



# 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 18, 2019**

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

† For a summary of Churchwide Assembly, see p. 2 and visit the Connection Center.

† 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.

† Update on the Ott Street House:  
The Ott Street house (which the church purchased last year) is slowly becoming the next location for People Helping People. In addition to painting and cleaning the inside, we've gotten it connected to the church phone system, ordered signage, and have been working with the City of Harrisonburg on handicap ramps and parking spaces. People Helping People currently shares office space with Second Home in the MAC but looks forward to moving to Ott Street early this fall.

## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG



### BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Today at each service, we will bless K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, teachers and staff.

### CARTER THOMAS SMITH Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Carter, son of Lauren Calleo Smith & Edward Ryan Smith and grandson of Gary & Lesa Calleo, into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family at the 10:30 service this morning! Carter's sponsors are Max & Noelle Titus. Welcome to the Lord's family, Carter!



### 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](http://muhlenberglutheran.org)



## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

### YOUNG FAMILIES GET TOGETHER

**Gather between services** 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.

## ELCA NEWS

### WE ARE CHURCH

*By Mycah McNett*

Over 900 voting members and hundreds of guests arrived to Milwaukee, Wisconsin August 5-10 to attend the Churchwide Assembly (CWA) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). This was my first CWA and I was truly amazed and so grateful for a church that proclaims the Gospel boldly and lives out Jesus' Commandment to Love our Neighbors in the world. CWA meets every three years. Attendees are nominated by their synods at the previous year's Synod Assembly. We vote, worship together, share meals, hear reports, and we pray.

Highlights of the business conducted during CWA include:

- Re-election of Presiding Bishop Eaton.
- Declared the ELCA a Sanctuary church.
- Denounced white supremacy.
- Denounced gun violence.
- Passed a social statement on Faith, Sexism, and Justice.

There will be an informal discussion with pastors about the Assembly **THIS Wednesday, August 21, 6:00 – 6:30 pm** in the Gathering Area. See today's insert and visit the Connection Center for more on CWA.

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	120	Wed. Noon	13
10:30 Worship	<u>121</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>		

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through July 2019			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$394,194	\$468,713	\$399,185
Total Receipts	\$448,659	\$527,322	\$453,433
Expenses	\$486,101	\$580,411	\$479,360
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$37,442)</b>	<b>(\$53,089)</b>	<b>(\$25,927)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 6,424.05
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>8,488.52</u>
<b>Total Giving for the Week</b>	<b>\$ 14,912.57</b>

*See Connection Center notebook for details.*

**August Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$9**

To give online, scan here →



### REVISED PROCEDURE FOR CONTACTING OUR PASTORS

**Email our pastors anytime:**

[eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)  
[zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto: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.

## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST (55+)

Meets **THIS Tuesday, August 20, 8:30 am** at Thomas House in Dayton. *Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information.*

### THE PASTORS' BOOK CLUB

Join Pastor Lauren or Pastor Alex each month to discuss an interesting or provocative book about faith. August's book is *Fire by Night: Finding God in the Pages of the Old Testament* by Melissa Florer-Bixler. We meet **THIS 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 **THIS 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! *If you have questions or ideas, contact Pastor Alex or Rachel Peters ([rgpeters9@gmail.com](mailto:rgpeters9@gmail.com)).*

### HARRISONBURG BLOCK PARTY

Among many other churches, Muhlenberg will have a table on Court Square at the *9<sup>th</sup> Annual Block Party in the 'Burg*, **Saturday, August 24, 4:30 – 6:30 pm**. The Block Party is sponsored by Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and James Madison University. Businesses will be open during their regular business hours and will welcome customers! Come visit us!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

**Monday, September 2, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room for 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](mailto: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 or see p. 5 for details).

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are always in need of worship servants: lectors, ushers, acolytes, greeters, communion assistants/stewards, sound techs, etc.

**Sign up** in the notebook at the Connection Center **for September**. Signing up really helps the schedulers avoid time calling/emailing. One-on-one training can be arranged – just indicate the training needed on the sign-up sheet or *contact Kathy Thompson (578-4830 or [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)).* If you prefer to sign up online, follow the path below from our website:

### Worship + Sermons > Serve in Worship

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

## MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Contact Music Minister Elizabeth Williams  
(434-3496 or [williams@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:williams@muhlenberglutheran.org))  
for more information.

### ATTENTION: ALL CHOIR

#### MEMBERS (AND NEWBIES TOO!)

Rehearsals will begin soon! I want to thank all of my “current choristers” for their ongoing participation and dedication to singing God’s praises! Whether you are new to Muhlenberg, or simply new to singing . . .

#### WE HAVE A GROUP FOR YOU!

**Celebration Singers** (10<sup>th</sup> grade and up): begins **Tuesday, August 27**, and rehearses **6:30 – 7:30 pm**. We sing at the 8:00 or 9:30 service on Sundays. A “joy of singing” is your only requirement!

**Sanctuary Choir** (10<sup>th</sup> grade and up): begins **Wednesday, August 21**, and rehearses **7:00 – 8:30 pm**. We sing at the 11:00 service on Sundays. Former choral singing is graciously welcomed!

**Cherub Choir** (ages 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade): begins **Tuesday, September 10, 5:30pm – 6:00pm**.

**SonShine Singers** (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders): begins **Tuesday, Sept. 10, from 4:45 – 5:25 pm**.

**Gloria Dei Ringers** (Handbell Choir): begins **Tuesday, September 3, 7:00– 8:30 pm**. If you are interested in learning more about this particular group, please contact Handbell Director Kath Wissinger ([longwalk3@aol.com](mailto:longwalk3@aol.com) or 289-6973) for more information.

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### CREATION CARE TIP

If possible, try to avoid styrene. Why? The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services classifies it as a possible carcinogen, and it presents serious health risks to the people who make it. Because it's not biodegradable, it persists in the environment potentially for hundreds of years. Furthermore, foam packaging is made from non-renewable petroleum products.

## LOCAL GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

Contact Local & Global Mission Chair  
Karen Matthias ([kfmatthias@gmail.com](mailto:kfmatthias@gmail.com) / 434-4625)  
for more information.

### PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

In coordination with our inter-generational faith formation event, the Local and Global Mission Committee (LGM) is petitioning the congregation for monetary contributions to People Helping People (PHP). If you wish to help, indicate PHP on your check and envelope.



## SECOND HOME NEWS

### SECOND HOME BEGINS

Tuesday, August 20 marks the first day of Second Home’s 12<sup>th</sup> year of operation. We are excited to welcome our new and returning staff members, students and their families for another year of safety, fun, and learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support — prayers, donations, and volunteering. We can only continue this vital mission with the community’s help. Let the new year begin!

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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-3<sup>rd</sup> grade go to the MAC (Muhlenberg Activities Center – behind the church) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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-5<sup>th</sup> graders take part in ELCA Day of Service. ~  
*See p. 6 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. It is held every Sunday for ages 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade:**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 11:00.                      2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 9:30.

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](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496) for more information.

## ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

### ELCA DAY OF SERVICE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

We have several opportunities for you to make a difference in our community and beyond.

#### RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Saturday morning, **September 7** Muhlenberg will join Grace Lutheran in Waynesboro and 17 other churches at Kate Collins Middle School (1625 Ivy Street, Waynesboro) to “Rise Against Hunger.” Our goal is to pack over 25,000 meals for school children in Haiti where lunch is often their only meal. Hats or hairnets required. Arrive by 9:45 and plan to be finished by 12:30. Sign up at the Connection Center. Feel free to arrange car pools. Families with children, youth, college students, and adults of all ages are welcome. There are jobs for those who prefer to sit. *For more information, visit [riseagainsthunger.org](http://riseagainsthunger.org) or contact Karen Matthias ([kfmatthias@gmail.com](mailto:kfmatthias@gmail.com) or 434-4625).*

#### CHILDREN’S SUNDAY CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

After the Children’s Time **Sunday, September 8**, children in PreK – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will join the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Monday afternoon.

#### 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. *continued next column.*

#### SERVICE PROJECT (CONT’D)

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](mailto: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 ([glenm778@comcast.net](mailto:glenm778@comcast.net) or 383-5085) for more information.*



## YOUTH NEWS

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

### CONFIRMATION/ALPHA TEENS

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 **NEXT 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 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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! *See p. 5 for details.*

*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

Children's Church begins **Sunday, September 15** and is held every Sunday in the Nielsen Room (downstairs) for ages 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

- **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – 11:00**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays – 9:30**

It begins after the Children's Time with the pastors. Leaders take children downstairs for Children's Church. They return to their families in the sanctuary during Sharing of the Peace!



## 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 [depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496. Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors & editor.*

✦ We received a thank you note from Lutheran Family Services/Minnick School-Harrisonburg for the donation of a \$300 Walmart gift card to be used for emergency student clothing needs. You can contribute to the clothing fund anytime – designate “clothing fund” on your check and envelope.

✦ Thanks to your support, we raised \$280 in July for the breakfast program at Minnick School - Harrisonburg (MS-H). Donations can be made at anytime – designate MS-H on your check and envelope.

✦ With your donations of school supplies to Second Home, we gave school supplies to 18 children. The rest of the supplies will be used to replenish our student needs during the school year, and for our daily programming and learning activities. Thank you for your generosity!

✦ 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*

## 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.** Hebrews 11:1-7  
**Tue.** Hebrews 11:17-28  
**Wed.** Luke 12:41-48  
**Thu.** Hebrews 10:26-31  
**Fri.** Hebrews 10:32-29  
**Sat.** Matthew 24:15-27  
**Sun.** Luke 13:10-17

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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

August 19-25, 2019

**Mon.** 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting  
6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.  
**Tue.** 8:30 am Go-Go Group Breakfast  
**Wed.** 12 noon Holy Communion  
6:00 pm Churchwide Assembly Mtg.  
6:30 pm Pastors’ Bible Study  
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
**Thu.** 7:00 am Life on Tap  
**Sat.** 4:30 am Block Party in the ‘Burg  
**Sun.** 8:45 & 10:30 am Holy Communion  
9:00 am Confirmation Meeting

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 ([depoym@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496](mailto:depoym@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).