



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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August 11, 2019

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

- † Interested in learning more about what our Congregation Council is doing? Visit the Connection Center for a **printed copy of Council minutes**. Please note that Council minutes are approved at the following month's meeting, which means the printed minutes will be from the previous month. Don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Lauren or any council member if you have questions, concerns, or simply want to learn more about their work.
- † Interested in being a part of making ministry happen at Muhlenberg? Check out tomorrow night's Ministries Night, where most of Muhlenberg's committees meet. Sit in and observe, or jump in to a leadership role! All are welcome to share their gifts. Gather at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary, or talk with Vice President Bill Compton to learn more.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR ALEX

Please join us **TODAY at 4:30 pm in the Sanctuary** as we celebrate the formal installation of Pastor Alex Zuber at Muhlenberg! Pastor Micah Krey, Faith Lutheran Church, Cockeysville, MD, will preach. Pastor Rob McCarty, Dean of the Southern Valley Conference of the Virginia Synod, will preside. We invite you to enjoy light refreshments and fellowship in the Gathering Area following the service.

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY

TODAY, 11:45 am in the MAC, join us to hear from People Helping People Director Leanne Shepherd about how the agency helps those in need in our community. The group will put together personal health survival bags.

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... muhlenberglutheran.org



Please wear a nametag for the next few weeks to help Pastor Alex learn your name. Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

We will bless K-12th grade students, teachers and staff at each service **NEXT Sunday, August 18.**

YOUNG FAMILIES GET TOGETHER

Gather between services NEXT 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.

*If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496) — **The deadline is TODAY.***

REVISED PROCEDURE FOR CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

Email our pastors anytime:

eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org
zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org

Reach them anytime by calling the church office (434-3496).

- During office hours, ask to speak with Linda Depoy. She has the pastors' schedules and can assist you.
- After hours leave a message on their respective voice mail. You will be given an option to reach them directly in case of a pastoral emergency.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	137	Wed. Noon	10
10:30 Worship	<u>163</u>		
Total	300		

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	\$ 27,624.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>8,190.35</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 35,814.35

See Connection Center notebook for details.

August Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$9

To give online, scan here →



NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE!

While our old website provided good information, it was a little outdated and left 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 is more current and works better with phones, tablets and other small devices.

The new website is now live! While we still have some content to add, we welcome your feedback and appreciate your letting us know if you find errors. Contact Mycah (mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org / 434-3496) by August 13.



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, 6:30-8:30 pm** in the Gathering Area for lively conversation!

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

LIFE ON TAP

If you have enjoyed Life on Tap gatherings in the past, or think gathering at the brewery with faithful friends sounds like fun, join us **Thursday, August 22, 7:00 pm** at Three Notched Brewing Company. We will discuss the future of Life on Tap and other Muhlenberg fellowship ministries! *Any questions or ideas, contact Pastor Alex or Rachel Peters (rgpeters9@gmail.com).*

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Monday, September 2, 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 covers 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).*



FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our summer worship hours continue through September 1. **September 8, we return to three worship services at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am.**

Christian Formation will resume at 9:30 each week (visit the Connection Center for details). Watch *The Chimes* for education, service and fellowship opportunities.

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).



BYOB: Instead of paper or plastic, bring your own bags when you shop. Invest in a supply of canvas bags, or reuse the bags from previous shopping trips.

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.*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 9:30 AM

Class information for September 2019 – May 2020

SHARING GOD'S WORD



Christian Formation is *Sharing God's Word* by providing Bible studies, women's groups, an elementary youth group, fellowship, and Sunday morning Christian Formation groups. Here are opportunities for all ages, birth to adults:

Newborns to 2-year-old children meet in the nursery (north end of Gathering Area). The Nursery Coordinator will bring children into worship for Children's Time with the pastors and then return them to the nursery where they will listen to simple Bible stories and songs.

Children 3 years to 3rd grade start worship in the Sanctuary. After Children's Time with the pastors, children go to their classes listed below:

- Preschool children go to the Teddi Nelson Education Wing (upstairs).
- Children K-3rd grade go to the MAC (Muhlenberg Activities Center – behind the church) on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays, they go to the Nielsen Room (downstairs). for Children's Church and then return to their families in worship during the Sharing of the Peace.

Children in grades 4-5 gather at 9:30 upstairs in the MAC.

~ **Special project Sept. 8: K-5th graders take part in ELCA Day of Service.** ~
See p. 5 for details.

All children should be picked up from their classes immediately following the end of the 9:30 service.

Grades 6-12 – see p. 7 for Confirmation (grades 6-8). Watch *The Chimes* for high school class info.

All adults are invited to take part in one of these adult classes that meet downstairs:

- **Living & Learning through the Lens of Faith:** reads the Lectionary Bible passages for the week and discusses how to apply their message to our lives. All are welcome. Meets in the Library.
- **40-Day Journey:** Readings, Reflections & Spiritual Growth: an interactive class where Christian literature is read and discussed. Meets in the Kairos Room.

Children's Church begins Sept. 15 during the 11:00 service on the 1st & 3rd Sundays for children age 3-3rd grade. After the pastors' Children's Time, leaders will take children to the Nielsen Room for Children's Church. Children will join their families in the Sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

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

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

We hope to have several opportunities for you to choose from to make a difference in our community and beyond. See information below and watch *The Chimes* for additional ways you can participate in the 2019 Day of Service!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Saturday morning, **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. Sign up at the Connection Center. 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 / 434-4625).*

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

After the Children’s Time **Sunday, September 8**, children in PreK – 3rd grade will join the 4th & 5th grade students in the MAC to take part in the ELCA Day of Service. They will make a bag meal for the children of Second Home to take home on Monday afternoon.

God’s Love ...

See it!

Learn it!

Share it!



SERVICE PROJECT

As part of our ELCA Day of Service, we will gather **8’ 2x4 SPF (SPRUCE-PINE-FIR) boards for Habitat for Humanity**. You can be part of the ELCA Day of Service by either donating the boards or by making a monetary gift for the boards to be purchased.

The Boards will be in the MAC on the Day of Service for all to either draw a blessing picture or write a prayer. These boards will then be used to frame a Habitat home with God’s blessings.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”

T-SHIRTS

We are ordering Muhlenberg Lutheran Church “God’s Work. Our Hands” t-shirts for those who plan to take part in the Day of Service or participate in mission trips or general church events in the community.



If you would like to order a t-shirt, please sign up in the notebook (inside pocket) at the Connection Center with your name and size **TODAY!** Suggested donation: \$10. Have questions? Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

REMINDER

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

We have a wide range of walkers, canes, crutches, splints, boots, tub chairs, etc. to borrow and return as needed. These are stored here in the church attic. *Please contact Linda Morrison (glenn778@comcast.net or 383-5085) for more information.*



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 **THIS 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).*

MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA



In partnership with CICRIN (Nicaraguan Christian Children's Center, Ometepe Island, Nicaragua), Pastor Mark and Tami Radecke invite you to consider joining them on a mission trip **February 14-22, 2020**. Details are available at the Connection Center.

REMINDER

MAKING VAN RESERVATIONS

If your ministry group is interested in using the van, please follow these steps:

1. Check van availability by contacting Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (vanuse@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) when your trip is in its planning stages.
2. Make certain your group has an approved and trained driver, which requires the following:
 - a. Approval by our insurance carrier. Interested individuals need to complete an application by contacting Linda Depoy [434-3496] or Jim Doyle [421-8070]. Return completed application to Linda Depoy. (Approval generally takes a minimum of 10 working days.)
 - b. Vehicle orientation and test drive with MLC's Vehicle Coordinator. Once approved by our insurance carrier, the Vehicle Coordinator will contact the driver for a vehicle orientation and test drive. The Vehicle Coordinator will also review all necessary driver information and arrange to issue a key prior to the trip.

Note: We have some approved, trained drivers that may be available if your group needs a driver.

3. Be sure you make contact with the Vehicle Coordinator several days before your trip to make or confirm arrangements for you to receive the key and any last minute instructions.

If you have any questions, *please contact Vehicle Coordinator Jim Doyle at 421-8070 or Parish Administrator Linda Depoy at 434-3496.*

YOUTH NEWS

Contact Pastor Lauren Eanes
(434-3496 or eames@muhlenberglutheran.org)
for more information.

HELLO MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES!

We are excited for a new year of middle school ministry at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church! We have a great team working with middle school ministry. We're looking forward to a strong confirmation program, active fellowship, and service events throughout the year as we grow together in faith.

Please plan to attend a kick-off meeting on **Sunday, August 25, 9:00 am** in the Nielsen Room (downstairs). (Yes, that's during the first service.) Gather to enjoy some food and learn more about this year's confirmation and Alpha Teens ministry at 9:00, then head upstairs for worship at 10:30 am.

Middle school ministry is open to all 6th-8th graders and their families regardless of whether they're members at Muhlenberg or not, so feel free to invite friends or neighbors who may be interested!

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

Contact Pastor Alex Zuber
(434-3496 or zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)
for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Interested in supporting and welcoming the newest members of the Harrisonburg community? Talk to Pastor Alex to volunteer for **JMU Freshman Move In Days, August 20 or 21.**

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 9:30 AM

Visit the Connection Center for details about Christian Formation Sundays, adult opportunities, and more!

*You are encouraged to pick up a green **Christian Formation brochure** from the Connection Center. It includes information about all our Christian Formation opportunities. We hope you will find one or more that fulfills your needs as we grow together in faith!*

JAMERS

Elementary Youth Group

This youth group is for students in grades 2-5. Please join your friends **Sunday, September 8, 12:15-2:00 p.m. in the MAC** (Muhlenberg Activities Center). We will have lunch together (provided) and play some fun group building games as we get to know each other better. We will also make ice cream sundaes.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (CC)

Children's Church is for children ages 3 years – 3rd grade. After the Children's Time with the pastors, CC leaders will take children downstairs to the Nielsen Room for Children's Church. The children return to their families in the sanctuary during sharing of the Peace! Begins **Sunday, September 15**, during the 11:00 service and will be on held 1st and 3rd Sundays each month.



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.

✠ My Muhlenberg family has embraced me with prayers, hugs and cards during Geoffrey's illness and since his death. Your actions have been a comfort, thank you. *Phyllis Sonner*

✠ With deep appreciation, I thank you for the cards, calls, flowers and especially thoughts and prayers during my recovery from back surgery. Muhlenberg's support has been overwhelming! I love being a part of this community and am very happy to be back among you.

I also extend great appreciation to Crystl Whitmire and our faithful volunteer office assistants for helping cover priorities in my absence. *Linda Depoy*

PRESIDING BISHOP RE-ELECTED

At a vote Tuesday at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton was re-elected to serve as Presiding Bishop by a large margin. She won re-election on the first ballot, receiving 725 votes out of the 897 votes cast, or 81.19 percent.

"We're church, church first," she stated in her address to the Churchwide Assembly following the election results. "Our lives are not only supported but our lives are surrounded, and our lives have their basis and meaning in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ." *For the full article, visit 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 3:18-4:1

Tue. Colossians 4:2-6

Wed. Luke 12:22-31

Thu. Romans 9:11-9

Fri. Acts 7:1-8

Sat. Matthew 6:19-24

Sun. Luke 12:49-56

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

August 12-18, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Executive Committee

7:00 pm Ministries Meetings

Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion

Sun. 8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion

9:45 am Young Families Get Together

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).