



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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October 18, 2020

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHAT'S THE BUZZ

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

LAST SUNDAY during the 11:00 service, we welcomed two new member families:

**Matthew & Chelsey Bollinger
Benjamin**

**Grover & Ashley Saunders
Cody, Lola & Penny**

To read more about our new members, see page 3.

Interested in membership or want to learn more about Muhlenberg? Contact a pastor or *Kathy Thompson* (thompskb@jmu.edu or 578-4830). They would love to hear from you!

FALL SCHEDULE

For details about worship, education & fellowship opportunities, click [HERE](#) for the fall newsletter.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

6TH – 8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP AND BIBLE STUDY

Meets **TODAY** (10/18), 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Hillandale Park (meet near shelter #1); led by Pastor Lauren and Karen Thomsen.

REMINDERS

ENTERING THE CHURCH

Staff continues to work mainly from home. **All doors are locked at all times.** To keep everyone safe, we ask that congregation members refrain from coming to the church building unless necessary. **If you need to be in the building, use the Gathering Area doors to enter and exit.** We suggest you wear a mask as much as possible. If you have something to drop off, arrange with a staff person to receive it ahead of time. Thank you!

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex are available for phone conversations, email, and video meetings, and in-person meetings as needed. Simply email or call the church office — they'll be happy to hear from you!

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join your Muhlenberg friends and family for education and fellowship via [ZOOM](#) each **Sunday from 8:30 – 11:00** using this link:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84731416878](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731416878)

8:30 – 9:00 Communion Service via Zoom
9:00 – 11:00 “Coffee Hour” Fellowship
9:30 – 10:00 K - 3rd Grade Class
9:30 – 10:00 4th - 5th Grade Class
9:30 – 10:30 Adult Faith Lens Class
9:30 – 10:30 Adult 40-Day Journey Class
10:15– 10:30 Pre-K Story Time
11:00 Worship on [Facebook](#),
[YouTube](#), [Wellstream Phone](#)

- **Pastoral Care** ~ If you would like a private word with the pastor on call, we will provide a breakout room for you.
- **Small Group Fellowship** ~ Want to catch up with a small group of friends? We have private breakout rooms for that!

If you don't have a reliable internet connection, call in on Sundays at 1-301-715-8592 and enter the Meeting ID: 84731416878.

WELLSTREAM PHONE

We want all members to have the opportunity to “participate” in worship and hear The Word. **Wellstream Phone is a service that works from your home or cell phone — no internet required. Simply call the number below and select an option. Information will be available by 11 am each Sunday.** Contact Linda Depoy (434-3496) with any questions.

Wellstream Phone Number:

1-434-205-8777

FINANCIAL NEWS

RECENT ATTENDANCE

While we aren't meeting in person, we are able to track our online viewership:

10/4: 8:30 Communion	17
11:00 Total Live Views	97
Total Views this Week	339
Hours Viewed this Week	106.3
10/7 Evening Prayer	28
10/14 Evening Prayer	18

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2020			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$459,728	\$607,366	\$511,077
Total Receipts*	\$581,845	\$693,128	\$589,543
Expenses	\$588,139	\$738,326	\$628,194
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$6,294)	(\$45,198)	(\$38,652)

* Includes \$12,331.53 – federal PPP proceeds

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 30,792.63
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 25,142.00
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 55,934.63

To give online, scan here →



Muhlenberg is not suspending its ministry through this unprecedented time, and we ask you not to suspend your financial contributions either. We are committed to maintaining our ministries, even if they are in a different form for now. We also want to be able to continue to support the needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

You can make a one-time or recurring donation through the [donation page](#) on our website, or mail your check to the church: 281 E. Market Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



Matthew & Chelsey Bollinger Benjamin

101 East Weaver Avenue
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Home phone: 910-783-5801
Email: chelseyboll@gmail.com

Matt and Chelsey were married in July 2015. Matt is from Atlanta, GA and Chelsey is from Waterloo, IA. They have one son, Ben, who was baptized on September 12. They also have two dogs.

Chelsey works at JMU and Matt works for Wells Fargo.



Grover & Ashley Saunders Cody, Lola and Penny

420 ACME Company Street
Broadway, VA 22815
Home phone: 540-746-8102 and email is
Email: oli.lola.mom@gmail.com.

Ashley and Grover have three kids, Cody (12th grade), Lola (10th grade), and Penny (1st grade). Ashley teaches at Generations Crossing, and Grover is head of Maker Space Services and Instruction at JMU. Cody and Lola love being involved in theatre, and Penny enjoys singing and just being six years old. The family enjoys playing board games and movie nights. Grover is originally from Virginia Beach and Ashley from Illinois, but they've lived in the Valley for 17 years and consider it "home." They learned about Muhlenberg through Penny attending preschool at Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care Center, and they love that the church is Christ-centered and welcoming of all people.

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

Each **Wednesday at 10:30 am**, participants study the Narrative Lectionary text for the upcoming Sunday, including a deep dive into the text, information about the context, and connections between God's story and our stories. We'll also have a lot of fun and get to know each other better! All are welcome to join via **ZOOM** using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/200491556>

Note: Please be sure the name listed on your Zoom account is identifiable. If it simply says "IPad" or a random list of numbers, you will not be admitted because we are trying to prevent "Zoom bombers."

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

This service is livestreamed on **Facebook** and **YouTube**. It is led from the sanctuary by Music Ministry Accompanist Linlin Uta and a rotating slate of singers, including the pastors. The service will be recorded and available to view any time.

REFORMATION

NEXT Sunday join us online and **wear red** to celebrate Reformation Day.

COMMUNICATING WITH MEMBERS WITHOUT ONLINE ACCESS

Members of the congregation who cannot read *The Chimes* online can request a copy be mailed to them weekly. If you know a member without online access, *contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy (434-3496 or depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)*.

PASTORS' BOOK CLUB

THIS Wednesday, (10/21), we'll discuss the book *Holy Chaos: Creating Connections in Divisive Times* by Amanda Henderson. In *Holy Chaos*, an interfaith leader, activist, and pastor Amanda Henderson shares personal stories and practices from her work at the intersection of faith and politics to help us find connections in the midst of the religious and political divides in our country, our communities, and our families and friendships.

Join us for this timely conversation via **ZOOM THIS Wed.** (10/21) **at 6:30 pm:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87163761216>

Just because we call this a book "club" doesn't mean there are "membership" requirements! A different group gathers each month based on interest, so feel free to attend, even if you haven't before!

In November we'll discuss *For All Who Hunger: Searching for Communion in a Shattered World* by Emily M.D. Scott. Scott weaves stories and reflections from the life of her unlikely congregation in prose both beautiful and incisive. She explores how small acts of connection hold more power than we realize in a time when our differences are being weaponized, creating activism and justice work fueled by empathy and relationship.

Recalling her journey as a single woman and a pastor looking for love and friendship in a city of millions, *For All Who Hunger* articulates the value of church as a place where people can hear not only that they are loved, but that they are good. When Emily's congregation builds relationships with their neighbors in one of the world's most unequal cities, they find courage and resources to begin working for a more just world. We hope you will join us **Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 pm.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

REFORMATION AND ALL SAINTS DAY

The end of October and beginning of November bring two special days in the life of the church: **Reformation Sunday, October 25** and **All Saints Sunday, November 1**. *Worship-at-Home* boxes containing information and activities to do on these two days have been prepared. You can pick up a box from the pickup/drop off box outside the Gathering Area until October 24.

Each year on All Saints Sunday, we remember those who have died and rest in the promises of God by surrounding our worship space with a paper chain, each link bearing the names of those we hold dear. We will share a video of the paper chain/links during All Saints Sunday worship, November 1. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to observe how the saints of our lives link us together. *See p. 6 for more information.*

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 rsanders97@verizon.net.

Write a letter to your Senate and Congress representatives. They care about the viewpoints of their constituents and take feedback into consideration when it's time to vote. Your letter could help influence their vote on issues like environmental justice. Get tips for writing a letter to your representatives at www.pfaw.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Contact Music Minister [Elizabeth Williams](mailto:Elizabeth.Williams@stjohns.org) for more information.

ADULT CHOIRS

Celebration Singers ~ Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30
October 27 November 10 & 24

Sanctuary Choir ~ Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00
October 28 November 11 & 18

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Tweens and Teens ~ Tuesdays, 5:00 – 5:30
For grades 6 – 8.

Children's Choir ~ Tuesdays, 5:30 – 6:00
Ages 4 – 5th grade. Contact: Rachel Peters (Rgpeters9@gmail.com or 570-975-5457).

HANDBELL CHOIR

Gloria Dei Ringers ~ Tuesdays, 7:00
Contact: Handbell Director Kath Wissinger (longwalk3@aol.com or 289-6973).

NEW NICHEs AVAILABLE

An additional 24 Columbarium niches have been added to the Caring Corner. The Property Committee has made upgrades to this room with new lighting, including eternal spotlights shining on the niches. If you are interested in a niche or want additional information, please contact Bill Compton (437-8933 or compton1080@gmail.com).

UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS AT MUHLENBERG

Reformation Sunday, October 25, 11:00 worship: Members of the Celebration Singers and Sanctuary Choir will participate together as they sing “A Mighty Fortress.” Organist Elizabeth Williams will perform one of J. S. Bach’s most popular organ works “Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor.”

“Visions & Tales,” October 30, 4:00 pm: Pianist Elaine Lim will present a live-stream performance of piano works by Chopin, Brahms, Debussy, Granados, and Ravel. Ms. Lim is pursuing a DMA at JMU. This concert may be watched on [YouTube](#).

All Saints Sunday, November 1, 11:00 worship: We welcome opera singer Jenny Anne Flory to our worship service as she sings musical works of Gabriel Fauré and Aaron Copland. Jenny Anne is a former JMU graduate from Dayton, Va.

All Saints Afternoon Concert, November 1, 4:00 pm: Martin Luther once said, *“My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary.”*

Please join us for scripture readings and musical offerings as we strengthen our faith while remembering our sorrows and losses. Musicians include Rachel Peters, flutist; Ed Gant, cellist; pianists Elizabeth Williams, Linlin Uta, and Alice Wightman. We hope to be a blessing to all who listen as we perform arrangements of familiar hymns as well as contemporary works.

This concert will be live streamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#). In-person attendance is also offered, but limited to 45 guests who must follow strict guidelines for wearing face coverings/masks and social distancing (families may sit together). Please contact Greta Willis (Gwillis@packagingcorp.com or 502-500-4939 [text or leave a message]) with the number of seats you would like to reserve. Deadline to reserve seating is **Wednesday, October 28**.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

Contact Chair *Emily Wicht Carneal*
(emilywicht@gmail.com or 421-1994)
for more information.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FAITH BUILD

Local and Global Mission (LGM) is excited to share that Habitat for Humanity is organizing a Faith Build for 2021. It costs \$35,000 to partner with a family to begin construction on their home. The more churches that join in this effort, the lower the cost to each church. Imagine 10 churches working together! The cost would only be \$3,500 per church. In addition to the startup funds, each church sponsor would also be responsible for providing both skilled and unskilled volunteers. There would be many ways to serve!

The mission of Muhlenberg is “*to equip all people to live out Christ’s love.*” Our vision is “*to be a Wellspring of God’s grace.*” Our values are to be “*Open + Authentic + Relational + Serving.*” By joining in the Faith Build with Habitat for Humanity, we will be living out our mission, vision and values.

Joining in the Faith Build will take all of us. Before moving forward with a letter of intent, we want to know that Muhlenberg members are behind this exciting opportunity to share our faith with our neighbors. Please click on the link below and answer the questions in the survey. If you cannot complete the survey online, contact Emily Carneal.

<https://forms.gle/86WDWn2sSq1jA6Vf9>

BRIDGE OF HOPE EVENT



Locavore 10th Anniversary Virtual Event
11.14.2020

Bridge of Hope has been working in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County for the past ten years, empowering single parent families to end the cycle of homelessness in their lives. The annual signature event, Locavore, is virtual this year. You are invited to attend **Saturday, November 14, 4:00 pm.** The cost is \$40/person and includes access to the virtual program and online auction, Love Your Neighbor mask, and anniversary cake.

The online auction will be open for a week from November 8-15. RSVP by November 7 by purchasing tickets at <https://bit.ly/3csOsiz>

If you do not wish to participate virtually, donations may be sent to Muhlenberg Lutheran Church with **Bridge of Hope** in the memo line or sent to Bridge of Hope, PO Box 535, Harrisonburg, VA 22803.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

MUHLENBERG YOUNG FAMILIES

Young families, your church is here for you! We get it — these parenting years are full of last-minute scheduling snafus, exhaustion and exhilaration. We have established a standing Young Families **ZOOM*** meeting **Thursdays, 8:00 pm. “Drop in” whenever you can** for fellowship and community building. Young Families is open to all, but especially focused for families with kids under the age of 8.

Find the group on **Facebook**:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/417143212243610>

***This Zoom info will work each week:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87104488491?pwd=algwUHdTYjNjNExodTFyNytsWFo1QT09>

If you have questions, need Zoom phone-in information, or want to be added to the email list, contact Catherine Creasy (540-209-5467 or creasy.catherine@gmail.com).

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 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 Hilary and Brian Buckless, the proud parents of Abigail Hope, born October 10. Mabelle and Eddie Rader are the proud grandparents.

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 19-25

*If viewing electronically, you can
click the links below to access meetings and services.*

- Mon. 2:00 pm** Weekly Staff Meeting
- Tue. 5:00 pm** Tweens and Teens
5:30 pm Children’s Choir
- Wed. 10:30 am** Wed. Morning Bible Study
6:30 pm Pastors’ Book Club
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer
via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)
- Thu. 8:00 pm** Muhlenberg Young Families
via [ZOOM](#)
- Sun. Reformation Sunday**
[Sunday am ZOOM link](#)
8:30 am Communion Service
9:00 am “Coffee Hour” begins
9:30 am K – 3rd Grade Class
9:30 am 4th - 5th Grade Class
9:30 am Faith Lens Class
9:30 am 40-Day Journey Class
11:00 am Service Livestreamed
via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

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 Parish Administrator Linda Depoy:

depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496

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