

Announcements

December 17, 2023

Today

Congratulations to Margo “Maggie” James Soupik, who will be baptized this morning. Margo’s sponsors are Keith and Lindsey Miller.

Meet the Soupik Family — Jamie, Alyssa, Lainey and Maggie. We are neighbors of the church on Swamp Picnic Road, and have been attending the picnics, worship and J.A.M. Jamie is a carpenter and enjoys hunting, fishing and sports. Alyssa is a teacher and enjoys arts and crafts and reading. Lainey and Maggie attend J.A.M. (Jesus and Me). Their extended family includes two dogs, three cats and fish. We look forward to meeting our new church family and invite you to introduce yourself.

The bulletin is sponsored to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, sister, brother, nephew and in-laws by Nancy Wolfe.

The flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of Fred Smith by his family.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of Steve’s mother’s 85th birthday by Steve and Faye Weidner.

Serving Today Head Usher: Todd Rothermel; Ushers: Stacey Rothermel and Nate Ewing; Lector: Harry White; Children’s Sermon: Pastor Scott; Acolyte: Ava Hubley

Serving Next Sunday 9:00 Head Usher: Ron Fegley; Usher: Faye Weidner; Lector: Ron Fegley; Acolyte: Faye Weidner

4:00 Head Usher: Steve Weidner; Ushers: Marty Hauser, George Trowbridge and Rick Solazzo; Lector: Miller Quigley; Children’s Sermon: Nikki Young; Acolyte: London Meeker; Communion Assistants: Donna Kehs and Nikki Young

8:00 Head Usher: Barbar Repa; Ushers: Bill Allen and Brian Flack; Lector: Erica Lucas; Acolyte: Elsa Lucas; Communion Assistants: Carolyn Fleming and Marsha Staub

Altar Guild Serving this Month Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart and Marsha Staub

Check out this year's Christmas Pageant following the worship service this morning in Fellowship Hall. This year's pageant is a *Stellar Christmas* and will include some of the music from VBS in addition to some Christmas music. It will be out of this world!

An Old-Fashioned Christmas Caroling Event will be held this afternoon, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Gather your friends and family members for a fun and uplifting time, singing favorite and beloved Christmas carols to our NHELCC homebound members. Carolers will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 PM to plan the routes and pick up the goodie bags prepared at the Advent Social. After caroling, we will return to the church to enjoy some cookies and hot cocoa. Caroling is a wonderful opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer. Contact Director of Music Ministry Patricia Nyce or Jean Moser (610-367-0342) with any questions about the caroling.

The Nursery room is now open. It is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during worship services as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment, toys and books included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Update your information NHELCC is preparing a new directory with member names, addresses, phone numbers and family picture. To ensure accuracy, the information we currently have on file is available on Sundays in the Welcome Center and in front of the stage in Fellowship Hall. We ask you to review and update your family's information at one of these locations. If you cannot check your records in person and for you to submit your family photo, contact Nance White at 610-741-7977 or Nance2237@yahoo.com.

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

Christmas Pageant – Today, 10:15 AM, room 1
Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary
Christmas Caroling – Today, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, offsite, room 1
Rejoicing Spirits – Today, 2:00 – 4:00 PM, room 1, Welcome Center and Sanctuary

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary
Cub Scouts – Monday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, room 1

Walnut Woods Service – Tuesday, 10:00 AM
Boy Scouts – Tuesday, 6:30 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen
Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:30 PM, portico
Loaves & Fishes Dinner – Wednesday, 5:45 PM
Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32
Brass Ensemble Rehearsal - Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, room 15

Altar Guild Set-up – Thursday, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and Welcome Center

Bell Choir Rehearsal – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15
Council – Thursday, 7:00 PM, room 33

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM sanctuary and online
Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen
Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Next Sunday, 4:00 PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Next Sunday, 8:00 PM

Walnut Woods Christmas Worship/Carol Sing Along for All Ages Join in the festivities with residents at Walnut Woods Apartments on Tuesday, December 19th, at 10:00 AM for a Carol Sing along and Worship. The facility is located at 35 N. Walnut St., Boyertown, PA 19512. Call Pastor Scott if you have any questions at 610-326-1335, ext. 1. Peace and see you there!

Upcoming Events

Sponsors are needed for both Christmas trees in the sanctuary and one tree in the Welcome Center. Sponsors may be individuals, families or groups. You may sponsor one, two or all three trees! If you are interested, contact Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at 610-326-1335. Thank you in advance for your help to beautify the sanctuary and Welcome Center this Christmas.

Longest Night NHELCC is working with St. James Pottstown to host a Longest Night Labyrinth and Prayer Walk on **Thursday, December 21st**. The event will be held at St. James Lutheran Church at 1101 E. Hight St. in Pottstown. The labyrinth will be available from 5 – 9 PM. This is open house style. Come when you can and leave at your will. A labyrinth is a path of prayer and is for all ages. Unlike a maze, a labyrinth has no dead ends and there are no choices to make. There is one path to the center. Walking the labyrinth is a prayer one does with the whole body. It provides a three-fold process of experiencing God. More instruction will be provided at the Labyrinth Walk. Other options will be available for those who have difficulty walking the labyrinth.

Ample parking is available at the rear of the church. An elevator and stairs are available for entering the building. Nikki Young will be present during the event. Contact Nikki with any questions.

Live nativity brings the Christmas story to life! You can be a part of the live nativity during the 9:00 AM worship service on Christmas Eve day. Sign up today and witness the Christmas story through the eyes of one of those from biblical past who observed the birth of our Savior. A sign-up sheet is available on the desk in the welcome center. Hurry. There's a limited number of open cast positions.

The NHELCC Book Club is reading *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan. You are invited to join in the discussion of this book on Tuesday, February 6th, at 6:30 PM at the Plaza Azteca in Greshville. Any questions, contact Sharon Tracey.

Swamp Picnic Committee Soup Sale is Sunday, January 21st, following the morning worship service. Soup can be purchased in

Fellowship Hall or at the kitchen door for drive up service. This year's selections are: vegetable barley, chicken pot pie and ham and bean. The suggested donation is \$9 a quart.

Help Resources

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. Check out the websites below and the resources they have to offer. NAMI has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups.

Contact Information

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 and is available Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text "Helpline" to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

Website References

www.NAMI.org National Alliance on Mental Illness

www.ddap.pa.gov Department Drug and Alcohol Prevention

www.nimh.nih.org National Institute of Mental Health

Grieving/Wellness Online Support

<https://grateful.org/welcome/>

You Can Help

Readers are needed for the Lessons and Carols service on Sunday, December 31st. A sign-up sheet is available on the desk in the Welcome Center for those who would like to participate in this service.

Thrivent members get free money they can use to help NHELCC programs.

Thrivent Action Teams

Did you know Thrivent members receive free of charge two (2) \$250.00 gifts a year to help our church? For details and help to do this, contact Pastor Scott at psstaub@gmail.com, or call him at 610-326-1335 ext. 1, or logon if you know how to do it alone at

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams>.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

You may also be given free Choice Dollars directly to the church! Simply go onto your account and search for choice dollars at <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>. You can make a personal donation to New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church and Thrivent pays the processing fees. It's that simple!

Again, contact Pastor Scott if you have any questions or need help navigating the sign-ups.

If not a Thrivent member, you may still donate directly to these ministries. Go to newhanoverlutheran.org to donate, serve or learn more about these ministries.

Wanted: Assistant Caretaker for Cemetery Duties consist of taking care of cemetery and church grounds, helping with maintaining equipment and assisting with funerals. If interested in this position, contact Norm Hunsberger at 484-431-3622 or nhunsberger29@gmail.com.

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. **A sign-up Genius is available at www.newhanoverlutheran.org.** **All Dates are subject to change.**

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.

Food Ministry

Ham Donation for Christmas Meals Chef Chris is asking for ham donations. Drop the hams off during the office hours of 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We are excited to help with additional meals served to the homeless veterans this year as well as our daily 150

people in need. Please donate a ham if you can. Peace and thank you!

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/>.

Christmas Eve Worship

NHELC offers three worship services on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th. Invite your family and friends to join you in worshipping at NHELC this Christmas Eve.

9:00 AM Service

Features a live nativity

4:00 PM Service

Candlelight Christmas Eve worship

8:00 PM Service

Candlelight Christmas Eve worship

Special music will begin at 7:30 PM

NHELC Grief Share Group to Begin in January

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful process. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Over 13 weeks, you'll find relief and comfort as you learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate your personal grief process.

Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; how to recognize what's normal in grief; and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

At a weekly GriefShare meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion for sharing, support, and personal application of what you learned on the video.

You will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating your personal grieving process. We ask for a \$20 registration fee to cover the cost of the book. Scholarships are available.

Please join us: Wednesdays, beginning January 17th – we will have off the week of March 7th and conclude April 17th (Any cancellations due to weather will be added at the end).

Feel free to contact Nikki Young at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org or by calling the church office (leave a message if I am unavailable) or visit griefshare.org, if you have questions or would like more information. You can register here <http://www.griefshare.org/groups/180046/registrations/new> or speak to Nikki.

Prayer Requests

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Tina Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Grieving: the family and friends of Beverly Kehs (Donna and Charlie Kehs' sister-in-law/sister)

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

Toni Rath	Katy Mahon-Miller	Matt Hall
Luann Hanley	Carol Estes	William Trotter
Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer
Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer	Betty Lou Shadle
Julia Hauck	Tony Mancini	Raul Castro
Amy LeVan	Jeffrey Kunsch	Wilma Lahr
Melissa	Bernadette Phillips	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	Louise Karns
Mary Van Dyke	Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Jessica Trout
Denny Smith	Verdie Smith	Mabel Gaugler
Sandy Wesner	Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann
Joan Price	Rodney Snell	Betty Seroski
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Virginia Specht
Bill Lowry	Tom Fleagle	Mary Alice Mack
Jeffrey Weems	Joan Scheffey	Arnold Amundsen
Chuck Beck	Diane DeLong	

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

Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young

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Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall

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Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce

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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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Sexton, Jen Boyer

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Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer

mariaboyer@comcast.net

Cemetery

Norm Hunsberger, nhunsberger29@gmail.com

