

Announcements

October 4, 2026

Today

The flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and in celebration of Kevin and Jenna Fleming's ninth wedding anniversary by Carolyn Fleming.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in celebration of all faith leaders and teachers from the past, present and future by Janet Psota.

The sponsor signup schedule is available on signupgenius on the church's website. Click on the link newhanoverlutheran.org/worship_signups_2026 or QR Code to sign up today. Or, contact Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at 610-326-1335.



Serving Today: Jim Gross, head usher; Brian Flack, usher; Janet Psota, lector; Ariel Hansley, children's sermon; Landon Woods, acolyte; Barbara Repa and Carolyn Fleming, communion assistants
Next Sunday: Ed Becker, head usher; Donna Kehs and Terry Santangelo, ushers; Scott Geiser, lector; Lindsey Waltermeyer, children's sermon and Richard Garcia, acolyte

Altar Guild members who are serving this month: Becky Gallagher, Vicki Dotterer and Terry Santangelo

Today is traditionally known as WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY. It is a reminder to us that as we worship weekly as a body of Christian believers at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, there are thousands of weekly gatherings in Jesus' name being held all over the world. Through the presence of the Spirit of the Living Christ we are joined as one as we hear God's Word and take part in the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion. We celebrate this unity by using two sets of ceramic communion ware, one given to us by our neighbor Falkner Swamp United Church of Christ, and the other a gift brought back by our youth from the 1997 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. The paraments on the altar, pulpit, and lectern are a gift from the Northeastern Diocese of Tanzania, the Southeastern PA Synod's Companion

Synod and the location of the Sebastian Kolowa University College (SEKUCo) which the New Hanover Lutheran congregation was instrumental in helping to establish. The college is now known as Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) which specializes in educating teachers for the mentally challenged.

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.

Have a pastoral emergency?

Contact Vicar Nikki Young at 267-329-9697.

Due to church staff taking vacations and fulfilling responsibilities that take them outside the church facility, you are encouraged to call and make an appointment before coming to the church. The church office phone number is 610-326-1335.

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

Kids for Christ Band Rehearsal – Today, 10:00 – 10:30 AM, sanctuary

J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) – Today, 10:15 AM, room 1

J.A.M. Choir Rehearsal – Today, 10:55 – 11:20 AM, room 15

Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:20 AM, sanctuary

Confirmation – Today, 1:30 – 3:00 PM, room 1

Cub Parents – Today, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, room 1

Garden Harvesting and Maintenance – Monday, 7:00 AM, Garden of Hope

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Cub Pack 367 – Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, rooms 1, 14, 24-25, 28-34, 37

Book Club – Tuesday, 6:30 PM, WQ Diner in Pottstown
Scouts BSA Troop 367 – Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen
Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 10:00 AM, kitchen door
Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, welcome center
Chancel Choir – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, room 15

Garden Harvesting and Maintenance – Thursday, 7:00 AM,
Garden of Hope

History Talks – Thursday, 1:30 PM, room 1

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

Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, welcome center

District Scout Committee – Thursday, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, room 1

Men's Breakfast – Saturday, 8:00 AM, Brookside Family
Restaurant in Pottstown

In God's Image – Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Reformation
Lutheran Church in Media

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

Kids for Christ Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 10:00 –
10:30 AM, sanctuary

J.A.M. – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 1

J.A.M. Choir Rehearsal – Next Sunday 10:55 – 11:20 AM, room
15

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:20 AM, sanctuary

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Service – Next Sunday, 6:30 PM

Flutter Corn Maze – Next Sunday, 6:30 PM, Wilcox Farms

The Men's Breakfast is this Saturday at 8:00 AM at Brookside
Family Restaurant. Come out for good food and friendly
conversation. No registration is required. Any questions, contact
Ron Fegley at 484-300-3025.

In God's Image (IGI) is a Southeastern Pennsylvania
Synod (SEPA) sponsored event designed to help
congregations explore how to fully welcome all who
are beloved and made in God's image. This learning
day will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2026,
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Reformation Lutheran Church, 102 West



Rose Tree Road, Media, PA 19036. Carpooling is available. If you are interested in learning more or attending the event, scan this QR code. If you have any questions contact Sharon Tracey (LBD36@aol.com).

Upcoming Events

Flutter youth group will be doing a corn maze on Sunday, October 11th. We will meet at Wilcox Farms in Boyertown at 6:30 PM. The cost is \$10/person. Bring a flashlight! RSVP in the Band app. See Lindsey Waltermeyer or Hayley Quigley with questions.

A First Communion class for kids in second grade and up will be held on Wednesday, October 14th, 6:00 – 7:00 PM in fellowship hall. First Communion will be observed on Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2026. If your child is ready and would like to participate, contact Vicar Nikki. If the date or time does not work, reach out to Vicar Nikki ASAP.

Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 24th, 5:00 – 7:00 PM You can help make the 2026 NHELC Trunk or Treat a great success!

Host a Trunk

Those hosting a trunk must arrive between 4:00 – 4:30 PM to set up. This will be open to the public so plan on having candy/treats for about 200 kids – we have no idea what to expect. The Church will try to have some extra candy on hand. Trunks must stay in place until the event ends.

Please note: To host a trunk you must be affiliated with NHELC, Troop or Pack 367 OR Sunshine Learning Center.

Extra Support

Also, we need volunteers to man the food table(s) and assist with parking. To help, go to the SignUpGenius at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-65815756-2026#/>.

Seasonal fun for all at the Pumpkin Frolic Sunday, October 25th, 3:00 – 5:00 PM The annual Pumpkin Frolic will soon be here! This is an enjoyable event for all ages. Come join the fun of pumpkin related activities including pumpkin painting, fall crafts, and games. Participants will be painting pumpkins, not carving

them for safety purposes. Pumpkins and paint will be provided. We will close with a light meal consisting of hotdogs and snack foods.

The Pumpkin Frolic is a Thrivent Action team service project so there is no charge; however,



bring some nonperishable food for Preston's Pantry at Boyertown Area Multi-Service. Watch for a sign-up sheet on the desk in the welcome center or go online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-66083886-pumpkin> or use this QR code. To be sure enough pumpkins will be available, **sign up by Monday, October 19th**. This event will be held in fellowship hall.

A Seniors Ministry Event, on "Sharing Stories from Beyond" will be held on Thursday, October 8th, at 1:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. We will welcome the seniors group from St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Telford, who will join us in learning more about the history of our church as well as to hear stories about some of the special folks "in residence" in New Hanover Lutheran Church's cemetery. Presenters are Amanda Schlick, Carol Detweiler and others. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow the storytelling. You won't want to miss this event! Sign up today using the sign-up sheet on the desk in the Welcome Center.

"A House Divided and a World on Fire" is the topic of an adult education class on Sundays at 10:15 AM in the Multi-purpose room. The study focuses on lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, exploring his life and theology focusing on the lessons we can use as we live at the intersection of faith and civic life today. Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor and theologian living in Nazi Germany, who eventually joined the resistance and was arrested and killed before the end of WWII. This six-week curriculum was compiled by Dr. Lori Brandt Hale, an internationally renowned Bonhoeffer scholar and president of the International Bonhoeffer Society – English Language Section. Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania is a partner in distributing this study to congregations, inspiring a deeper conversation and discernment about how we live as disciples.

LEGO Bingo To Benefit the National Youth Gathering Trip

Please note: This is a ticketed event! Come one and come all to our LEGO Bingo on **Saturday, November 7th**, at Sassamansville Fire Company - 1865 Hoffmansville Road.

Doors open 4:00

Kitchen open for food 4:30 – 6:00

Start selling bingo packages 5:30

Bingo begins 6:30

Tickets are \$30 for 20 games. There will be a blackout bingo, raffles and 50/50, all to support our youth. Tickets will be sold in the welcome center or contact the church office. Also, watch for flyers to distribute as well. Come out for fun and to support our youth on this great trip!

LEGO Donations

Also, you can help by donating LEGO sets for our LEGO bingo to allow our youth to raise more funds. Any name-brand LEGO sets are fine. For smaller sets, we will package them together. We have an Amazon wish list to help, but feel free to shop around. If you find a sale – GREAT! If you are really up for an adventure, check Facebook Marketplace. Sets must be NEW and unopened. Any donations can be brought to Vicar Nikki in the church office! Here is the Amazon wish list -

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ION1CNCX00M3?ref = wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ION1CNCX00M3?ref=wl_share).

Help Needed

Local families in the Pottstown area need our help. Through the end of 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 and fellowship hall for the donations. For a list of items most needed, see the latest issue of *New Hanover Highlights*. Thank you for your contributions that will help those in need.

The Food Ministry has the following vacancies:

Volunteer Coordinator – Assigns meal delivery drivers, meal staging support and kitchen help.

Purchasing Agent – This person will purchase produce, kitchen supplies, packaging materials and manage food and meal inventories.

Cooks – Cooks are needed immediately. Jim Davidheiser has committed to preparing meals two days every four weeks and we are looking for at least two other cooks to do the same. Schedules are extremely flexible. Jim will get the new cooks familiar with the kitchen and activities required.

Contact Steve Weidner at foodministry@newhanoverlutheran.org if interested or to learn more. Job descriptions are available.

Reminder

Attention committee and group leaders. Be sure to turn out the lights when leaving the church.

Resources

Want to keep up with all the latest news from NHELC?

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 Vicar Nikki.

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. NHELC 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

Help is needed in the church garden. Can you help with harvesting and maintenance on Mondays and/or Thursdays beginning at 7:00 AM? And, if that doesn't fit your schedule, can you pull weeds at your convenience? NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. Any questions, contact Jim Mack at jimmack203@gmail.com or Steve Weidner at foodministry@newhanoverlutheran.org. Your help is appreciated.

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

Over 300,000 meals have been distributed! 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 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/>.

Reconciling in Christ Serving All and Loving Unconditionally

In case you want any information, enter this link in your web browser:

<https://newhanoverlutheran.org/reconciling-in-christ/>

or connect using this QR Code.



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.

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

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Keeley Staples	Logan Conley	Katy Mahon-Miller
Luann Hanley	William Trotter	Kathy Kane
Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer	Jean Renninger
Pr. Kork Moyer	Julia Hauck	Tony Mancini
Raul Castro	Amy LeVan	Jeffrey Kunsch
Wilma Lahr	Melissa	Mary Lou
Doug Weaver	Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus
Eric & Wendy Hess	Sue Care	Deb Matthews
Marceline	Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson
Chris Fatzinger	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	Verdie Smith	Helen Foulke
Carla Hausmann	Joan Price	Ralph Borneman
Lucille Powell	Joan Scheffey	Chuck Beck
Rich Freed	Joe	Joe
Casey Flack	Penny Frymoyer	David Helfrich, Sr.
Tara Hauck	Hazel LeVan	David Gottshall
Paul Knauer	Suzanne Dodge	Dave Pollock
Julia Ghazi	Ray Feick	Steve Morriss
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick		Carol Feick
Alice Nester	Linda Adams	Donna Day
Janet Linskey	James Dawson	Diane Davidheiser
Timmy Fabian	Betty Hinrichs	Judy Moser
Carolyn and Rodney Snell		Jackson Bernhard
Sandy Seasholtz		

The 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

Council

council@newhanoverlutheran.org

Staff

Vicar 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

Grace and KFC Band Director Lindsey Waltermeyer

goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Sexton Jen Boyer

jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper Dorothy Brower,

bookkeeper@newhanoverlutheran.org

Cemetery Caretaker Norm Hunsberger,

nhunsberger29@gmail.com

Ministries

Food Ministry Director Chris Fatzinger

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Sunshine Learning Center Director Stephanie Houck

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Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

peersupport@newhanoverlutheran.org



We are a Reconciling in Christ Church