

Announcements

August 17, 2025

Today

The bulletin is presented to the glory of God and in honor of her granddaughter Cora's seventh birthday, by Corrine Bartholomew.

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of London Meeker's 17th birthday by his parents, Megan and Christopher, and his sister, Malaina.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Marlene Hansley.

Today: Head Usher: Todd Rothermel, Usher: Stacey Rothermel, Lector: Stacey Rothermel, Children's Sermon: Ariel Hansley, Acolyte: Charlotte Moser

Next Sunday Head Usher: Jim Gross, Usher: Brian Flack, Lector: Maddie Hansley, Children's Sermon: Lindsey Waltermeyer, Acolyte: Alexa Moser

Altar Guild members serving this month: Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart, Corrine Bartholomew and Judy Sloan.

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

Doors leading to fellowship hall and the education wing remain locked during the worship service for the safety of all.

This Week

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, kitchen door

Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 10:15 AM, sanctuary

Rejoicing Spirits: Today, 2:30 – 4:00 PM, room 1 and sanctuary

AARP – Monday, 11:00 AM, room 1

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Donna Landis Funeral – Tuesday, 10:00 AM

Scouts BSA Troop 367 – Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:15 PM, picnic grove

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:00 PM, kitchen door

Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 21

Council – Thursday, 6:30 PM, room 14

Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, room 21

The Great Swamp Picnic – Saturday, 4:00 – 8:00 PM picnic grove

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, kitchen door

Reception – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 1

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, sanctuary

The Great Swamp Picnic, a 100+ year tradition, is an annual gathering for NHELCA members as well as the community. This year's picnic will be held on **Saturday, August 23rd, from 4:00 - 8:00 PM**. Lots of food and fun for all! Hot roast beef sandwiches, pulled pork sandwiches, grilled chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, French fries, kettle soups, ice cream and more! Free kids games and music by the **Boyertown Area Alumni Band**.

We need your help! Lots of volunteer opportunities are available leading up to and on the day of the picnic:

Friday, August 22nd, for set up at 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 23rd, for final set up at 9:00 AM

If you are willing to help, contact Sally Sugita at 610-505-9682.

Calling all bakers! We need your help! Consider making and donating a cake or pie. Attendees of the picnic always enjoy an amazing selection of delicious pies and cakes. You can drop off your donation at the Grove on Friday evening at 6:00 PM or anytime on Saturday, August 23rd, beginning at 9:00 AM.

The picnic grove is located on Swamp Picnic Road between Rt. 663 and Lutheran Road. So mark the date, August 23rd, on your calendar and we will see you there!

Upcoming Event

Backpack Blessing is next Sunday, August 24th. Calling all students, teachers and school staff: Join us for worship at 9:00 AM for our backpack blessing. Students and teachers/school staff can bring their backpack or work bag for a blessing as we prepare to head back to school.

The Rev. David Pflieger, past member, current ELCA pastor, 1st Troop 367 Eagle Scout and soon to celebrate his 60-year Ordination will be the guest preacher on Sunday, August 24th. Pastor Pflieger's preaching will be part of NHELCS's 325th anniversary preaching series. A fellowship in honor of Pastor Pflieger will be held in fellowship hall following the service next Sunday.

The Fall schedule returns on Sunday, September 7th. **J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)** will meet from 10:15 – 11:15 for God's Work, Our Hands service projects. A **church picnic** in the picnic grove will follow at 11:15. The Fellowship committee will provide the main dish and drinks. Everyone else is asked to bring a salad, side or a dessert to share!

The NHELCS Book Club is reading *Wrong Place, Wrong Time* by Gillian McAllister. Join the club for dinner and discussion at the WQ Diner in Pottstown on Tuesday, October 7th, at 6:30 PM. Any questions about this event, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com.

Help Needed

The Great Swamp Picnic flea market folks will be collecting your attic treasures! Remember we accept anything they accept at liberty thrift (except the large furniture and electronics). So drop off your attic treasures anytime on August 22nd or 23rd at our church picnic grove, on Swamp Picnic Road. Any questions, call Vicki Mutter at 484-363-0639.

JAM (Jesus and Me) teacher needed for 3-5 Grade NHELCS needs a second teacher (or more) to help with the 3-5th grade JAM class. We currently have one teacher for this group. If we can add two - three more then we would have a teaching rotation. This

class is a lot of fun. Teachers will focus their discussion on the lectionary reading each week and do crafts. The year will culminate with an art show and reception. If this is an area you have interest, contact Nikki Young as soon as possible.

Donations help local families Throughout the months of August, September and October, NHELC is collecting non-perishable food items and full-sized personal hygiene items to be distributed to local families through the Pottstown Cluster. Collection boxes are located in the welcome center, fellowship hall and multi-purpose room for the donations. For a list of items most needed, see the August issue of *New Hanover Highlights*. Thank you for your contributions that will help those in need.

Donations needed for The Great Swamp Picnic. Bring in small, new toys to be given at the fish pond. Remember babies and small children when you make your purchase. A collection box is in the Welcome Center. Thank you!

Pictorial Directory The first draft of the individual/family portrait section of the Church Directory under construction is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall across from the stage. Inform Harry White at HarryRWhiteJr@yahoo.com of any errors or additions. If you submitted a picture to be included in this section of the Church Directory, please ensure your picture is included and the names listed below the picture are correct (a submitted picture may have failed to reach Harry, or Harry may have made an error or failed to include it). If you desire to have a picture included in this section of the Church Directory, but you have not submitted one, you may, by August 31st, submit a picture (include the names of everyone in the picture) to Harry White via email. Pictures should be in portrait format. Inclusion in the directory requires the width to height ratio be 574/641. Harry will trim and resize picture to achieve this ratio. By August 31st, you may replace a picture found to be less than desirable with a new picture.

Want to be a member?

Please fill out a yellow card, “Your Voice from the Pew”, located in the pew rack and give to Pastor Scott or place the card in the offering plate. Check off “Interest in Church Membership.”

Resources

325th Anniversary Key Chains and Magnets: The 325th Anniversary Committee has provided three more anniversary souvenirs for all members. Check out the basket on top of the display case in the Welcome Center near the photo display panels for magnets and two kinds of key chains. The anniversary pens and coloring books are there also in addition to a wrapper for the Moments in Time inserts.

Want to keep up with all the latest news from NHELCC? Subscribe to the bi-weekly Constant Contact communication emails. You will receive a weekly announcement on Monday and a worship reminder on Saturday. If you are not already receiving these emails, you can use this QR code and sign up today using a very simple, secure site.



Do you enjoy the praise band songs? Would you like to get to know them better? This [playlist](#) includes over fifty songs that our praise band has done, and more will be added in the future. You will need to download Spotify (it’s free!) to listen to the songs.



Peer Support Information The Ferns Peer Run Respite is a local mental health non-profit resource in Montgomery County. The Ferns provides a supportive and calm environment for individuals in need and not able to interact in other available mental health resources. The Ferns is totally peer-supported and allows individuals at the respite the time they may need to recover or seek additional treatment. If you know an individual who may need this service, contact the church and leave a message for the peer support program or reach out to Pastor Scott.

The Peer Support Ministry webpage on the church's website (newhanoverlutheran.org) offers resources for mental health and wellness. Visit the webpage for information.

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups. NHELHC has links with helpful information available on our website (newhanoverlutheran.org) or contact NAMI Helpline or PA Addiction Helpline directly.

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 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

You Can Help

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.

Sunshine Learning Center

The Sunshine Learning Center is now open for preschool registration. To register, email Educational Director Jena Marinelli at jena.marinelli@sunshineclc.org.

Food Ministry

Nearly a quarter million meals have been delivered! NHELHC'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 on the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at <https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/>.

Garden of Hope

Garden maintenance help is needed on Monday and Thursday mornings starting at 7:30 AM. No experience necessary to help in the garden.

Reconciling in Christ Serving All and Loving Unconditionally

The Reconciling in Christ team will be available for small group meetings or one to one discussion throughout the summer. If you are interested in participating, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com. In your email, please indicate with whom on the RIC team you would like to meet and they will coordinate the meeting. The members of the team are: Pastor Staub, Rick Hausch, Diane Bealer, Josh Young, Janet Psota, Dee Singley, Sharon Tracey and Rae Bechtel. Since Rae is not an adult, there will be an adult joining Rae. The discussions will be held at the church, or at a mutually convenient location, dates and times to be determined by the participants. The RIC team is providing these opportunities for people who may be more comfortable discussing their questions, concerns or comments, in a small group.

The RIC team presentations, “LGBTQIA+ 101” and “Pronouns - Why They Are Important”, are on the church website under the Reconciling In Christ Journey page. In case you missed the presentations or would like to watch them again, you will find them by entering this link in your web browser: <https://newhanoverlutheran.org/reconciling-in-christ/> or connect using this QR Code.



The Reconciling in Christ team will be conducting an exploratory survey on September 14th in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. This is not a formal vote, but a poll to gauge the pulse of the congregation. The survey will be anonymous, with a choice of either yes or no as to

whether you would like our congregation to be welcoming and open to all. The statement has been reviewed by Church Council and has been modified to include their suggestions. Our welcoming statement is provided below:

You are always welcome at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a growing community of believers in Jesus Christ, rooted in God's love and guided by Christ's example. We strive to reach out with compassion, offering a place where you can grow in faith, experience God's grace and feel safe and celebrated. At New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, we want you to gather with us at our table. Rooted in our Lutheran faith and belief that we are all children of God and made in God's image, we welcome all people with dignity and love.

In Romans 15:7, Paul writes, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

By this belief, we are committed to intentionally following Jesus' example of unconditional hospitality, love and justice. Here, you are not only included, you are respected. We affirm and value people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, ages, abilities, body sizes, relationship statuses and economic or immigration statuses. We are committed to the ongoing work toward anti-racism, inclusion, and equity in all we do.

You are invited to fully participate in our worship, sacraments, leadership positions, gatherings, and ministries. In our identities, we are united by the common faith we hold, and recognize we each offer unique gifts and perspectives. We believe that this transforms lives and deepens the faith of our community.

Christ's door is open to all, so is ours.

Additional Information

Facility Use for Meetings or Events Requests All meeting and event requests by committees, members or non-members are to be

communicated to the church office manager. The request will include the date and time, purpose, amount of people attending, necessary space and equipment of the meeting or event. Given the information the meeting or event will be posted on the church calendar by the church office manager (only). Providing an announcement for the bulletin, newsletter or social media posting does not constitute a request or guarantee a space.

There is a Facility Use policy, and fees do apply in some cases. In no case will fees be waived. Deposits are required to hold the space, date and time. If the meeting or event is not posted on the church calendar or you do not place a deposit if necessary, you do not have permission to use the space. Contact Susan Gutshall, church office manager at (610) 326-1335, or email her at susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org for requests or information.

Pastor's Personal Meeting Schedule The pastor is available for personal meetings Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM by appointment only. Please make an appointment by calling (610) 326-1335 or email at psstaub@gmail.com. Given prior commitments and events, some appointment times are not available.

As we are doing currently, all funeral notices, death or personal crisis emergencies will be handled as soon as possible. The pastor's voice mail at (610) 326-1335 goes directly to his email address and is accessible to the pastor and checked. Friday and Saturday are the pastor's days off, and pastor appreciates your respect in not contacting him for non-emergency requests.

Sunday is a day of worship, fellowship, visitation and teaching for the pastor. Please respect the pastor's preparation and dedication to addressing the spiritual needs of the community and individuals and do not initiate any non-emergency discussion with the Pastor prior to the worship service and/or during an educational class.

Any discussions or questions about all non-emergency issues should be made by appointment during the ascribed appointment times above.

Prayer Requests

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

Grieving: Family and friends of Lexi Sloan (Judy Sloan's granddaughter) and Donna Landis

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Sarah Bowman	Keeley Staples	Logan Conley
Katy Mahon-Miller	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	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
Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Jessica Trout	Verdie Smith
Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann	Joan Price
Betty Seroski	Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell
Jeffrey Weems	Joan Scheffey	Arnold Amundsen
Chuck Beck	Rich Freed	Joe
Joe	Casey Flack	Penny Frymoyer
Denton Quick	David Helfrich, Sr.	Tara Hauck
Patricia Kemp	Ron Seasholtz	Penny Garber
Hazel LeVan	Lynn Amundsen	David Gottshall
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick	Paul Knauer	Paul Knauer
Suzanne Dodge	Dave Pollock	Julia Ghazi
Ray Feick	Patty Houseal	Steve Morriss
Vicki Mutter	Carol Feick	Feryl Stein

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

Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub

psstaub@gmail.com

Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young

nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall

susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce

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Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Educational Director, Jena Marinelli

jena.marinelli@sunshinec.org

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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