

# NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church



Reading Phillies



Garden of Hope



Guest Preachers



Road Trip

ore Opportunities    Explore Opportunities    Explore Opportunities    Explore Opp



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

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## Confirmation Sunday is on Pentecost

Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM

Come and support Ilana Bensick and Hannah Waltermeyer who continue on their faith journey as they participate in their Affirmation of Baptism. And, since this is Pentecost, be sure to wear something red.

## Kids Camp is coming

It’s not too late to register or help with kids camp. Team work makes the dream work. Join us on June 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> for True North Kids Camp. Sign up online at <https://vbspro.events/p/35b361>.

## You can still register for Camp Falckner

Camp will be held July 21-24, 2025 in the church picnic grove. This overnight camp is open to all youth who will have finished grades 5 - 12. Registration can be completed online, but there are also paper copies available in the Welcome Center. Reach out to Lindsey Waltermeyer with any questions.

# Breakfast Fellowship

## Women's Breakfast

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 AM  
Shorty's Sunflower Café  
1494 North Charlotte Street

Women meet on the second Wednesday of the month. Reservations are required. To reserve your seat, contact Sandy Wesner at 215-679-9021 by Tuesday noon before the breakfast.

## God on Tap

Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 PM

Come to the next God on Tap at the Dotterer's, located at 5 Jenna Drive in Barto. Pulled pork sandwiches and drinks will be available. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The Dotterers have a swimming pool so bring your bathing suit. All are invited. Any questions on this event, contact Randy Dotterer at 610-306-0621 or [rdptw6489@gmail.com](mailto:rdptw6489@gmail.com). RSVP to Randy by Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Take me out to the ball game!

Come out with us to see a ball game! We are heading to the **Reading Phillies on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**, at 6:45. Reservations are due by Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$12/person and we will be in the green seats area. Sign up online or with Nikki Young. This date is a fireworks night!

## Men's Breakfast

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM  
Brookside Family Restaurant  
1338 North Charlotte Street

Men meet the second Saturday of the month. No reservations required. For more information, contact Ron Fegley at 484-300-3025.

## Help in the garden

All are welcome to help in the Garden of Hope. No experience is necessary. Here are some upcoming opportunities.

### Planting

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM

We will be planting tomatoes and peppers.

### Maintenance

Mondays and Thursdays, 7:30 AM

Help is needed every Monday and Thursday morning.

### Meet Me in the Garden

Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

Come join the fun and fellowship as gardeners of all skills are welcome to a light dinner followed by working in the garden.

For any Garden of Hope questions, contact Doug Senne at 484-401-6424 or [DSenne@verizon.net](mailto:DSenne@verizon.net).

## CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



In the Bible, rivers (and other bodies of water) often represent deliverance, salvation, freedom and cleansing. The Jordan River is especially prominent: The Israelites crossed it to enter the Promised Land after God delivered them from slavery, and John baptized Jesus (and many other people) there. The image of crossing the Jordan River has long been a metaphor for death — crossing from earthly to heavenly life, from worldly struggles to the bliss of God's kingdom, from physical ailments to the wholeness of a resurrection body.

# Missing your offering envelopes?

The remaining 2025 offering envelope boxes were removed from Fellowship Hall and recycled. If you would like a box for your contributions and do not have a set for this year, contact the church office at 610-326-1335 and Susan will designate a box for you.



## 325<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Preaching Series

This year we have invited individuals who have served or were sponsored by NHEL C as pastors or pastoral students to preach. We are happy to announce the following schedule.

### **The Rev. David Plieger**

**August 24<sup>th</sup>**

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Past member, current ELCA pastor, 1<sup>st</sup> Troop 367 Eagle Scout – 60-year Ordination celebration date

### **The Rev. Bishop Bryan Penman**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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Current ELCA SEPA Bishop - 325 Year Celebration Worship & Reception guest

### **The Rev. Thomas Lang**

**November 30<sup>th</sup>**

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Past NHEL C pastor (2006 – 2016) and retired ELCA pastor

### **The Rev. Rebecca Knox**

**December 7<sup>th</sup>**

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NHEL C Vicar and currently serving ELCA Pastor/Chaplain – 20-year Ordination date

Look for more updates coming soon on other events and guest preachers. Be sure to join in the fellowship hour following the services mentioned above to welcome our guests ministers.

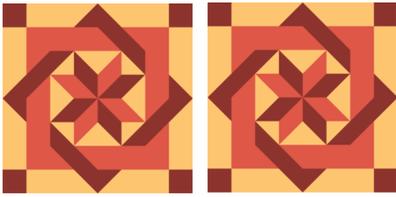
## Are you creative? Curious to learn how our online worship is produced?

The video team is seeking two additional volunteers to help support our online worship services. We are looking to add an additional person to work the cameras and monitor the streaming feeds during Sunday services. (It isn't difficult - and training will be provided). A second person is also needed for video preparation a few days prior to the Sunday service. This prep activity will include setup of the streaming software and publishing the YouTube and Facebook events which can be done remotely using your own computer. This setup takes about one hour and can be completed at your convenience anytime three days prior to the service. A step-by-step setup document and training will be provided. For both positions you'll have the chance to add your own creative touches and ideas to produce memorable experiences for New Hanover's online viewers. See Rick Hausch, or email the team at [video@newhanoverlutheran.org](mailto:video@newhanoverlutheran.org) to help out or for more information.

## Book Club

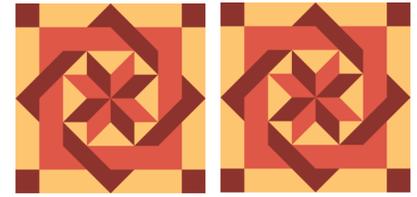
**Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 PM**

The next book club will meet for dinner and to discuss the novel *James* by Percival Everett. Readers will gather at the WQ Diner located at 99 West King Street in Pottstown. Any questions, contact Sharon Tracey at [LBD36@aol.com](mailto:LBD36@aol.com).



# Council Corner

Highlights from the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting



- Finance continues to monitor the 2025 Annual Budget against actuals. Currently we are running a total deficit YTD as of April 30 was \$47,239.80. The total income at the end of April (33% of the year) was at 31.7% of budget and expenses were at 38.6% of budget.
- The approved 2025 General Fund budget is a **deficit** budget of ~\$60,000. In order to eliminate the deficit, provide for timely benevolence payments, continue programs, and maintain our staff the Council is strongly encouraging each giving unit to increase giving to the extent possible by 20%. On average across all giving units this equates to \$7/week, \$30/month, or \$361/year. Please consider your giving in 2025.
- The 2025 Council has eight Councilmembers out of twelve expected positions. Council members may be appointed by the standing Council at any time of the year to one-, two-, or three-year terms. If you have an interest in serving as a Councilmember please talk to any current Councilmember.
- As a reminder - 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](mailto:psstaub@gmail.com). Given prior commitments and events, some appointment times are not available.
- All meeting and event requests by committees, members or non-members are to be communicated to the church office manager. Susan Gutshall, NHELCH Church Office Manager, manages the master calendar for all activity and facility use to support minimizing conflicts. Committees and boards - please be sure to notify Susan of all activities planned at the church. This is especially important during the Sunshine Learning Center renovation process.
- If you unlock a door for church access, lock the door behind you. Doors have been left open causing a security risk.
- Next Council meeting (open to all members) is scheduled for June 19, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

## Schedule meetings and events through the office

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 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](mailto:susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org) for requests or information.

## Take a local historic road trip

Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM

As part of our 325<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, NHELC is planning a tour of Historic Trappe. There are three historic properties open for tours. We are planning to tour all three of these buildings. The cost is \$15 per person. Participants will meet at NHELC parking lot to carpool to Trappe.

### The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies

Located in the Dewees Tavern, the Center has five exhibition galleries featuring a wide variety of furniture, fraktur, textiles, and other objects as well as a research library and archives.

### The Henry Muhlenberg House

Muhlenberg’s home is a fully furnished museum interpreting the families of Lutheran pastor Henry Muhlenberg and his son General Peter Muhlenberg.

### The Speaker’s House

This was the home of Frederick Muhlenberg and is an ongoing restoration project including a Pennsylvania German kitchen garden.

Participants will enjoy lunch at the Trappe Tavern. Following lunch, campers from Camp Falckner will join the group at 1:30 PM to tour the Trappe Churches.

### “Old Trappe Church” and “The Brick Church”

The Reverend Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was pastor of the “Old Trappe Church”, which was built in 1743. In 1852, the construction of the current building, “The Brick Church”, was begun to accommodate the growth of the congregation.

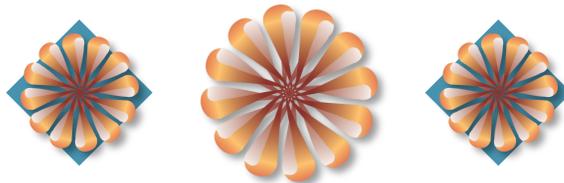
You won’t want to miss this tour! Be sure to sign up at the desk in the Welcome Center.

## Help NHELC mission projects when you shop

You can help support our church with Redner’s Save-a-Tape program. Here’s how it works.

1. Visit the Customer Service Desk at any Redner’s Warehouse Market to obtain a Save-A-Tape card.
2. Use this card every time you shop at Redner’s. Your receipts will be marked as Save-A-Tape receipts.
3. Bring your collected receipts to the church. We’ll total them up and submit them to Redner’s for a 1% rebate on the total amount (excluding sales tax, milk and tobacco products).

Thank you to all who have saved and turned in their Redner’s receipts! The Redner’s Save-A-Tape program is an easy way to help us raise funds for the Mission Services/Social Ministry team.



## Help the Ronald McDonald House

The Mission Service/Social Ministry Committee is collecting aluminum can tabs to help The Ronald McDonald House raise money to support families in need, offering them rest and nourishment during challenging times. These tiny can tabs may seem insignificant, but they add up quickly. Simply bring these tabs to church and drop them off into the aquarium in the Fellowship Hall (under the coat rack). Together we can make an impact—one tab at a time. Thank you for your support and kindness.

# Transitions

## A message from the Pastor

I find great meaning and wisdom while studying people in transition. For there are many characters in the story of the transition of oneself. There is the main character(s) and those who walk along and those who witness.

Our Gathering series each month is themed, "Aging Gracefully." For a 325 year old faith community, that is saying a lot. Each month we stream an author who shares their journey of aging. They all have had a fantastic story to tell whether it be as the one aging and transitioning, acting as a caregiver, and/or witnessing. One such author, Ralph Patrick, reflected on his amazing journey of transition, as he faced the loss of his mother, his marriage, and his ministry. It was within this journey of transition; however, where he would find the love of God and renewed meaning for life.

One of his wisdoms shared was the moment he realized his relationship could be happier with his mother, who was challenged with severe dementia, instead of trying to control his mother's thoughts and sense of reality, he shared this epiphany. He asks us intriguing questions, "Why do we reorder our reality on others? Why can't we go along with the person's dementia created sense of being as we do when we play with little children?" For we gladly play with children as they create great adventures, sit down tea parties and dress up parties, and yet, try to alter the one with dementia into our reality. Which, I believe, only creates frustration for each.

Each month, I gain a new wisdom from the Gathering series. I believe we can all gain wisdom to help us deal with the change in our own or a loved one's mental and physical state. I believe the recognition that God is with each of the people involved, the main character, the caregiver and the witness. Like Ralph Patrick, one can find the love of God and renewed meaning of life in the simple act of being present and exchanging the love of

God within us to one another, no matter what reality one is in.

Peace and Happy Aging Gracefully!

Pastor Scott

*"Aging is not 'lost youth' but a new stage of opportunity and strength."*

— Betty Friedan

## Pastor's Personal Meeting Schedule

The pastor is available for personal meetings Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 3 PM by appointment only. Please make an appointment by calling (610) 326-1335 or email him at [psstaub@gmail.com](mailto: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.

# June CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Betty Hinrichs, who will celebrate her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on June 28<sup>th</sup>. For those who would like to send Betty a birthday greeting, here is her address.

2195 Martin Drive  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

## Also celebrating a birthday in June

- 1 Avery Bealer, Allan Care, Ava DeLong, Amy Marazas, Luann Mitch, Darlene Rohrbach
- 2 Brian Flack, Elsa Lucas
- 3 Erin Morrell, Kevin Shirk, Bradley Steltz
- 5 Karen Lehigh, Corrin MacLuckie, Alana Mauger, Colton Smith
- 7 Hunter Tattershall
- 8 Amber Finn, Casey Flack, Robert Morrell, Sandy Wesner, Keena Wright
- 9 Matt Marazas
- 10 Douglas Weisbach
- 11 Robin Fatzinger, Ben Fowler, Alaina Van Dyke
- 12 Sandra Freed, Brian Van Dyke
- 13 Bob Ilik, Madeline Kunsch, Sophia Medlar, Janine Springer
- 15 Mike O'Hara, Helen Wilding
- 16 Nick Gehringer
- 17 Donna Kehs, Judy Sloan, Linda Van Pelt
- 18 Debbie Beitler, Kim Hollowbush
- 19 William Allen IV
- 20 Alicia Allen, Nate Ewing, Justin Gilbert, Gary Rohrbach, Aubrey Woods
- 21 Ryan Corcoran, Connie Rohrbach, Emmily Salas
- 22 Mackenzie Fatzinger
- 23 Adalynn Brett, Nick Goodwin, Rosalie Lisa
- 24 Barbara Noecker, Brian Tracey, Christian Van Dyke
- 25 Ian Gross, Lincoln Noecker, Jessica Trout, Dan Van Dyke
- 26 Brianna Beitler, Jana Nuss, Lara Weisbach, Anna Yanisko
- 27 Finn Beaver, Joe Caputo, Ryan Gamler, Marlene Hansley, Diane Lambert
- 28 Sandro Galliano, Kay Kurtz, Judy Swartley
- 29 Rosalina Mauser
- 30 Valarie Dubbs, John LeVan III
- 5 Kevin and Tara Hauck
- 7 Gary and Jean Moser  
Tim and Vicki Mutter
- 8 Will and Summer Davis  
Scott and Barbara Repa
- 9 Bill and Sharon Tracey
- 10 Gerald and Susan Fretz  
Gregg and Marlene Waller
- 11 Tom and Jamie Holiday
- 14 Francis and Joan Girard  
Bryce and Jane Manthorne
- 15 Keith and Cathy Crowther  
Lee and Sandy Wesner
- 18 Jim and Danielle Dugan
- 21 Chris Reinke and Alana Mauger
- 22 Dave and Jenafer Mayan
- 24 Ryan and Lindsey Waltermeyer
- 25 Kevin and Stacey Shirk
- 26 Carl and Barbara Eisenhart
- 27 Harry and Nance White
- 28 Ray and Lisa Hibbs
- 29 Fred and Laura Camp  
Nate and Nicole Ewing

## Anniversaries

- 3 Tim and Kim Dinsmore  
Scott and Wendy Schiavo





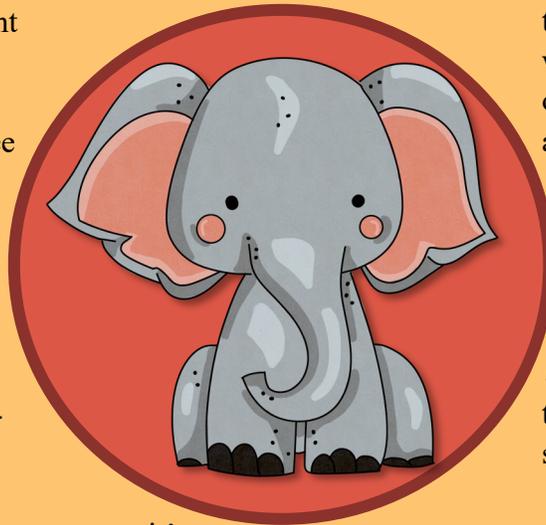
# Going to extremes



When a herd of elephants ventured into a town in eastern India, people chased them away. But soon they learned that a baby elephant had fallen into a 30-foot well and been left behind. Workers had to use three backhoes to free the calf, breaking down the brick well and digging a sloping trench for the youngster to walk out on.

Righting a wrong — and even saving a life — may require extreme measures. A structure holding someone captive may need to be torn down. And in many cases, it's

better to allow the trapped one as much independence and agency as possible. Rather than hoisting the elephant out vertically, which might have been dangerous and traumatic, helpers made a path so it could take part in attaining its freedom.



God often works like this, restoring and equipping us to partner with him. How can we assist others while granting them the dignity of being part of the solution?

— Heidi Hyland Mann



## 2025 Council Members



Edward Becker, treasurer  
Scott Geiser, financial secretary  
Yvonne Peto  
Andy Van Dyke

Monique Becker, secretary  
Marty Hauser, vice-president  
Todd Rothermel, president  
The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor



**Want to learn more about how to become a member of the Church Council?  
Contact any member above.**



## Let's keep in touch

**New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**2941 Lutheran Road  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525**



610-326-1335  
newhanoverlutheran.org  
facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch

**Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
**Call for an appointment.**

