



# 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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**November 8, 2020**

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### WHAT'S THE BUZZ

#### PPP LOAN FORGIVEN!

We are happy to share the great news that our PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan for \$112,000 has been forgiven! We recognize and appreciate the hard work of Treasurer Bill Vance to provide the necessary documentation to accomplish this loan forgiveness.

#### GENEROSITY MATTERS!



Even though we are not yet worshipping and fellowshiping in person, our church continues to serve us and others through new and innovative, albeit different, ways. As we plan for 2021, we ask that you consider what your part will be in continuing and expanding our ministries.

During worship this month, you will hear other church members tell their stories about generosity. You will also receive a 2021 commitment card. We ask that you prayerfully consider expanding your financial generosity as you grow in your relationship with our Lord and in response to God's steadfast love because ... your Generosity Matters!

*Tim Wessel, Chair of the Stewardship Committee*

### TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

#### KENDALL MARIE HOPKINS

##### Baptized, A New Child of God

Welcome Kendall Marie Hopkins, daughter of Katy and Sam Hopkins, into the Body of Christ and the Muhlenberg family! Kendall was baptized Saturday (11/7) and the video will be part of our worship service today. Welcome to the Lord's family, Kendall!



#### 6<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE YOUTH GROUP AND BIBLE STUDY

Middle school Bible study & youth group confirmation experience is off to a great start! All 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to attend these outdoor, socially distant events at Hillandale Park, pavilion 1:

**TODAY, November 8, 1:00-3:00 pm**

**November 22, 2:00-4:00 pm** (note time change)

**December 6, 1:00-3:00 pm**

#### FALL SCHEDULE

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

## 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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class  
9:30 – 10:00 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 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:

10/25	8:30 Communion	17
	11:00 Total Live Views	106
	Total Views this Week	491
	Hours Viewed this Week	157.8
11/1	8:30 Communion	19
	11:00 Total Live Views	85
	4:00 All Saints Concert	
	In-person/Live Views	18/42

### 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
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$6,294)</b>	<b>(\$45,198)</b>	<b>(\$38,652)</b>

\* Includes \$12,331.53 – federal PPP proceeds

Giving in support of our Spending Plan	\$ 5,121.00
Giving to Other Designated Funds	\$ 19,751.70
<b>Total Giving for the Week</b>	<b>\$ 24,872.70</b>

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.

## TODAY AT MUHLENBERG (CONT'D)

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

#### Dedication Today



Thanks to everyone who responded to the recent survey to gauge interest in Muhlenberg's participation in a faith build with Habitat for Humanity. The responses indicated strong interest and Council has approved our participation.

There will be a groundbreaking dedication **TODAY (11/8), 3:00 pm at 658 Virginia Avenue**. Pastor Alex will provide the invocation, and members of the congregation are invited to attend. COVID safety procedures will be in place.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity, visit [centralvalleyhabitat.org](http://centralvalleyhabitat.org). If you're interested in helping with the build or have questions, contact Diane Bayer ([bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org)) or Karen Thomsen ([kethomsen25@gmail.com](mailto:kethomsen25@gmail.com)).

## THIS WEEK

### MINISTRIES NIGHT

**Monday Evening, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

Join us via [Zoom](#) Monday (11/9) evening – all are welcome! You may also join us by phone:  
Meeting ID: 833 4118 0538  
One tap mobile  
+13126266799,,83341180538#

### WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesdays at 10:30 am**, participants study the Narrative Lectionary text for the upcoming Sunday. All are welcome to join via [ZOOM](#) using the following link:

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

### HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

**Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**

Led from the sanctuary by Music Ministry Accompanist Linlin Uta and a rotating slate of singers, including the pastors, this service is livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

The service will be recorded and available to view any time. **Note: This week we welcome a guest worship leader, Pastor Melissa May.**

### ADULT SMALL GROUP STUDY

**Begins this Thursday**

You are invited to participate in a 4-week study, *For Such a Time as This*, exploring Biblical leadership wisdom for today's communities. Sessions include:

- Wilderness Voices: John the Baptist as Way-Making Leader
- Leading from a Tent: Wa(o)ndering Leadership
- Do You Hear What I Hear: Mary as Singing Leader
- Home By Another Way: Magi as Wise Leaders

This study, created by Dr. Jill Crainshaw of Wake Forest Divinity School, will be facilitated by Muhlenberg member Kathy Thompson. We'll meet via Zoom, **Thursdays at 7 pm, November 12 & 19, December 3 & 10**. Contact Kathy ([thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)) for more information or to sign up.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### PASTORS' BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 pm

We will 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. Please join us via [ZOOM](#) Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82701657853?pwd=NWFXZVhnVGdEYlZ5dzRCSjNVQzIzQT09>

*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!*

### LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found is Virginia Synod's annual weekend faith-formation retreat for 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth and adult leaders. This year we will gather online for large group experiences with singing, skits and fun, and small group experiences with new friends, lots of games, conversation, and faith sharing! The event will take place from **6:00 pm Friday, Nov. 20 through 7:30 pm Saturday, Nov. 21**. Register online: <https://www.vasynod.org/event/lost-and-found/>.

### ADVENT-URE SUNDAY

Advent-ure Sunday has been part of Muhlenberg's Advent season for more than 20 years! Christian Formation invites everyone to join us, **Sunday, December 13, 4:00 pm in the parking lot**. We will hear from St. Nicholas and have family craft activity bags to take home. Greenery will be available for you to clip and use in your Advent wreath.



For more information, contact Diane Bayer ([bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Members are invited to a virtual Annual Meeting of the Congregation Sunday, November 22, 12:15 pm via [Zoom](#). The Purpose of the Meeting:

- † **Review and vote on the 2021 Spending Plan for Ministries** (available for download [HERE](#), or hard copies are available in the Muhlenberg pick-up box)
- † **Elect Congregation Council Members:** Nominees are Cathy Copeland, Joe Grandstaff, Kevin Stees, and Bruce Hamilton (bios available in next week's issue of *The Chimes* and on our website)

~see next page for participation instructions~

# ANNUAL MEETING PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

## Virtual Annual Meeting of the Congregation *Sunday, November 22 at 12:15 pm via [ZOOM](#)*

### **STEP 1: ZOOM DOWNLOAD / PHONE OPTION**

First, download the Zoom app. Go to <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the prompts for installation, as with any downloaded program. Click [HERE](#) for a video tutorial about Zoom.

If you can't download the app, you can always join by phone. Call the number below 5 minutes before the meeting and provide additional information as prompted:

**1-929-205-6099** (Meeting ID: **857 5211 9470** Passcode: **038184**)

### **STEP 2: ATTENDING THE MEETING**

Once Zoom is downloaded, you're ready to attend the meeting:

- The meeting is on Sunday November 22 at 12:15 pm. Please logon approx. 5 minutes before the meeting by clicking [HERE](#) or this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85752119470?pwd=OWthTGUxWXIweDV5dDF6NWRRYjVKUT09>
- Follow the prompts to run Zoom, and then wait for the meeting host to let you in. If, for some reason, Zoom doesn't open, you can always open Zoom manually, select "Join a meeting" and enter this 11-digit Meeting Code: **857 5211 9470**. You will also need to enter the passcode: **038184**
- Once you are admitted by the host, select "Join with computer audio"
- For this meeting, you will be separated into different "breakout rooms" (small groups) for member voting. This will happen automatically – there's nothing you need to do. Each breakout room will have a moderator. For voting, please follow the instructions of the moderator so votes can be accurately tallied. You will then be automatically sent back to the main meeting room.

### **STEP 3: ZOOM ETIQUETTE**

- To assist moderators, edit your name on Zoom to include the names of all voting members in your home. Click [HERE](#) for a video tutorial that includes instructions on name editing.
- Mute your audio (click on the "Mute" option) until you are asked to unmute for voting, etc.
- Make sure video is turned on so the host can see you and know you're still logged in.

### **QUESTIONS/MORE INFORMATION:**

- If you have questions about Zoom **before the meeting**, please **contact Communication Minister Christian Perritt** at [perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org) or **540-810-3996**.
- **On the day of the meeting**, **Bill Wightman** is available for support at **540-435-6868**.
- Visit our website at <https://www.muhlenberglutheran.org/congregationalmeeting.html> for meeting materials and additional 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](mailto:rsanders97@verizon.net).



Before you car shop, consider your choices. Every year, new vehicle models enter the marketplace offering energy-efficiency options and environmental benefits. Check [www.biggreenpurse.com](http://www.biggreenpurse.com) for updates on the most fuel efficient, earth-friendly vehicles available.

### CROSSES & LINKS

The names of saints past and present adorn the sanctuary 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 crosses and links were featured in worship November 1 — click [HERE](#) for the worship video. The collection will be displayed through Sunday, December 6.

## MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Contact Music Minister [Elizabeth Williams](#) for more information.

### ADULT CHOIRS

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

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

### CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

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

## REMINDERS

### PASTORAL CARE

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

### 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!

### LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

**Hurricanes devastate** the areas they hit. 100% of gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response go directly to aid in disaster relief. Ways to give:

- **Online:** [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org).
- **Phone:** 800-638-3522 (Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00 Central Time) .
- **Mail:** make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response, designate *Hurricane Relief* and send to ELCA, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.
- **Offering:** make checks payable to Muhlenberg and designate Lutheran *Disaster Response*.
- **Via Thrivent:** Thrivent members can direct Choice Dollars to Disaster Relief and/or make a personal donation that will be matched by Thrivent. Visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) Disaster Response for details.



## 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@muhlenbergglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenbergglutheran.org) or 434-3496) with any questions about these projects.

### ANGEL TREE



ANGEL TREE

We plan to again sponsor an *Angel Tree* for the Salvation Army. Because of COVID, the needs are great. To participate, choose an “angel” from “Angel Envelope” in the pick-up/drop-off box outside the Gathering Area. Complete instructions are included with each angel.

### CHRISTMAS SOCKS

Fill a **pair** of dark socks with things like...

- water flavoring powder packets**
- tissues**
- toothpaste/tooth brushes**
- crackers, granola**
- hand warmers**
- soap, shampoo, lip balm**
- bus tickets**
- gift cards to local food shops, etc.**

**Tie the pair of filled socks together** and return should be returned to church **December 6 or 13 during 4:00 pm parking lot** events. Filled socks may be placed in the pick-up/drop-off box outside the Gathering Area before December 13. If your sock contains bus tickets, gift cards, or other valuable items, contact Diane Bayer for instructions.



### SENIOR CITIZEN SANTA BAGS

Sponsored by JAMers

The JAMers offer this service opportunity every year for the whole congregation. The following items will be collected:

- shampoo**
- toothbrushes/tooth paste**
- combs/brushes**
- body lotion**
- soap**
- hand sanitizer**
- tissues**
- hot chocolate**
- popcorn**
- snack crackers**
- stamps, envelopes & greeting cards**



Bins for collection of these items will be available at the 4:00 parking lot events **Sundays December 6 & 13.**

### ALTERNATIVE ADVENT...



An opportunity to do something a bit different as part of your Advent devotions. Pick up a box **Sunday, December 6 at 4:00** during our Advent-ure Sunday parking lot activity.

Each day during devotions, put something in the box (e.g. a canned good, a bar of soap, a toothbrush or toothpaste, etc.).

The boxes should be **returned Christmas Eve** and placed on the table outside the Muhlenberg Activities Center.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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

### JAMERS

Meet at Westover Park, Pavilion #2 **Sunday, November 22, 4:00 pm.** Masks will be worn and we will social distance as we roast hot dogs and marshmallows and play some JAMers games. We look forward to seeing you there!

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MUSICIANS

Parents, if you have a child/youth who can play an instrument, please contact Diane Bayer **now** (no later than November 22). We want to include musical pieces in the Children's Christmas program airing Sunday, December 20.

## 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](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors and editor.*

✝ We learned this week of the deaths of members Landon and Frances Walker. Landon died October 30, and Frances preceded him in death August 15. The couple lived at the Bridgewater Retirement Community and celebrated their 74<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary August 3. Mt. Zion Lutheran Church was their church home for many years, and a graveside service was/will be conducted there for immediate family.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

November 9-15

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

- Mon. 2:00 pm** Weekly Staff Meeting  
**7:00 pm** Ministries Night via [ZOOM](#)
- Tue. 5:00 pm** Tweens and Teens  
**5:30 pm** Children's Choir  
**6:30 pm** Celebration Singers
- Wed. 10:30 am** Wed. Morning Bible Study  
**7:00 pm** Holden Evening Prayer  
via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)  
**7:00 pm** Sanctuary Choir
- Thu. 7:00 pm** Small Group Study  
**8:00 pm** Muhlenberg Young Families  
via [ZOOM](#)
- Sun. [Sunday am ZOOM link](#)**  
**8:30 am** Communion Service  
**9:00 am** "Coffee Hour" begins  
**8:30 am** Communion Service  
**9:00 am** "Coffee Hour" begins  
**9:30 am** K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class  
**9:30 am** 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org)/434-3496)*

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