

Announcements

August 31, 2025

Today

We welcome Brian Tracey who is serving as organist this morning.

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and to thank the congregation for their love and support through their years at NHELCC by Sharon and Jeff Wise.

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: George Trowbridge, Ushers: Zach and Tanner Quigley, Lector: Collins Quigley, Children's Sermon: Nikki Young, Acolyte: Miller Quigley

Next Sunday Head Usher: Scott Geiser: Ushers: Dee and Kyle Singley; Lector: Kady Singley; Children's Sermon: Carolyn Springer; Acolyte: Genesis Garcia; Communion Assistants: Nikki Young and Debbie Solazzo

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

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
Property Committee – Wednesday, 7:00 PM, room 14

God on Tap – Thursday, 6:00 PM, Main Street Pub in Bally
Handbell Choir Rehearsal – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15
Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, room 21

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
J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 1
Congregation Picnic – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, picnic grove

The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, September 1st, for the holiday.

Upcoming Event

Reconciling In Christ (RIC) Update There are four principal steps to achieving RIC affiliation within the ELCA guidelines. 1.) Explicitly state a welcome to people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions and names our commitment to racial equity or anti-racism in our Welcome Statement. 2.) Open to calling a LGBTQIA and/or Person of Color rostered leader. 3.) Allow LGBTQIA weddings and blessings to be performed in our sanctuary. 4.) Make an annual contribution to support the national RIC program. **On September 14th, after the worship service, we will be taking an unofficial survey of the members present as a preliminary step on the path to becoming a Reconciling in Christ affiliated congregation.** This “exploratory” survey step is in alignment with the RIC guidebook. This survey is your opportunity to provide clear feedback on the proposed Welcome Statement (*see page 16 in this bulletin*). The RIC team and the Council would like to hear your thoughts, whether supportive or conflicting. Please take this opportunity to do so. If the survey indicates a sufficient level of support, (75% majority in favor per RIC guidelines), then the formal vote will be held. This will be done during an official congregational meeting as called by the Council. At that time the

congregation will officially vote on bullet #1 and #2 above - the Welcome Statement and that our church is open to calling a LGBTQIA and/or Person of Color rostered leader. The congregation will not be voting on bullet #3 above as this was unanimously approved at a Special Congregational Council Meeting held on March 26, 2015. The minutes from this meeting are posted on the Reconciling In Christ bulletin board located in Fellowship Hall. The congregation will not need to vote on bullet #4 above - a donation container will be placed in the Welcome Center for an annual free-will offering, there will be no line item in the NHELIC budget. The Reconciling in Christ team hopes that this clarifies any confusion on the upcoming survey and the remaining process. If you need any further clarification please reach out to a member of the team or submit your question in the box on the table in the Welcome Center.

The Fall schedule returns next 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!

September Gathering Come explore the transformative power love has in our lives at the next Gathering on Thursday, September 11th. A live-stream video of Anne Lamott, author of *Somehow*, will talk about how loves surprises us, forces us to confront uncomfortable truths, reminds us of our humanity and guides us forward. “Love just won’t be pinned down,” says Lamott. “It is in our very atmosphere. We are, after all, creatures of love. Lunch will be offered beginning at 12:30. Participants are encouraged to bring a dessert to share. Signup online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-56437847-september> or at the desk in the welcome center.

The NHELIC 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

JAM (Jesus and Me) teacher needed for 3-5 Grade NHEL C needs a second teacher (or more) to help with the 3rd - 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 end of October, NHEL C 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.

Today is the deadline to submit a picture or approve your submitted picture for the 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.

Thank You

To the Members of New Hanover,

The family of Michael McHugh would like to send out their heartfelt thanks for all the years of praying for him on the Military Prayer List. Michael has served in the Air Force for 20 years and on September 1, 2025 he will be retiring as Master Sergeant. He is truly grateful for all the prayers and thoughts sent his way throughout the years.

Most importantly, the McHugh family wants everyone to continue to pray for all our servicemen and women.

Thank you for having Michael on this prestigious list. God bless. Jayne and Tom McHugh

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. NHELCC 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! NHELCLC'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

The next Meet Me in the Garden scheduled on Wednesday, September 10th, has been cancelled. Volunteer opportunities to help in the garden continue on Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:30. No gardening experience needed to help. Any questions, contact Doug Senne at 484-401-6424 or Dsenne@verizon.net.

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.

New Hanover Lutheran Church **LIVING HISTORY CEMETERY TOUR** 325th Anniversary

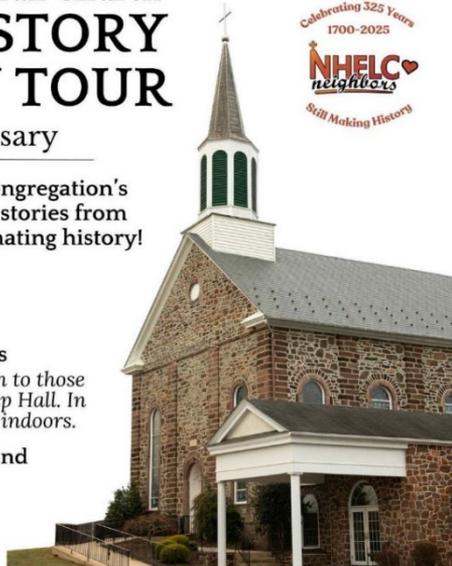
Join us as we celebrate the congregation's 325th anniversary by sharing stories from New Hanover's long and fascinating history!

📅 September 27, 2025

🕒 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tours run every 20 minutes
11:30 a.m. dress rehearsal (open to those with mobility issues) Fellowship Hall. In case of rain, event will be held indoors.

Free will donation to help fund cemetery restoration!

Refreshments available!



Prayer Requests

Military: Shawn Dietz, 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 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
Suzanne Dodge	Dave Pollock	Julia Ghazi
Ray Feick	Patty Houseal	Steve Morriss
Vicki Mutter	Carol Feick	Feryll 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

patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org

Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Educational Director, Jena Marinelli

jena.marinelli@sunshinecl.org

Grace Band Director, Lindsey Waltermyer

goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

peersupport@newhanoverlutheran.org

Sexton, Jen Boyer

jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper, Nancy Ewing

bookkeeper@newhanoverlutheran.org

Cemetery, Norm Hunsberger

nhunsberger29@gmail.com

