



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 21, 2019

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Mark your calendar for the installation of Pastor Alex Zuber Sunday, August 11 at 4:30 pm.

FROM OUR PASTORAL TEAM

It is very exciting to be addressing the congregation as a Pastoral TEAM! We are looking forward to opportunities to collaborate in ministry. Together, we are enjoying sharing the responsibility of worship planning and leadership, and we are thrilled to introduce new opportunities for faith formation like the *Pastors' Book Club* (see p. 2 for details).

We are working to discern our individual responsibilities for the coming year as well. Pastor Lauren will continue to guide Congregation Council in conversation around strategic planning for our future. Pastor Alex is working with high school youth and preparing for a new year of Lutheran Campus Ministry.

We hope you'll join us in sharing the energy and spirit of collaboration that is all around Muhlenberg!

Pastor Lauren & Pastor Alex

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

COLUMBARIUM PROMOTION REMINDER

Your opportunity to save \$200 when reserving your columbarium niche **ends July 31**. Did you know that if you change your mind, move, etc. and no longer want to use the niche you reserved, Muhlenberg will refund 75% of your payment in the future. **So don't let your uncertainty keep you from missing out on this promotion.**

Applications and FAQ's letters 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.*

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



TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

RICHARD "DICKIE" BEERY MEMORIAL SERVICE

TODAY at 1:30 pm, we will hold a memorial service for Richard Beery, son of Norwood Beery. A Life Celebration will take place in the MAC following the service.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG



INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAYS July 28 and August 11

Join us next Sunday, July 28, 11:45 am in the MAC for an intergenerational program for all ages. Muhlenberg member Maria Murerwa will share information about the Refugee Resettlement program in Harrisonburg and the group will assemble personal health care bags.

Contact Diane Bayer with questions (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THE PASTORS' BOOK CLUB!

Join Pastor Lauren or Pastor Alex each month to discuss an interesting or provocative book about faith. 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, 6:30-8:30pm** in the Gathering Area for lively conversation!

September's title will be *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans; we will meet September 25.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|----|
| 8:45 Worship | 123 | Wed. Noon | 11 |
| 10:30 Worship | <u>134</u> | | |
| Total | 257 | | |

FINANCIAL REPORT

| Through June 2019 | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Y-T-D Actual | Y-T-D Budget | Y-T-D Last Year |
| Gifts & Offerings | \$341,119 | \$411,798 | \$338,695 |
| Total Receipts | \$388,962 | \$497,791 | \$385,909 |
| Expenses | \$416,958 | \$416,709 | \$410,000 |
| Excess Income/ (Expenses) | (\$27,996) | (\$33,693) | (\$24,091) |

| | | |
|--|----|------------------|
| Giving in support of our Spending Plan | \$ | 9,920.00 |
| Giving to Other Designated Funds | \$ | <u>3,820.34</u> |
| Total Giving for the Week | \$ | 13,740.34 |

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



YOUNG FAMILIES GET TOGETHER Gather between services Sunday, August 18

in the Nielsen Room (feel free to grab a snack from fellowship tables in the Gathering Area). We will discuss the idea of starting a Young Families Group and what it might look like at Muhlenberg. The nursery will be open for young children. Those with infants are invited to keep them with you.

We hope this time together will connect you with others and help you decide when/if you would like to get together as a group and how Muhlenberg can best serve your needs.

Please RSVP to Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496) by Sunday, August 11 if you plan to attend.

MUHLENBERG NEWS

CREATION CARE TIP



Buy in bulk and use “refills.” When practical, buy the economy size of a product rather than single use. Not only will you reduce packaging, you’ll save money. You pay nearly twice the price for the same weight when you buy the individually wrapped product. Fabric softener, laundry detergent, cleanser, hand soap, dish soap, shampoo, and even pet food are good examples of products you can buy in bulk sizes to refill a smaller container at home.

MEMBERS HEADED INTO MINISTRY

It is with **gladness** that we acknowledge **Mycah McNett’s** call to enter seminary this fall. And, it is with **sadness** that we say goodbye. Mycah’s last Sunday will be August 4. We pray God’s abundant blessings upon her as she follows Jesus. May she know God’s complete love and strength always.

Maren Corliss graduated from JMU in May and has accepted a call to be a missionary with the ELCA’s Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program in Central Europe starting in August. The cost for the year is \$15,000. By accepting the position, Maren has agreed to try to raise at least \$5,000. Visit the Connection Center for more information and donation instructions.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Remember to sign up in the notebook at the Connection Center or on our website **for the month of August!** One-on-one training can be arranged by indicating training is needed on the sign-up sheet or *contact Kathy Thompson (578-4830 or thompskb@jmu.edu).*

LOCAL GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Local & Global Mission is holding a school supply drive for Second Home **Sunday, August 4** (Virginia sales tax free weekend). Pick up a complete list of needed items at the Connection Center.

In addition, Second Home needs funds for new office equipment (computer, etc). Indicate Second Home office equipment on your check and envelope.

As always, we thank you so very much for all you do for the children at Second Home!

VIRGINIA SYNOD NEWS

VOCATION CONFERENCE

Listen, God is Calling! OK, but for what? how? when? where? If you feel God might just maybe, perhaps be calling you to be a pastor or deacon in the church, you are invited to the Virginia Synod Vocations Conference where we will talk about “**How to become a Pastor or Deacon.**” You’ll hear about the basic Candidacy Process, meet others who are also discerning God’s call, and meet the Virginia Synod Candidacy Committee. Pastor Jason Darty will lead us in the practice of Spiritual Direction. You’ll have time to ask questions and to learn new questions that you hadn’t even considered before!

The Vocations Conference is **Friday, August 16, 12 noon – Saturday, August 17, 1:00 pm** at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center near Lynchburg.

Interested in attending? *Contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).*

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 or 434-3496. Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.

- ✦ We hold Phyllis Sonner in prayer following the recent death of her son Geoffrey. A service will be held at Lindsay Funeral Home July 31 at 6:00 pm.
- ✦ Linda Depoy continues to recover from surgery and is working from home and part time in the office before returning full time.

SECOND HOME NEWS

TEACHERS/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of teachers and volunteers to help with the 2019-2020 school year. For details, visit the Connection Center or *contact Executive Director Krisztina Szekely at 432-7989 or 2ndhomedirector@gmail.com.*

VIRGINIA INTERFAITH NEWS

PAID SICK DAY STANDARD

The Center is working to create a paid sick day standard in Virginia. Low wage workers are hit hard as they are forced to go to work sick or send their children to school sick because they cannot afford (or are not allowed) to take an unpaid day off from work. Lack of paid sick days also puts the public's health at risk as many food service and childcare employees are forced to work while sick. Visit the Connection Center for details.

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. James 2:1-7 **Thu. Heb. 5:1-6**
Tue. 1 John 3:11-17 **Fri. Eph. 3:14-21**
Wed. Matt. 25:31-46 **Sat. Luke 8:4-10**
Sun. Luke 11:1-13

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 22 - July 28, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
Sun. 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/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).

REMINDER

Today is the deadline for bids on the natural gas stove (white) in good condition. (Hotpoint model rgb526deh1ww). Bids start at \$100. Place your bid in the Property mailbox in the administrative hallway. Purchaser responsible for moving it by August 5. *Contact Neil Alexander (katneil@aol.com or 540-405-2569).*