing parking lot corral kickoff! We will have music and provide each family with an activity bag to use at home during the week.

Since our children are already involved in service for others, we will do service projects again this year. We will collect school supplies for Second Home and Minnick School, pet food for cats & dogs for the SPCA, and nonperishable items for Patchwork Pantry. You can provide items for one or all of these agencies and donate them at the kickoff event.

Adult members are invited to be part of the service projects. Miss Kathy and Miss Diane will be masked and will come to the cars to receive the items and to give the children’s family “Activity Bags” with information and links to activities to be used at home during the week.

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 20-26, 2020

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

- Today-July 23** Virtual Kairos
- Mon. 2:00 pm** Weekly Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.
- Wed. 10:30 am** Bible Study via [Zoom](#)
12 noon Service Livestreamed on
[Facebook](#)
- Sun. [Sunday AM Zoom link](#)**
9:00 am Faith Lens Class
10:15 am Kids Story Time
10:30 am “Coffee Hour”
11:00 am Service Livestreamed
via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

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@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496

Like us at facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran.

DAILY DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

Online: The daily devotional, [Christ in Our Home](#), is available free online.

Hard Copy: *Word in Season* and *Christ in Our Home* (July-September) hard copy devotionals are available from the cabinet outside the MAC entrance for anyone who lives close by. If you can’t get to the church, contact Linda Depoy (434-3496 or depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) to request a copy by mail.