



# 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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**September 1, 2019**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

- ✚ For a summary of Churchwide Assembly visit the Connection Center. Also pick up a copy of an email sent to members this week about what Sanctuary Church means to Muhlenberg.
- ✚ For information about choirs, see p. 3.
- ✚ For information about Christian Formation fall start up, see p. 4.
- ✚ For information about ELCA Day of Service, see p. 5.
- ✚ Welcome students! For information about Lutheran Campus Ministry, see p 7.
- ✚ Visit the Connection Center for more information about fall planning.

## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

### FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

We wear **name badges** to be welcoming and learn each other's names. Supplies are in the Gathering Area.

We receive **non-perishable food donations** in the Gathering Area for local area food pantries.

**Lay Communion Ministers** will take Holy Communion to our sick and homebound members.

### HAPPY LABOR DAY!

We hope you have a safe, happy Labor Day weekend. The Church office will be closed tomorrow.

## REGULAR SCHEDULE RETURNS

**NEXT Sunday, September 8,**

**3 services:**

**8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am.**

### 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)*



## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **TOMORROW (9/2), 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room for a Bible study from the June *Gather* magazine. All Muhlenberg women are welcome! For more info, Contact Louise Johnson ([gfriend07@verizon.net](mailto:gfriend07@verizon.net) or 433-1047).

### ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW (9/2), 7:00 pm** in the Kairos Room. Contact Jennie Warner ([mjwarner1@aol.com](mailto:mjwarner1@aol.com) or 476-2020) for details.

### GO-GO GROUP (55+)

Join us for lunch **THIS Wednesday, September 4, 1:00 pm at Traditions.** Contact Dan Werner (433-3912) for details.

### BLESSING OUR TEACHERS

**NEXT Sunday, September 8** (at all services), we will bless all those faithful servants who serve as Christian Formation leaders and teachers for children, youth and adults. "You have been made servants of God who gave you this task to perform, to fully proclaim the Message" (based on Colossians 1:25). Thanks be to God for their service.

### NEW MUSICAL SETTING

**NEXT Sunday, September 8** we start singing a new musical setting of the liturgy. It was first introduced last Fall, and composed by our former Interim Pastor Paul Weber. This liturgy was commissioned by Pastor Paul's first congregation in Pittsburgh and named for that small congregation, Holy Emmanuel. The music was inspired by Pastor Paul's setting of the Sanctus (Holy, holy holy) found in ELW 189. So sing boldly and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	107	Wed. Noon	11
10:30 Worship	<u>175</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</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	\$ 6,621.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>35,417.75</u>
<b>Total Giving for the Week</b>	<b>\$ 42,038.75</b>

See Connection Center notebook for details.

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.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SOPHIE MOELLER CIRCLE

**Tuesday, September 10 at noon** in the Kairos Room, this women's circle will have a covered dish luncheon to kick off the year. At this meeting, we will make plans for our programs and events for the coming year. *All women are welcome!*

### PROSPECTIVE MEMBER LUNCH & ORIENTATION

Have you recently joined the church? Are you considering membership? Are you curious or just want to learn more about Muhlenberg?

We invite you to explore with us what it means to be a Christian, a Lutheran, a follower of Jesus and a member of the Muhlenberg family. Please join us for a **Prospective Member Lunch & Orientation, Sunday, September 22, 12:15 – 2:30 pm** in Wayland Hall (downstairs). We'll discuss more in depth the mission and ministries of Muhlenberg and how you can be part of the life of this congregation as a member or associate member.

New members will be received Sunday, October 20 at the 11:00 service.

If you are interested in attending the Prospective Member Lunch and Orientation, please sign up at the Welcome Desk or in the activities notebook at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. *For more information, contact ...*

- *Kathy Thompson, Evangelism Chair*  
([thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu) or 540-578-4830) or
- *One of the pastors*(434-3496)
  - ([miller@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:miller@muhlenberglutheran.org))
  - ([zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org))

## 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): rehearses **Tuesdays, 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): rehearses **Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**. We sing at the 11:00 service on Sundays. Former choral singing is graciously welcomed!

**SonShine Singers** (grades 3-6): begins **Tuesday, September 10, 4:45 – 5:25 pm**.

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

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



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL DAY

## NEXT 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</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. 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) and high school class information.**

**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.
- **Young Families:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays are fellowship. All other Sundays, we will discuss how to raise our children in faith. Meets in the Campus Room.

**Children's Church begins September 15. See p. 7 for details.**

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 NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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

#### RISE AGAINST HUNGER

**THIS Saturday, 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 CARS.”

Muhlenberg has a number of members who have difficulty making it to church, due to mobility or transportation issues. On Sunday, September 8, for “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday, we’d like to make an extra effort to help those folks get to worship. If you’d be willing to give someone a ride that day, please contact care coordinators *Sandy Randolph* ([cerprek@gmail.com](mailto:cerprek@gmail.com) or 828-2033) or *Linda Morrison* ([glenn778@comcast.net](mailto:glenn778@comcast.net) or 383-5085).

Likewise, if you or someone you know is in need of a ride, please let Sandy or Linda know so we can get you paired up with someone who lives nearby.



#### T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!

**T-shirts are available in the Gathering Area today! Choose your shirt and please wear it next week** as you take part in the ELCA “God’s work. Our hands.” activities. **We are asking for a \$10.00 donation to cover costs.** *Contact Diane Bayer [bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496 for more information.*

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

### CREATION CARE TIP

Cosmetics and personal-care products offer dozens of opportunities to change the marketplace, improve your choices, and protect the planet and yourself. Focus on ingredients, shop for safer products, send companies a message, and choose less packaging.

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## SECOND HOME NEWS

### START UP NEEDS

Second Home is off to a great start. Children are adjusting quickly and enjoying many learning activities. Daily reading and story times, arts and crafts, and educational games have been on the schedule since the first day of school. Some students are starting to bring homework.

Busy kids encounter accidents -spills, mud, and the occasional nosebleed. To replenish our emergency clothes supply, we are in need of gently used, clean t-shirts, stretchy pants, and socks in sizes child 5 - adult medium. We are also looking for a vehicle booster seat. If you are able to donate any of these items, please bring them to our office. Thank you!

*Executive Director Krisztina Szekely*



## REMINDERS

### COMMUNICATING WITH OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Members of the congregation who are homebound and cannot read *The Chimes* online can request a copy be mailed to them weekly.

If you are interested, or know a member who is, contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org) or 434-3496).

### ATTENTION

#### MINISTRY/GROUP LEADERS:

**The fall schedule is already filling up.  
Be sure to get your requests in early.  
Do not assume space used in the past will  
be available again without booking it.**

### BUILDING USE REQUESTS

We joyfully share our campus with many different ministries and groups. We need your help to ensure the space you want to use or a suitable alternative is available. To schedule space, contact Building Use Coordinator Lori Reich **before you plan an event**. Changes to previous requests should also go to Lori.

- **Email** your request to [buildinguse@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:buildinguse@muhlenberglutheran.org)
- **Leave a message** via building use voicemail (434-3496).
- **Complete a request form** (located beside the church mailboxes). Return completed forms to the Building Use mailbox.

Requests will be answered as soon as possible.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

For more info, contact Pastor Alex Zuber  
(434-3496 or [zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

### LCM @ MLC

Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church (MLC), referred to as LCM@MLC, will kick off the year TODAY (9/1), with a blessing of all JMU, Bridgewater, EMU, and BRCC students, faculty, and staff at the 10:30 service! We'll have a "Welcome Lunch" after worship at Mark and Jennie Warner's house.

## CONFIRMATION NEWS

For more info, contact Pastor Lauren Eames  
(434-3496 or [eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

### SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Classes for middle schoolers are geared towards preparing young people to affirm their faith. 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade students will meet in Room 210 in the MAC. This year, they will study the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will meet weekly in Pastor Lauren's office for a Bible study connecting faith and everyday life.

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

For more info, contact Clay Arthur  
(434-3496 or [clay@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:clay@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

### SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

Meets at 9:30 in Room 218 in the administrative hallway (Mycah's former office).

### JCREW KICKOFF

**Sunday, September 15, 12:15** in the Campus Room, we will kick off for fall! We will enjoy a meal (provided) and spend time talking and planning for fall/winter. All youth in grades 9-12 are invited and encouraged to attend!

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

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MUHLENBERG FORMER PASTORS

✠ **Pastor Joe Vought** served Muhlenberg from 1997-2008 before taking a call to Community Lutheran Church in Sterling, VA. He brought positive change to Muhlenberg and many members loved him dearly. Pastor Joe and Pastor Dave Nelson were the first co-pastorate in the Virginia Synod, a model that requires extreme trust and respect for your co-worker.

September 29 will be Pastor Joe's last Sunday. We are collecting cards for him in the back of the sanctuary **September 1, 8, & 15** or place them in Linda Depoy's mailbox. **Deadline: September 15** to allow time to mail.

✠ We learned this week that **Pastor Dave Nelson** has retired from St. Peter Lutheran Church in Southport, NC. Pastor Dave served Muhlenberg from 2003 – 2012, bringing lots of dynamic growth to the congregation and serving as Co-Pastor with Pastor Joe Vought.

Pastor Dave is starting a new venture, *3 Roads Consulting* ([3roadsconsulting.com](http://3roadsconsulting.com)), partnering with ELCA leader Stephen Bouman.

If you would like to send a card, Pastor Dave's home address is 1719 Maplecrest Way, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577.

## 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. Heb. 3:7—4:11**      **Thu. 1 Peter 3:8-12**  
**Tue. Rev. 3:7-13**        **Fri. 1 Peter 4:7-11**  
**Wed. Luke 6:6-11**      **Sat. Matt. 20:20-28**  
**Sunday: Luke 14:25-33**

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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

September 2-8, 2019

**Mon. Labor Day ~ Church Office Closed**  
**6:30 pm Ruth Sigmon Circle**  
**7:00 pm Eldercare Support Group**

**Tue. 6:30 pm Celebration Singers**  
**7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers**

**Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion**  
**1:00 pm Go-Go Group Lunch**  
**7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal**

**Sat. 9:45 am RISE Against Hunger**

**Sun. Regular Worship Schedule Returns:**  
**8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion**  
**Day of Service**  
**9:30 am Christian Formation**  
**12:15 pm JAMers**

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](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

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).