



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 28, 2019

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

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. 3 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



Please wear a nametag for the next few weeks to help Pastor Alex learn your name.

Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

COLUMBARIUM

PROMOTION REMINDER

Your opportunity to save \$200 when reserving your columbarium niche ends THIS Wednesday, 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

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAYS



TODAY & August 11

TODAY, 11:45 am in the MAC join us for our 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).

INTRODUCING OUR NEW RWANDAN SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT

Aaron Cyusa is the third Rwandan student that Muhlenberg has helped to attend the Rwamagana School in Rwanda. Our missionary Robin Strickler started the school, and we help support the school through the Rwanda School Project. Our first student, Shukulu Murekatete, graduated and is attending the University. Our second student, Patrick Irakose, graduated this year. Everyone who attends a Sunday morning formation class can be part of this ongoing opportunity to share our God given gifts with others through our Sunday School offering.

Aaron's picture and a note from him can be viewed in the Gathering Area this morning. Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434/3496) for more info.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	95	Wed. Noon	13
10:30 Worship	<u>155</u>		
Total	250		

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	\$	4,091.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$	<u>15,765.56</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$	19,856.56

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



NEW WEBSITE COMING THIS WEEK

While our current website provides good information, it is a little outdated and leaves a few things to be desired. Mycah McNett and Nathan Eanes (who professionally designs websites) have been working to provide us with a brand new website. It will be more current and work better with phones, tablets and other small devices.

The new website will be live beginning **THIS Thursday, August 1**. We welcome your feedback and appreciate you letting us know if you find any errors. Contact Mycah (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).



THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

SEMINARIAN SUNDAY

NEXT Sunday, August 4 we will celebrate "Seminarian Sunday." Muhlenberg is blessed to have two candidates for ministry beginning their seminary studies this fall.

Remington Willis will attend Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, while Mycah McNett will be at United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia, PA. Before we bid them farewell and Godspeed, they will lead us in worship.

Join us in prayer and thanksgiving for their continued discernment and willingness to follow God's call!

SEMINARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Our Seminary Endowment Fund has \$3,200 available for Remington Willis and Mycah McNett. We hope to send them off with a little more financial support. If you would like to help them in furthering their education, please designate *seminary endowment* on your check and envelope.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Local & Global Mission is holding a school supply drive for Second Home NEXT Sunday, August 4 (Virginia sales tax free weekend). If you would like to help, pick up a complete list of needed items at the Connection Center.

Second Home also needs funds for new office equipment (computer, etc.). If you would like to help in this way, designate *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!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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 (434-3496 or bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) by Sunday, August 11 if you plan to attend.

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.

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Monday, September 2 at 6:30 pm in the Augsburg Room, the Ruth Sigmon Circle will start the year with a Bible study from the June *Gather* magazine titled, "For Just Such a Time As This," Session one, Esther the Queen. The Bible text will cover all 10 chapters of Esther. It will be helpful to read these chapters to spur good discussion. All Muhlenberg women are welcome! For more info, Contact Louise Johnson (gfriend07@verizon.net or 433-1047).



YOU ARE INVITED TO



The Installation of Pastor Alex Zuber

AUGUST 11, 2019
4:30PM IN THE SANCTUARY
REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW IN THE GATHERING AREA

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

MUHLENBERG NEWS

CREATION CARE TIP

Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. For more information, contact Ramona Sanders (rsanders9@verizon.net or 433-1165).

Reuse or recycle as much packaging as possible. Know what you can recycle in your community and where. We no longer have curb side pick up in the City of Harrisonburg. We do have a mobile unit that comes to several neighborhood spots from 8:00 am to noon every day of the week and is at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays. Most cans, bottles, and jars, as well as laundry detergent boxes and bottles if they are #1 or #2 plastic (check the bottom) can be recycled. Grocery items will vary: for example, you will be able to recycle an empty coffee can, but not an individually wrapped, single-serve coffee packet.

LOCAL GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE



**People
Helping
People**

In coordination with the Muhlenberg's inter-generational faith formation event on August 14, the Local and Global Mission Committee (LGM) is petitioning the congregation for monetary contributions to People Helping People (PHP).

PHP will host the DMV mobile unit at our MAC August 7 to assist clients to obtain valid IDs needed for employment. Our contributions will help defray the cost of \$10-\$21 per ID. If you would like to help, designate *People Helping People* on your check and envelope.

For more information about PHP and Muhlenberg's 25+ year relationship with the organization, which is supported by over 50 local churches, please visit the Connection Center. PHP is also in need of volunteers.

BRIDGE OF HOPE

Bridge of Hope needs a Neighboring Volunteer group right away to support a Spanish-speaking mother who does not speak English. Neighboring Volunteers act as a social support system. Their job is to love and help the family, but they are not expected to provide financial assistance. Volunteers who only speak English are also needed. *If interested, please contact Susan Lawrence (lawrensj@comcast.net or 540-908-0073).*



ELCA DAY OF SERVICE



The ELCA Day of Service is **Sunday, September 8**. We hope to have several opportunities for you to choose from to make a difference in our community and beyond.

The morning of Saturday, September 7, for the 4th year in a row, Muhlenberg will join Grace Lutheran in Waynesboro and 12+ other churches to "Rise Against Hunger." Last year 100 people packed 24,000 meals for school children in Haiti where lunch is often their only meal of the day. Look for a sign-up sheet in the notebook at the Connection Center soon. Families with children, youth, college students, and adults of all ages are welcome. There are jobs for those who prefer to sit.

For more info, visit riseagainsthunger.org or contact Karen Matthias (kfmatthias@gmail.com or 434-4625). Watch *The Chimes* for additional ways you can participate in the 2019 Day of Service!



SECOND HOME NEWS

TEACHERS/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Do you love children? Are you looking for a part time job OR do you know someone else who would be interested? Second Home is hiring for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Morning hours: 6:00 - 8:30

Afternoon hours: 3:15 - 6:15

Paid Positions: Morning and/or Afternoon Teachers Monday – Friday, August 13, 2019 – June 9, 2020. Some flexibility with work hours may be possible. Work as part of a dedicated team to care for local elementary school age children, help them with their academics, and social development.

Qualifications: Degree (or near completion) in education, social services, psychology or any related areas and/or experience in teaching / working with children. A love of children, good social and personal skills, being able to multi task and work as part of a team are a must. Ideal for retired educators, graduate students or college seniors. Hourly wage. Contingent on successful national fingerprint background check.

Volunteer Positions:

Academic helpers and mentors: Second Home is a social outreach ministry of Muhlenberg, offering academically focused, before and after school care to local elementary school aged children. In order to keep our services affordable to low income families, our fees are very low. Second Home relies on volunteer help to complement our few paid staff members making it possible for us to offer one-on-one and small group attention to our students. We invite community members to

volunteer, share their passion, interest, expertise, and time with us. Please let us know if you would like to learn more about our volunteer opportunities, and would be interested in spending some time helping our students.

The **Second Home Board** is looking for new members. If you are passionate about children and feel called to help low income families, we would love to speak with you. Experience and interest in fundraising is a plus. The board, which meets once a month, has an active role in guidance and fund development for our program. Membership term is one year, renewable for up to 6 terms.

If you are interested or have questions, *contact Executive Director Krisztina Szekely* (2ndhomedirector@gmail.com or 432-7989).



Muhlenberg member Bruce Matthias works with a Second Home student.

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 learn from others who have questions you hadn't considered!

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).*

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.



VIRGINIA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT (VAIPL)

Climate for Justice Training, **August 3, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm**



at The Gathering Place (841 Mt. Clinton Pike, Harrisonburg). What does my faith have to do with climate change? How does the climate impact people in my community and state? How can I get involved? Come to this training to find out! *You can find more information or register at www.VAIPL.org or contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).* VAIPL is part of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP).

FAITH IN ACTION NEWS

NEW LISTENING CAMPAIGN



Faith in Action is starting a new listening campaign. We are interested in hearing concerns/ideas that our members have in regards to making our local community a fairer place. Please contact a committee member to set up an interview. In order to address your concerns/ideas in our 2020 campaign, interviews need to be completed by August 26. We also need help with the interviews and ask that you contact a committee member to volunteer. 2019 Listening Team members:

Nancy Martin-Finks

nanmart777@comcast.net or 540-421-8199

Cathy Copeland

catherineblose@gmail.com or 317-670-1086

Jim Hogan

hoganjr1933@gmail.com or 864-378-1619

Pastor Alex Zuber

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 this Wednesday, July 31 at 6:00 pm.
- ✦ Thank you for the birthday cards. They were uplifting and wonderful to receive.
Linda Fischer
- ✦ Linda Depoy continues to recover from surgery and is working from home and part time in the office before returning full time.

REMEMBER ... NEXT SUNDAY

NAME BADGE SUNDAY

Make a badge so fellow members can learn your name.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS COLLECTED

(no glass jars, please)

LAY COMMUNION MINISTERS

SERVING OUR SHUT-INS

† † † † †

*Devotional booklets
for July–September
are available at
the Connection Center.*

† † † † †

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. Colossians 1:27-2:7

Tue. 1 John 2:1-6

Wed. John 6:41-51

Thu. Acts 1:15-20

Fri. Acts 2:22-36

Sat. Luke 8:22-25

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 29 — August 4, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting

Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion

**Sun. Seminarian Sunday
8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion
Food Pantry, Lay Communion &
Name Badge Sunday**

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).