



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 8, 2019

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

✚ Meet Linlin Uta, our new Music Ministry Accompanist. *See p. 5 for details.*

✚ Congregation Council met August 21. Highlights from the meeting include:

- Formation of a Personnel Committee to serve in an advisory role to Pastor Lauren and Council in matters related to personnel and employment at the church.
- Discussion of a process to distribute the \$7,500 available from the Mission Endowment Fund.
- Plan for online training for staff and volunteers to respond to an active shooter situation.
- Conversation around issues of human sexuality, including the formation of a series of conversations with the pastors which will be offered to the whole congregation. Council members will take part in these conversations first as a pilot project.

Approved minutes from the July Council meeting are available at the Connection Center. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to any member of council or the pastors.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

**REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE
RESUMES TODAY!**

**Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am.
Wednesdays: 12 noon**

WHO WE ARE BROCHURE

This updated brochure contains information about all ministries and groups. Extra copies are available at the Connection Center.

NEW MUSICAL SETTING

TODAY we begin a new musical setting first introduced last fall and composed by former Interim Pastor Paul Weber. This liturgy was commissioned by and named for his first congregation in Pittsburgh, Holy Emmanuel. So sing boldly and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

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



BLESSING OUR TEACHERS

TODAY we 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!

T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!



T-shirts are available in the Gathering Area today! We are asking for a **\$10.00 donation to cover costs.** Contact Diane Bayer for more information.

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

MINISTRIES NIGHT

Monday Evening, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Help Muhlenberg continue to grow by joining in as we strengthen our ministries, plan new initiatives, and serve one another and the wider community! **All committees welcome new members.**

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. We will make plans for our programs and events for the coming year. **All women are welcome!**

SECOND HOME SUNDAY

Next Sunday, September 15. Second Home Children's Choir will sing at the 11:00 service. See *The Chimes* next week for more information about Second Home.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:45 Worship	113	Wed. Noon	16
10:30 Worship	<u>181</u>		
Total	294		

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
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$37,442)	(\$53,089)	(\$25,927)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 9,232.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ <u>2,420.54</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 11,652.54

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



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.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL DAY

TODAY 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 1st and 3rd Sundays. On the 2nd and 4th 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 today: K-5th graders take part in ELCA Day of Service.** ~
See p. 4 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. 6-7 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:** 2nd 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 NEXT Sunday, September 15. See p. 7 for details.

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

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE TODAY!

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

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

YESTERDAY, (9/7) Muhlenberg joined Grace Lutheran in Waynesboro and 17 other churches at Kate Collins Middle to “Rise Against Hunger.” Our goal was to pack over 25,000 meals for schoolchildren in Haiti where lunch is often their only meal. Thanks to all who helped!

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

After the Children’s Time **TODAY**, 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 Monday afternoon.

SERVICE PROJECT

As part of our ELCA Day of Service, we have gathered 8’ 2x4 SPF (spruce-pine-fir) boards for Habitat for Humanity. **You can be part of this ELCA Day of Service project by drawing a blessing picture or writing a prayer on the boards in the MAC before you leave today.** These boards will then be used to frame a Habitat home with God’s blessings.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR CARS.”

TODAY we welcome some members who generally don’t have transportation to worship, thanks to fellow members who volunteered to bring them today as part of the Day of Service.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

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

ATTENTION: ALL CHOIR MEMBERS (AND NEWBIES TOO!)

Rehearsals have begun! I want to thank all of our “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 (10th 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 (10th 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 **THIS Tuesday, September 10, 4:45 – 5:25 pm**.

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

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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. 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 or 540-578-4830) or
- *One of the pastors*(434-3496)
 - (eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)
 - (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)

ACTS FALL COURSE

Sept. 21 & Nov. 2, 9:00 – 3:30

ACTS (Ambassadors Community for Theological Study) fall course will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Waynesboro (or at two Sinulcast locations). Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick will present the New Testament

and how it is like a choir filled with many voices singing different parts, yet all telling the same story: the witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the powerful experience of the risen Christ in the communities that follow him.

Registration forms are available at the Connection Center. Scholarships are available for this course. *If interested, contact Diane Bayer* (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

MUHLENBERG NEWS

MEET OUR NEW MUSIC MINISTRY ACCOMPANIST

Linlin Uta was born in Shanghai, China and moved to Yokohama, Japan at the age of ten. Aside from performing solo and chamber concerts at formal venues, she has done charity concerts at church to regularly deliver classical music to children at fostering homes in Japan. She hopes music can be something for the children to rely on in their later lives.



Linlin double majored in Music and Politics with a minor in International Relations at Lake Forest College where she graduated magna cum laude and received the Lorraine D. and H. Randall Heath Senior Prize in Music. She has a Master of Music in Piano Performance from Greatbatch School of Music at Houghton College, NY as a scholarship recipient. She is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance at James Madison University.

MUHLENBERG NEWS (CONT'D)

CREATION CARE TIP



Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. Contact Ramona Sanders for more information: 433-1165 or rsanders9@verizon.net.

Many consumers have already been buying organic apples and oranges, hormone free milk, and free-range chickens. We have many other choices as well. The more we shift our budget to organic and sustainably raised foods, the more choices we'll continue to have and the cheaper those choices will become.

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.

Executive Director Krisztina Szekely

DISASTER RESPONSE

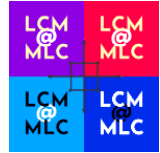
For information about helping Hurricane Dorian victims, visit the Connection Center or visit elca.org. 100% of donations go directly to aid those impacted by U.S. Hurricanes.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

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

LCM @ MLC

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church



JMU

• LCM Bible Study:

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, at the Student Success Center on campus.

• Lutherans Who Lunch:

Tuesday, September. 10, 11:30 - 1:30 at D-Hall. Open to all JMU students, faculty and staff!

Bridgewater and EMU

Pastor Alex is gathering groups on both campuses to talk about a good time for regular meetings on campus. If you are an interested student, faculty or staff member, contact Pastor Alex.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

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

SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

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

JCREW KICKOFF

J CREW
NEXT 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!

CONFIRMATION AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

SUNDAY MORNING CONFIRMATION CLASSES

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

CONFIRMATION MEETING FOR 9TH GRADERS

We hope your school year is off to a great start. We're excited to kick off faith formation this weekend with a new senior high class (*see p. 6*).

Before we know it, it will be the end of October and Reformation Sunday, the day we celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation. We know some kids have been very active in the Confirmation program over the past few years, and others, not as much. But regardless of past participation, we invite all of you to a brief gathering **NEXT Sunday, September 15, 10:30 am** in the MAC to hear more about the plans for confirmation this fall. Parents and youth, please join us! See you then.

ALPHA TEENS

Our middle school youth group, Alpha Teens, will kick off **NEXT Sunday, Sept. 15. We'll meet at 2 pm at You Made It** (1019 Port Republic Road) to paint fun mugs we'll use all year. Sign up at Confirmation class this Sunday or email Pastor Lauren to let her know you're coming. All 6th - 8th graders are welcome!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FESTIVAL TODAY AT 9:30 AM

Visit the Connection Center for details about Christian Formation Sundays, adult opportunities, and more! *See p. 3 for details.*

JAMERS

Elementary Youth Group

This youth group is for students in grades 2-5. Please join your friends **TODAY, 12:15-2:00 pm** 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 NEXT Sunday, September 15** and is held every Sunday in the Nielsen Room (downstairs) for ages 3 – 3rd grade.

- **1st & 3rd Sundays – 11:00**
- **2nd & 4th 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!



*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!*

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 434-3496 or (depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org). 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 that **Pastor Dave Nelson** has retired from St. Peter Lutheran Church in Southport, NC. Pastor Dave served Muhlenberg from 2003 – 2012, creating 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), 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. 13:7-21 **Thu. Phil. 2:25-30**
Tue. Titus 1:1-9 **Fri. Colossians 4:7-17**
Wed. Luke 14:15-24 **Sat. Matt. 10:34-42**
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 9-15, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Executive Committee Mtg.
7:00 pm Ministries Night

Tue. 12 noon Sophie Moeller Circle
4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers

Wed. 12 noon Holy Communion
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Sun. Second Home Sunday
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:15 pm JCrew
2:00 pm Alpha Teens

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).