# Announcements September 24, 2023

**Help avoid conflicts.** Since activities at the church are back to normal, check with staff before scheduling an event to be held at the church. Also, appointments are requested for staff members.

A Capital Funds Campaign is underway. Help NHELC raise \$74,000 for the HVAC and AVEL systems. Specially marked envelopes are available on the desk in the welcome center for your contribution. For more information, contact the church office at 610-326-1335.

# **Today**

**The bulletin and flowers** are sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of John. O. Karns by his family.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of their church family by the Wesners.

**Serving Today** Head Usher: Ed Becker; Ushers: Steve Weidner and Elfriede Ilik; Lector: London Meeker; Children's Sermon: Ariel Hansley; Acolyte: Ron Fegley

**Serving Next Sunday** Head Usher: Marty Hauser; Ushers: Bill Tracey and Sharon Tracey; Lector: Ron Fegley; Children's Sermon: Nikki Young; Acolyte: Norm Hunsberger; Communion Assistants: Carolyn Fleming and Nikki Young

**Altar Guild Serving this Month** Lynn Fegley, Vicki Dotterer, Becky Gallagher and Sharon Wise

Thank you for your Harvest Home donations this morning.

Adult Study Forum – The Phoenix Affirmation begins today in room 33 following the service. What is It? - The twelve Affirmations express a more traditional, inclusive, and expansive role for Christianity. The Affirmations say that, as Jesus teaches us, our Christian love should be expressed in three ways: by loving God, neighbor, and self.

The public face of Christianity in America today bears little connection to the historic faith of our ancestors. It represents even

less our own faith as Christians who continue to celebrate the gifts of our Creator, revealed, and embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Heartened by our experience of the transforming presence of Christ's Holy Spirit in our world, we find ourselves in a time and place where we will be no longer silent. We hereby mark an end to our silence by making the following affirmations:

As people who are joyfully and unapologetically Christian, we pledge ourselves completely to the way of Love. We work to express our love, as Jesus teaches us, in three ways: by loving God, neighbor, and self.

Join us each Sunday as we explore what it means to love God, love neighbor, and love thyself.

#### Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, portico JAM – Today, 10:15 AM, room 21 Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary Kids' Choir Rehearsal – Today, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15

**Cub Scouts** – Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, rooms 1, 14, 21-23, 27, 31, 33

**Boy Scouts** – Tuesday, 6:30 PM, picnic grove **Mission Service** – Tuesday, 7:00 PM, offsite

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup –Wednesday, 1:30 PM, portico Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32 Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:15 PM, room 15

**Troop 367 Committee** – Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, room 33

**100 Days to Brave Challenge** – Thursday, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, room 29

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15

Worship Service - Next Sunday, 9:00 AM sanctuary and online

Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, portico JAM – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 21 Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary Kids' Choir Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15

Cub Scouts – Next Sunday, 6:30 PM, room 1

# **Upcoming Events**

**Staff Appreciation Fellowship Hour** Gather in in Fellowship Hall, on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the church service to show your support for the NHELC staff. The fellowship committee will host this event to honor all of our staff for their hard work and service.

# The Sky is the Limit! Men's Retreat Saturday, October 14th, 9 AM - 8 PM

Come join us as we take off in our faith, and the sky is the limit. Highlights include bus transportation, the General Spaatz (First Chief of Staff - Air force) Museum Tour, the Mid Atlantic Air Museum Tour, Group Bible Studies, a Brewery Tour, lunch at Klinger's Restaurant and Dinner at the Saucony Creek Brewing Company.

The price of admission to the museums will be \$20.00 total. Cost of the meals is on your own. Sign up at

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-thesky

Information for the museums can be found at <a href="https://www.maam.org/">https://www.maam.org/</a> and <a href="https://www.spaatzmuseum.org/">https://www.spaatzmuseum.org/</a>. For questions contact Pastor Scott at <a href="psstaub@gmail.com">psstaub@gmail.com</a> or Jim Davidheiser at <a href="mailto:jimindeed@comcast.net">jimindeed@comcast.net</a> to register.





**Senior Faith Gatherings** This fall we will have monthly senior ministry gatherings. First we need a name for the group, because,

what is a senior anyway? The monthly gatherings will have a topic, featured speaker and fellowship time. Currently, topics include a kick-off gathering with a luncheon, hymn sing and fellowship. The next gatherings will include organizing your vital information in one packet (so your loved ones can easily find the information they need in times of emergency (no matter how scattered they are )), and a session on downsizing one's living area. We all from time to time accumulate "stuff." This session will be like a trip planner where we address each area of our "stuff" one at a time to accomplish whatever goal we set. With each gathering, of course there will be refreshments and social time. Contact Pastor Scott if you wish to help with these gatherings. Contact Pastor Scott is you have any questions and look in the bulletin or website for posted dates in the near future.

The NHELC Book Club is reading *The Paper Palace* by Miranda Cowley Heller. All are welcome to meet and discuss this book on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM at Plaza Azteca in Boyertown. If you have any questions, contact Sharon Tracey.

**Inclusive and safe ministries** Join us for our 5<sup>th</sup> annual In God's Image event on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, at Upper Dublin Lutheran Church with keynote speaker Pastor Noah Hepler! In God's Image is a day-long (9-2) program of worship, workshops, conversation, and resources. Sponsored by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, this is sure to be a great day. Folks from all over the region — Lutheran and non-Lutheran, church "professionals" and those who just want to know more — will gather at Upper Dublin to share their experiences, learn about ministry potentials in their contexts, and share joys and concerns about inclusive and expansive ministry. It is the aim of this event to equip those who are passionate about ministry for and with LGBTQIA+ folks in their congregation, their families, their workplaces to be able to reach out in love and support for their beloved. Sign up in the welcome center. Contact Sharon Tracey at lbd36@aol.com for more information. Thank you.

**A Wave of Light service** will be held on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM for the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. This service will be held outdoors (weather

permitting). If you know someone who has been touched by such a loss, invite the person to join us. Watch for further details in the bulletin and on Facebook. Contact Nikki Young with any questions.

Pumpkin Frolic will be held on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in fellowship hall. Come join the fun of pumpkin related activities including pumpkin decorating, fall crafts, scavenger hunt, games and snacks. Participants will be painting pumpkins, not carving them for safety purposes. Pumpkins and paint will be provided. This is a Thrivent Action team service project. There is no charge for this event; however, please bring some nonperishable food for Preston's Pantry at Boyertown Multi-Service. Signup on the designated sheet on the welcome center desk or at

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-pumpkin1. To be sure there will be enough pumpkins for those attending, sign up by October 16<sup>th</sup>.

## For Sale

**Do you need a lawn tractor?** The Cemetery committee is selling a 2007 John Deere 300R 17 HP tractor with a 42" cut. The tractor logged 640.4 hours. The asking price is \$1,000.00 or best offer. If you're interested or would like more information, contact Norm Hunsberger at 484-431-3622.

# You Can Help

**Dreaming of being a TV producer/director?** Sign up with Amy to learn how you can produce and direct our weekly worship service. The sessions will be scheduled for two hours at a time so you can learn and practice using the equipment. There are two spots or one family spot available per training session. Upcoming sessions include: Tues., September 26<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM; Sun., October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10 - Noon (after worship) and Tues., October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 - 8 PM. Additional dates and times will be available.

All Dates are subject to change. Check for a signup Genius at www.newhanoverlutheran.org.

**Volunteers are needed** to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

**NEEDED:** Gently used children's books for ages Newborn to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. "Mother Goose: Read to Me" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting very early literacy with infants and their parents. Experienced volunteers distribute free, age-appropriate books to infants, birth to 18 months, and demonstrate to parents effective ways of talking and reading to babies to help build vocabulary skills. The gently used books are given to the older siblings of the newborn children. Unfortunately, we cannot distribute religious related books. Thank you for your help! Drop off your donations in the box in the Welcome Center. Any questions, contact Marcia Tonkin, "Mother Goose: Read to Me" volunteer at tonkin.3028@comcast.net or 610-220-6018.

# **Food Ministry**

More than 160,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations in the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/.

# Pastor Scott and congregation,

I want to thank you for visiting my mother Joan in the hospital when she was ill with COVID. It was comforting and I really appreciated it. It was also a huge blessing for her to receive the delivered meals. She isn't up to cooking much and makes it so much easier for her.

With love, Susan Grebe

# **Spiritual Renewal**

Need a prayer lifted up? The **NHELC Prayer Chain Ministry** is here for you. All information remains confidential. To request a prayer, contact Pastor Scott at psstaub@gmail.com or call the church office 610-326-1335 to leave him a voice mail. Your prayers will be delivered!

**Prayer Warriors Wanted** You are invited to join the warriors on Mondays at 1:15 PM in the sanctuary. Participants join in a brief devotion and then pray together. They give thanks and then lift up in prayers neighbors both near and far. See Donna Kehs or Marsha Staub if you have any questions.

# 100 Days to Brave Challenge

## **Counting up the Cost**

With the calendar turning its pages to the first day of September, we've officially begun the kickoff into the busiest time of the year. With school in session, holidays fast approaching, and life moving at a pace that seems almost foreign to the fall of past pandemic years, it's a time of year when we can tend to pack our schedules to the brim. And with this year's calendar looking much different than the blank pages of last Septembers, it can be tempting to want to make up for everything we lacked last year, to get back to every tradition, and to make every memory. But, what cost are we willing to pay to make this fall a "successful" one?

Ruth Chou Simons shared a message that has long stuck with us, and we can't think of a better time to soak up her words about the grace of Jesus. Instead of entering into this season through the lens of striving and seeking to do or be all things to all people, we can, Ruth says, "redefine success as faithfulness to God through the means of grace." We can be both faithful and successful, if only we let our definition of success come from the Gospel of Jesus, rather than the gospel of self-improvement. Ephesians 2:8-10 says, For by grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are God's workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. That truth is all we really need to know to move forward into October. We have been created for good works, and it is not because of anything we have done in the past; God has given us good works to do simply because God wants us to participate in God's grand design for eternity.

But are we missing the things God has for us because we're too focused on our own, frantic agendas? Whether this new month finds you anxiously spiraling in your mind because you're already overwhelmed at the thought of the months to come, or you're worried that you're not doing enough and need to be a better parent, spouse, coworker, child, sibling, or friend, let the truth of the Gospel wash over you today. Jesus has good works for us to do, but our identity is found only in the abundance of God's glorious grace. Let us count up the cost of our souls, and, instead, find all of our wealth in the cross.

#### Question 1

Do you feel like you are prone to strive for success? What does that look like in your life?

## Question 2

What does grace mean to you? When have you experienced grace in your life?

#### Ouestion 3

How can you rest in God' grace instead of striving for it?

#### Question 4

What good works might God be calling you to do as you receive His grace?

#### Question 5

Looking at your month ahead, where do you feel like you might be prone to striving? Is there a cost you're paying to fulfill each of your current roles?

#### Question 6

What does God's grace mean to you? How can you let His grace shape how you spend your time?

#### Question 7

What would faithfulness to God look like in this season?

## **Question 8**

Who can you give the grace of Jesus to this month?



Reconciling in Christ (RIC) is a program of Reconciling Works, an independent Lutheran organization that works collaboratively with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The purpose of the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program is to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all

sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; work for racial equity and commit to anti-racist work and support the national program.

The RIC program is not a certification or a designation of the ELCA. It is a voluntary program that congregations can choose to participate in. Congregations that participate in the RIC program are listed on the Reconciling Works website and are provided with resources to help them become more welcoming and inclusive communities.

# **Prayer Requests**

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Tina

Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Grieving: family and friends of Paige Longstreth

Military: Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle Woods

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Katy Mahon-Miller Matt Hall Toni Rath Luann Hanley William Trotter Carol Estes Kathy Kane Maxwell Girard Pat Fryer Jean Renninger Betty Lou Shadle Pr. Kork Mover Julia Hauck Tony Mancini Raul Castro Amy LeVan Jeffrey Kunsch Wilma Lahr Bernadette Phillips Jim Price Melissa Mary Lou Doug Weaver Joan Wagner Robert Ganovsky Dorothy Bingaman **Emily Ocelus** Eric & Wendy Hess Sue Care Deb Matthews Marceline Anne Eshleman Daniel Johnson Chris Fatzinger Hank Droneberg Pena family Kim Frain Jen Perez Frank D. Pam Helfrich Barb & Tom Faust Andy Van Dyke Janet Pam Abbott Holli Muffler Mary Van Dyke Pr. Jennifer Phelps Louise Karns Jessica Trout **Denny Smith** Verdi Smith Sandy Wesner Mabel Gaugler Helen Foulke Carla Hausmann Joan Price Rodney Snell Ruth Clemmer Betty Seroski Ralph Borneman Lucille Powell Virginia Specht Bill Lowry Tom Fleagle Mary Alice Mack Jeffrey Weems Joan Scheffey Arnold Amundsen

## **New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2941 Lutheran Road Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM - 2 PM Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment

Contact Information
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psstaub@gmail.com

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Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org

Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Grace Band Director, Lindsey Waltermyer goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

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Čemetery

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