



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

Published Weekly by Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

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September 15, 2019

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

- † **Second Home Sunday: TODAY** we learn more about the program and ways we can be supportive. The Second Home Children's Choir will sing at the 11:00 service. *See today's insert for details.*
- † Meet Linlin Uta, our new Music Ministry Accompanist. *See p. 4 for details.*
- † **Who We Are** brochure: This updated brochure contains information about all ministries and groups and is available at the Connection Center. We handed out one per family last week; if you missed it or need an additional copy, please get one from an usher today!

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER NEWS

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 NEXT 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.

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

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



THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST (55+)

Meets **THIS Tuesday, September 17, 8:30 am** at Thomas House in Dayton. *Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

A seven-week series about how Lutherans interpret the Bible. Begins **THIS Wednesday, September 18, 10:30 am** in the Nielsen Room (downstairs). Contact Pastor Lauren for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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, Waynesboro (and two simulcast 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 at the Connection Center. Scholarships available. *If interested, contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberg.lutheran.org or 434-3496).*

~Mark Your Calendar continued on p. 6~

HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF

For information about helping Hurricane Dorian victims, visit the Connection Center, elca.org, or vasynod.org. 100% of your donation goes directly to aid those impacted by the hurricane.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	83	Wed. Noon	9
9:30 Worship	94		
11:00 Worship	<u>154</u>		
Total	331		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through August 2019			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$443,246	\$529,440	\$450,902
Total Receipts	\$517,220	\$607,307	\$522,084
Expenses	\$565,839	\$670,551	\$557,501
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$48,619)	(\$63,244)	(\$35,417)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 7,980.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 7,825.50
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 15,805.50

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 AT MUHLENBERG!

SUNDAYS 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.

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

Grades 6-12 – see p. 5-6 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 TODAY, 11:00 am. See p. 6 for details.

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

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, 7:00 pm at the Student Success Center on campus.
- **Lutherans Who Lunch:**
Open to all JMU students, faculty and staff!
Watch *The Chimes* for future dates.

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

JCREW TODAY, 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/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 meet in Room 210 in the MAC. This year, they will study the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed. 8th grade students meet in Pastor Lauren's office for a Bible study connecting faith and everyday life.

CONFIRMATION MEETING FOR 9TH GRADERS

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 **TODAY, 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 **TODAY**. We'll meet at 2 pm at **You Made It** (1019 Port Republic Road) to paint fun mugs we'll use all year. 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.

SHARING GOD'S WORD

Christian Formation classes begin **Sundays at 9:30** in designated locations. Children should be picked up immediately following the 9:30 liturgy. *See p. 3 for details.*

CHILDREN'S CHURCH



Children's Church **begins TODAY** 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!

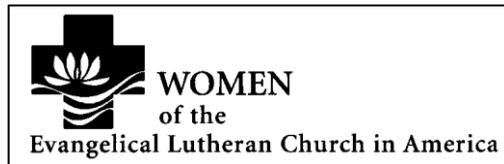
Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from the Connection Center. It includes information about all our Christian Formation opportunities. We hope you will find one or more that fulfills your needs as we grow in faith together!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR (CONT'D)

LIFE ON TAP

Meets **Thursday, September 26 at 7:00 pm.** Join fellow Lutherans at Three Notch'd Brewing for fellowship and conversation! All are welcome! We hope to see you there! For more information, contact Rachel Peters (rgpeters9@gmail.com or 570-975-5457).

FALL GATHERING



Join women of the Southern Valley Conference for worship, fellowship, and celebration as we come together for our annual Fall Gathering **Sunday, October 6, 2:00 pm** at Grace Lutheran Church, Waynesboro. The program will be "Enjoying God's Gifts of Nature — Blue Ridge Parkway." For more information, visit the Connection Center or contact *Lola Heffner* (lolaheffner@comcast.net / 540-255-2066).

REMINDER

DID YOU MISS WORSHIP RECENTLY?

If you miss worship one Sunday, you may feel a bit out of the loop. Extra copies of *The Chimes*, worship booklets, and sermons (when available) can be picked up from the credenza in the administrative hallway. Stop by and catch up on what you've missed. You can also find *The Chimes* on our website: muhlenberglutheran.org > Connect > The Chimes

Additionally, audio and downloadable sermons are available on our website: muhlenberglutheran.org > Worship and Sermons > Sermons.

DAY OF SERVICE APPRECIATION



God's work.
Our hands.

ELCA DAY of SERVICE

Thanks to our members who helped make a difference in the lives of others by helping with Day of Service projects last week.

- **Rise Against Hunger:** Muhlenberg members joined other church groups to pack 30,000 meals to feed some of the most desperate and hungry folks in our world, including those impacted by Hurricane Dorian.
- **Christian Formation:** Children and adults prepared 102 bagged lunches for Second Home children to take home and sandwiches for People Helping People clients.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** Thank you for supporting a local family and the Central Valley Habitat for Humanity by donating 105 framing boards with prayers and pictures to be used to frame a home in God's love!
- **“God's work. Our cars.”:** Thanks to those who brought members to church who generally are not able to attend due to lack of transportation. What a blessing!



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 one of the first co-pastorates 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 or Linda Depoy's mailbox. **Deadline: TODAY** 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. 1 Tim. 3:14-4:5 **Thu. 1 Tim. 1:1-11**
Tue. 1 Tim. 4:6-16 **Fri. 2 Peter 2:1-10a**
Wed. Luke 18:18-30 **Sat. John 10:11-21**
Sunday: Luke 16:1-13

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

September 16-22

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Congregation Council Mtg.
Tue. 8:30 am Go-Go Group Breakfast
4:45 pm SonShine Singers
5:30 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Celebration Singers
7:00 pm Gloria Dei Ringers
Wed. 10:30 am Wed. AM Bible Study
12 noon Holy Communion
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir
Sat. 9:00 am ACTS Fall Course
Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:15 pm New Member Lunch

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.