



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

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

November 3, 2019

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Congregation Council met Monday, Oct. 28. Below are some highlights from the meeting:

- Welcomed the Board President of Harrisonburg Rockingham Child Day Care for an update on their work and their plans for a new facility. They are still on track to move into their new facility in fall 2021.
- Received a report from the Organ Research Committee regarding concerns about our organ and a recommendation to replace it. *Watch The Chimes for more information to come soon.*
- Approved the 2020 budget for presentation to the congregation. *Copies are available at the Connection Center today.*
- Approved the order of another set of 24 niches for the columbarium.

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

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Today we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us, for the saints of God who are living, and for saints still to come. We are especially thankful for the witness and works of those who have died in the faith as they modeled what it means to be both saint and sinner. Today we remember by name those who died in the past year. We look forward to sharing with them the life that is eternal.

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

CROSSES & LINKS

The names of saints past and present adorn the sanctuary today in celebration of All Saints Sunday. White crosses represent our pastors. The red and white links represent names of individuals the congregation has named as important in their life of faith. The collection will be displayed through Sunday, December 3.

COLUMBARIUM BLESSING

Today we bless our new columbarium located in the Caring Corner. You are welcome to stop in and see this resting place. More information is available in the Gathering Area.

TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT.)

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.

ANSEL PEARCE PRESNELL

VAN LEEAWEN

Baptized, A New Child of God



Welcome Ansel, son of Russell Presnell and Anne van Leeawen into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family at the 11:00 service! Ansel's sponsors are Steve

& Lori Reich, Andrew & Jessica Thislehwate, and Chase & Rebecca Miller. Welcome to the Lord's family, Ansel!

ADVENT-URE SUNDAY PREVIEW

TODAY in the Gathering Area there is a display of some of the activities we will do as part of our Advent-ure Sunday. Stop by, take a look and plan to join us **Sunday, December 1, 12:15** in the MAC as we prepare for Advent.



SECOND HOME MUSICAL

The Addams Family Young@Part

Final Performance at 3:30 pm Today!

General admission tickets will be available at the MAC door by donation. Doors open 30 minutes before the show.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	92	Wed. Noon	18
9:30 Worship	121		
11:00 Worship	<u>168</u>		
Total	381		

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2019			
	Y-T-D Actual	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Last Year
Gifts & Offerings	\$511,077	\$595,808	\$507,425
Total Receipts	\$589,543	\$680,283	\$584,854
Expenses	\$628,194	\$747,098	\$622,068
Excess Income/ (Expenses)	(\$38,651)	(\$66,815)	(\$37,214)

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 7,759.51
Giving to Other Designated Funds	<u>\$ 9,402.11</u>
Total Giving for the Week	\$ 17,161.62

See Connection Center notebook for details.

September Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$344

To give online, scan here →



SECOND HOME NEWS

THANKSGIVING MEAL

Once again, Second Home is planning a Thanksgiving meal for our families and congregation members who would like to share a meal with us. Our partnership with JMU Campus Kitchen and other generous food donors make it possible to offer this meal free.



If you are willing to donate turkeys, ham, or vegetables, please sign up at the Connection Center or contact Krisztina Szekely (2ndhomedirector@gmail.com or 432-7989).

THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

ELDERCARE SUPPORT GROUP

Meets **TOMORROW 7:00 pm** in the Kairos Room. Contact Jennie Warner (mjwarner1@aol.com or 476-2020) for details.

GO-GO GROUP (55+)

Join us for lunch **THIS Wednesday, November 6, 1:00 pm at Red Lobster.** Contact Dan Werner (433-3912) for details.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Lauren for an in-depth study of the book of Job, beginning **this Wednesday, November 6.** We'll meet Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Nielsen Room. All are welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB

The November selection for the Pastor's Book Club is *Grateful: The Subversive Power of Giving Thanks* by Diana Butler Bass. Pastor Lauren shares: "When I first came across this book, I didn't see the point in reading an entire book about something so simple as giving thanks. But Diana Butler Bass breaks open the spiritual practice of gratitude in a way that truly changed my experience of the world around me. As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving this month, join me in conversation on this surprisingly subversive topic."

Whether you've come to a book club meeting or not, and even if you don't have time to read the book, you're invited to thoughtful conversation and meaningful fellowship together **Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Area.** For more information, contact Pastor Lauren.

"WHEN FAITH HURTS"

Training in Lexington November 12-13

Project Horizon is a domestic violence shelter in Lexington, VA. Victor Vieth will provide a **FREE** two-day training on where faith communities and child abuse and neglect intersect. The event will be held at Lexington Presbyterian Church.

Vieth made a splash in the child advocacy community when he published a paper claiming that we can end child abuse entirely in this country in only three generations. Working with faith communities is one of the steps in making that happen.

If you're interested in attending, contact Pastor Alex (zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496).

BRIDGE OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

The annual Locavore *Love Your Neighbor* event will be **Saturday, November 16, 5:30 pm** (doors open at 5 pm) in the MAC. Please join us to help end family homelessness. Learn more at <https://sites.google.com/view/help-end-family-homelessness/home>.

SECOND HOME FOOD COLLECTION

On the third Sunday each month, we ask you to donate specific items to help provide snacks. For this month, we ask you to donate **applesauce (large cans or individual cups) Sunday, November 17.** Place donations in the designated bin in the Gathering Area. If you wish to help and prefer to make a cash donation, designate "Second Home food" on the memo line of your check and envelope.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR (CONT'D)

TABLE TALKS Human Sexuality

You are invited to join Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex in conversations we're calling "Table Talks." Martin Luther used to host conversations around his dining table about all sorts of topics, and we're hoping to use that model as we gather to discuss issues that affect us as people of faith. **Our first series of Table Talks will be about human sexuality.**

Table Talks will happen around the Harrisonburg/Rockingham area, and over a variety of days and times throughout the fall, so if you're interested in joining in the conversation, you should be able to find a time and place that works for your schedule. **You can sign up for a gathering either at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area, or through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y2x833z3>.** Once you have registered, you'll be sent three articles that we ask all participants to read before attending a Table Talk session.

The goal of Table Talks is to seek greater understanding of various ways the Lutheran tradition has approached tough topics, and to foster relationship and understanding among diverse people in the Muhlenberg community. We hope you'll join us!

Contact Pastor Lauren or Pastor Alex with any questions:

eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org

zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org

434-3496

ANNUAL MEETING

You are invited to...

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation

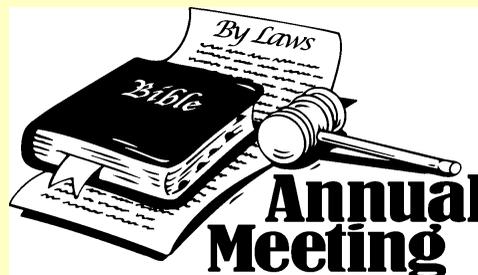
*Sunday, November 17
at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary*

The Purpose of the Meeting:

- † Review and vote on the **2020 Spending Plan for Ministries** (copies available at the Connection Center)
- † **Elect Congregation Council Members***: See today's insert for nominees and bio information.
- † **Elect Treasurer**

**Watch for more
information next week.**

*Plus any nominees from the floor.



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.

The end of daylight savings time means the lights are on longer; replace your incandescent bulbs now and you'll benefit from the energy savings all winter long. CFLs use 75% less energy, last up to 10 times longer, and can save approximately \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb.

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 December and Christmas Eve services**. 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.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE

You may have read in a recent issue of *The Chimes* that some printed information about activities, groups, and ministries linked to Muhlenberg, has been moved from the Connection Center to an acrylic holder near the elevator. Take a moment to look at what is available and ask yourself, “Do I really know what goes on at Muhlenberg?” If a newcomer asked, could you answer questions about some of these programs? Do you know of ways you can be involved – spending your time and talents to help others grow?

The Muhlenberg Mission Endowment Fund is one of the pamphlets available. The Endowment Committee hears all of the time that people weren't even aware this was a choice they could consider as they make financial plans for the future. There are several different ways to donate to the Endowment funds, including estate planning, memorials or by simply placing an allocated check in the offering plate. Take one of the brochures to find out how the Endowment funds are growing, and for what purposes. Have an idea how these funds might be used? Share suggestions with the Committee members named in the brochure.

Be an informed member of our congregation. Share the information with others. Find ways to grow your involvement. Read a pamphlet today!



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Christian Formation and Local & Global Mission ministry teams are offering many opportunities to make your Advent and Christmas a time of sharing with others. By providing these different opportunities, we hope you find one that touches your heart. Another way you and your family can take part is by praying for those who are in need in our world! Contact Diane Bayer (bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org or 434-3496) with any questions about these projects.

ANGEL TREE



ANGEL TREE

We are sponsoring an *Angel Tree*. If you would like to help make this season of giving part of your Advent journey, **please stop by the Caring Corner TODAY** and take an angel from the Angel Tree. **There will be angels designated for Salvation Army, Second Home and Minnick School students.**

Your unwrapped gifts need to be **returned to the tree on Sunday, December 1**. Thank you for sharing.

GOOD GIFTS ADVENT TREE

And Advent Devotional Calendar

Coming soon there will be a small tree in the Caring Corner with ELCA Good Gifts ornaments. The ornaments will have different opportunities to give to World Hunger. Remove an ornament and make a donation to **ELCA World Hunger by visiting ELCA.org/goodgifts**. You can make a general gift by writing a check to Muhlenberg and designating World Hunger in the memo line! Also you can pick up an ELCA World Hunger Advent Devotional Calendar from the Gathering Area.



SENIOR CITIZEN SANTA BAGS

Sponsored by JAMers

On **Sunday December 8**, our JAMers (elementary youth group) will fill Senior Citizen Santa Bags for the Salvation Army. We are offering this as a giving opportunity for the whole congregation. Look for a complete list of items needed at the Connection Center. Bring items to church and place them in the baskets/boxes provided in the Gathering Area **no later than December 8**.



ALTERNATIVE ADVENT



This Advent we are offering an opportunity to do something a bit different as part of your Advent devotions. We have boxes available in the Gathering Area. Pick one up and each day during devotions, put something in the box (a can of soup or vegetables, a bar of soap, a toothbrush or toothpaste, etc.).

The boxes can be **returned December 22 or Christmas Eve**. We will bless the boxes and share them with those in need.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

Devotional calendars and offering boxes are available from the tables in the Gathering Area. Make time each day for devotions as we all prepare and wait for God's most precious gift to be given – His own son Jesus Christ our Lord. Return **offering boxes to the Gathering Area by Christmas Eve**.



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

Contact Pastor Alex Zuber
(434-3496 or zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org)
for more information.

JOIN US!

If you are a college student and haven't joined Lutheran Campus Ministry at Muhlenberg, be sure to contact Pastor Alex today to learn ways you can become involved.

CONFIRMATION/ALPHA TEENS

Contact Pastor Lauren Eanes
(434-3496 or eanes@muhlenberglutheran.org)
for more information.

CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

There will be **no class** for 6th & 7th graders **TODAY or Sunday, December 1**. Plan to attend worship as a family today and join in Adventure Sunday festivities following worship December 1.

LOST AND FOUND!

This VA Synod event for 7th & 8th graders is **November 22-24** at Eagle Eyrie! Registration forms are in the Gathering Area. Please return forms to Pastor Lauren **TODAY!**

JCREW

Contact Clay Arthur
(434-3496 or clay@muhlenberglutheran.org)
for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Meet at 12:15 in the Campus Room for all dates:
TODAY, November 3 - Lunch and Puppy Farm
November 17 - Jcrew lunch and service
December 15 - Trip to Massanutten Waterpark

CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from the Connection Center for details about our opportunities.

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.

CHILD MUSICIANS GRADES K – 5

Parents, if you have a child who can play an instrument, please contact Diane Bayer. We hope to assemble a group to play music as part of the annual Children's Christmas program Sunday evening, December 15. We would like to know how many children can participate and what instrument they play.

Note: The first three Sundays in December, students PreK - 5th grade will be in the MAC practicing for our Christmas Program.

JAMERS

Next Sunday, November 10, 12:45-2:15, we will host a Thanksgiving meal for JAMers and their families. Parents are invited to bring a dish to share. We hope you can join your friends for a time of fun, food and fellowship as we thank God for all his gifts.

*As a way of giving thanks for our blessings, we will collect food items for a **Thanksgiving box** for the clients of **People Helping People** so their families can have a Thanksgiving meal. **We'll collect stuffing mix, instant potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, green beans, corn, etc.** Parents, *please contact Sarah Eppard* (sarah_eppard@merck.com or 298-2055) to let her know what you are bringing and how many will attend, for food planning purposes.*

JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

✠ With great sadness and with great hope in the promise of the resurrection, we continue to mourn the loss of Riley Reich, 16-year-old son of Lori and Steve Reich. Lori and Steve are grateful for the congregation's prayers, but ask that they be granted space to grieve in the coming days. **Instead of a phone call or visit, please feel free to send an email or a card.** A memorial service was held this past Tuesday with more than 600 people in attendance. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Second Home.

✠ *Thank you, people of Muhlenberg, for the many ways you came together to be the church this week, not just for the Reich family, but for the whole community. You embodied Christ's love in so many practical ways, and I am deeply grateful for our partnership in ministry.*

~Pastor Lauren

“BREAD FOR THE DAY”

RESOURCE

Starting January 1, we will discontinue publishing a daily lectionary in *The Chimes*. The appointed daily lessons are listed in our hymnal and devotional booklets will continue to be available in the Gathering Area. If you would like another convenient resource for a Daily Lectionary, contact Pastor Alex by **December 2** to order *Bread For the Day* for 2020. You can use *Bread for the Day* for personal, household, or group devotions. This is the perfect resource for anyone to engage with God's Word on a daily basis, and mark the changing of our church seasons with prayer.

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 Peter 4:12-19 Thu. 2 Cor. 1:1-11
Tue. 1 Peter 5:1-11 Fri. 2 Peter 1:1-11
Wed. Matt. 21:28-32 Sat. John 8:39-47
Sunday: Luke 20:27-38

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 4 - 10, 2019

Mon. 2:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Eldercare Support Group

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
1:00 pm Go-Go Lunch
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Holy Communion
9:30 am Christian Formation
12:45 pm JAMers Thanksgiving Meal

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).