



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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281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 † Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: info@muhlenberglutheran.org † Website: www.muhlenberglutheran.org

Senior Pastor Lauren Eanes: eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org Associate Pastor Alex Zuber: zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org

September 22, 2019

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

A WELLSPRING SENDING

Our "Dismissal" from worship has changed to say, "We have been renewed at the Wellspring of God's Grace! Now, go in peace! We go to be: Open † Authentic † Relational † Serving, Thanks be to God!"

At Muhlenberg, we live out our baptismal vocation by striving to be "A Wellspring of God's Grace," a source of life and hope for our community and neighbors in need. This new dismissal is a way to reaffirm our mission and be reminded that if we are to be a wellspring of grace, we need to be renewed first through Water, Word, and Meal—the means of grace God has given to us.

This repetition of our core values is a way of taking our mission to heart. As we recite this mission, we pray that these words don't just stay words, but become a way of life!

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.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

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?

Join us **TODAY** for a **Prospective Member Lunch & Orientation, 12:15 – 2:30 pm** in Wayland Hall (downstairs). Together we'll explore what it means to be a Christian, a Lutheran, a follower of Jesus and a member of the Muhlenberg family. 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 an associate member.

New members will be received Sunday, October 20.

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

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

A seven-week series about how Lutherans interpret the Bible. **Wednesdays, 10:30 am** in the Nielsen Room through October 30. *Contact Pastor Lauren for details.*

LIFE ON TAP

THIS Thursday, September 26, 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).*

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 October**. Signing up 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).*

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.

Approved minutes from the August Congregation Council meeting are available at the Connection Center.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|----|
| 8:00 Worship | 72 | Wed. Noon | 13 |
| 9:30 Worship | 127 | | |
| 11:00 Worship | 177 | | |
| Total | 376 | | |

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 | \$ 4,980.05 |
| Giving to Other Designated Funds | \$ 1,150.15 |
| Total Giving for the Week | \$ 6,130.20 |

See Connection Center notebook for details.

To give online, scan here →



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, age-specific youth groups, 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.

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. 7 for **Confirmation (grades 6-8) and high school class information.**

All adults are invited to take part in one of these 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: *See p. 7 for details.*

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR (CONT'D)

RUTH SIGMON CIRCLE

Meets **Monday, October 7, 6:30 pm** in the Augsburg Room. The study will be from the July/August *Gather* magazine, *Session two*, *For just such a time as this*, covering Esther chapters 4 - 8. All women are invited to participate in a lively Bible discussion on the book of Esther. Come and bring a friend!

MUHLENBERG NEWS

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.

There are several ways to maximize boiling water:

- Use lukewarm rather than cold water to start.
- Boil only the amount of water needed.
- Use the heating element on the range that fits your kettle/pot.
- Listen for the whistle or watch the pot. Turn the heat off as soon as the water boils.

Note from Ramona: I've used the same kettle for at least 25 years. Sure, it's lost its luster over time, but it's never failed to boil water. I try not to perpetuate the resource-intense cycle of "buy, toss, and replace."

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Local & Global Mission Chair
Karen Matthias (kfmatthias@gmail.com or 434-4625)
for more information.

Thanks to all who have shared time, talent, and resources to care for God's people in need over the past few months! We recently received thank you notes from the following:

- **Bridge of Hope** for our \$600 donations around Mother's Day.
- **ELCA World Hunger** for our most recent donation of \$1,400. A hand written note was included: *"Thank you dear people of Muhlenberg Lutheran for loving your neighbor in word and deed!"*
- **Orphan Grain Train** for our donation of \$2,238.71

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

- **Second Home** received school supplies sufficient to equip students/teachers for a great start! In addition, nearly \$700 was contributed to assist with purchasing much needed office equipment.
- **People Helping People** received \$1,100, \$400 of which was designated to help clients obtain IDs from the DMV.
- See p. 6 for Day of Service appreciation.

MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA

Priority Deadline for Applications is September 30! 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. To date, eight people have registered. *Details are available at the Connection Center.*

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION (CONT'D)

OPEN DOORS: SAVE THE DATE!

Muhlenberg will host Open Doors at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in February 2020. Open Doors provides shelter from November - March for anyone over the age of 18 who is experiencing homelessness in our community. Thirty faith communities participate in hosting the shelter that is located in churches in the Harrisonburg/Rockingham County area. The shelter moves weekly to a new location.

From Monday, 2/3 - Monday, 2/10, volunteers from Muhlenberg will be needed to provide dinners, snacks, breakfasts, and overnight oversight. Open Doors provides a sense of community, fellowship and connection to those in our community who are often forgotten, ignored and overlooked.

More information will follow about volunteer opportunities! If your small group, Bible study or class would like to prepare the meal for an evening or if you can volunteer to serve, *please contact Susan Lawrence (lawrensj@comcast.net or 540-908-0073) or Emily Wicht Carneal (emily.wicht@gmail.com or 202-805-3683).*



DAY OF SERVICE



God's work.
Our hands.

APPRECIATION

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

- **Rise Against Hunger:** In 1 ½ hours, 177 volunteers from 16 congregations packed over 30,000 meals to feed some of the most desperate and hungry people in the 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!

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 students, faculty and staff on both campuses to talk about a good time for regular meetings on campus. If interested, 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 (Myciah's former office).

CONFIRMATION

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

SUNDAY MORNING CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Classes are geared towards preparing young people to affirm their faith. 6th-7th grade students meet in the MAC, Room 210. 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.

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 is held every Sunday in the Nielsen Room (downstairs) for ages 3 – 3rd grade.

- **1st, 3rd & 5th 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!



CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS
Special *busy bags* for children are available from ushers

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.

✠ We lift the family of **Robert and Shannon Wilson** in thoughts and prayers as they mourn the death of Robert's mother, Barbara Wilson. We ask God to comfort those who mourn and give them strength at this time of sadness.

✠ Dear Muhlenberg, I want to send a huge thank you to the congregation and council. I wouldn't have been able to attend Trinity this year without you! I am beyond grateful to have a community that not only says they will give support, but actually does it. I am hoping to get an update out in the next couple days (maybe weeks), and possibly even a blog, so I can share my discernment with even more people.

Thank you again, for your generosity in both funds and prayers. Receiving both means the world for me.

Peace+ Remington Willis

✠ Maren Corliss, former Campus Ministry student, is serving in Hungary this year as a member of the YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission) program of the ELCA. If you would like to learn more about Maren's work, visit the Connection Center for a copy of her September newsletter.

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. 1:18-20 **Thu. Rom. 3:1-8**
Tue. 2 Peter 3:8-13 **Fri. Rom. 8:31-39**
Wed. Luke 22:31-33, 54-62 **Sat. Mark 12:41-44**
Sunday: Luke 16:19-31

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

September 23-29

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
Tue. 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
Thu. 7:00 pm Life on Tap
Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation

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).