

NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Holy Week Events

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1st, 10:00 AM – Noon

Kids will be separated into age groups for the hunt. A light lunch of hotdogs, snacks and drinks will be served after the egg hunt. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4eafac2caaf4c16-easter1> OR on the sheet in the welcome center.

Palm Sunday Service

Sunday, April 2nd, 9:00 AM

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 6th, 7:00 PM

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 7th, 7:00 PM

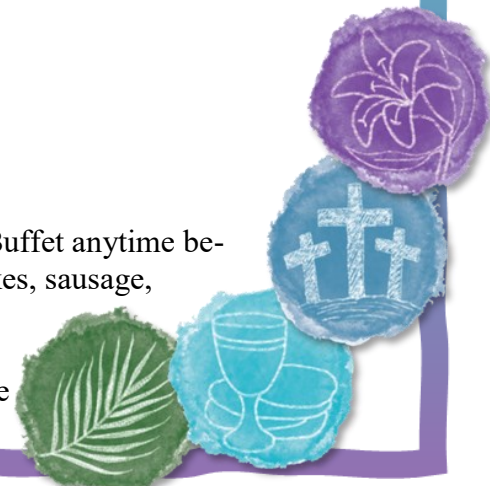
Easter Service

Sunday, April 9th, 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 9th, 9:00 – 11:00 AM

You're invited to an Easter Breakfast Buffet anytime between 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, home fries, biscuits, creamed chipped beef, juice, milk and coffee. No reservation required. A free will offering will be received.



Gathering of Daughters

Sunday, May 7th, 12:00 Noon

In honor of Mother's Day, ladies and daughters are invited for lunch and fellowship. Menu consists of beef BBQ, chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, salad, applesauce and dessert. After lunch we will paint flower pots and plant a flower in them. There will be a sign up sheet on the desk in the welcome center and also a sign up genius. The link for the sign up genius is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-gathering>. Reservations are due by Sunday, April 30th. There is no charge for attending but everyone is asked to participate in the service project by bringing diapers and/or baby wipes to be distributed to local families in need through the Boyertown Area Multi-Service.



Any questions, contact Jean Moser at (610) 367-0342.

New copier lease agreement brings changes

The NHEL C Property Committee will be entering into a new lease agreement for copier services in early April 2023. The new lease agreement has changes which need to be communicated to all committees, boards, and chartered members. NHEL C will be reducing the number of copiers from two to one. Reasons for this reduction include:

- Current second copier (Volunteer Office) print totals are less than 10% of the overall print volume;
- Reducing to one copier is a significant cost savings to NHEL C (~\$7300 in lease, electric, and paper costs over the five-year lease term);
- Encouraging less use of printed materials is better for the environment.

Starting in early April, all committees, boards, and chartered members requiring printing or copying services may come to the church office and print/copy during normal business hours (9AM to 2PM, M-F). You may also email your document(s) to the Office Manager (susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org) by 12 PM (noon) on normal business days to have them printed and delivered to a church location where indicated. Documents need to be provided in "print-ready" format - PDF or MS Word. The church office is typically locked outside of normal business hours.

Property Committee

Pentecost geraniums decorate sanctuary

You can help decorate the sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday by sponsoring a red geranium. Suggested donation is \$6.00 for a single geranium and \$20.00 for a 10" pot containing three geraniums. Complete an order form, located in this newsletter and on the desk in the Welcome Center. Then, return the form along with your donation either in the church offering basket or mail to the church by May 7th. Your geranium may be picked up following the 9:00 AM service on Pentecost, May 28th.

And, don't forget to wear something red on Pentecost Sunday.

Music Sunday May 21, 2023

We have an exciting Sunday filled with music as we celebrate Music Sunday. The opening prelude will be a familiar piece entitled *Come, Christians, Join to Sing!* This piece features a collaboration by the Handbell Choir, the Chancel Choir, a Brass Quintet, Piano and Organ. The Children's Choir will be singing a fun piece entitled *Sing, Rejoice, Clap Your Hands*. The Grace Band will be leading us in song, and will be singing the much beloved hymns, *How Great Thou Art* and *Great is Thy Faithfulness*. Come in person if you are able, to enjoy and appreciate the hard work of all the musicians involved.



Game Night is for all ages

Our first game night was a great time! We can't wait to do another one. So, here you go. The next game night is **Saturday, April 22nd, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM**. Bring your favorite game(s). Bring a snack to share and we will order pizza! Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-game1> or email Nikki Young at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org or call or text her at 717-304-9352.

Meet me at...

Last year during the summer months we did a series of events called "Meet me at..." We worked in the Garden, played at the picnic grove and went to a Reading Phillies game. Nikki Young is working on some fun events for this year. If you have any ideas or things you'd like to help plan, contact Nikki Young.

Garden of Hope event schedule

Hello ALL!

Spring is around the corner and we're excited to announce lots of activities that are scheduled for the Garden of Hope. We'd love for you to join us again this year! God's work, our hands. Mark your calendars now to save the dates! Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.



Peace,
Donna Kehs (610-212-2673)

Spring Planting

Saturday, April 1st, 9:00 AM – Noon

Summer Planting

Friday, May 12th, 9:00 AM – Noon

Composting Clinic (AND root beer floats!)

Wednesday, May 31st, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Meet Me in the Garden (Dinner followed by light gardening)

Tuesday, June 27th, 6:00 PM

Disease and Pest ID Clinic (AND make your own sundae!)

Wednesday, July 26th, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Fall Planting

Friday, August 18th, 9:00 AM – Noon

Meet Me in the Garden (Dinner followed by light gardening)

Tuesday, September 19th, 6:00 PM

Harvesting Hope Fair

Saturday, October 7th, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Kids Camp 2023 is going to be out of this WORLD

It's time to sign up for Kids Camp (formerly VBS). Kids who are in Pre-school (Potty trained) through those completing 4th grade (in the 2022-23 school year) are welcome to join us for Kids Camp. All kids who have completed 5th grade are welcome to attend as youth helpers/junior counselors. We can use the help! You can register at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/22f9ff> or there will be paper forms in the Welcome Center. We also need helpers! Helpers can sign up on the same page or speak with Nikki. We are so excited to build on last year's momentum and need some volunteers to truly make this camp blast off!



Volunteer to be a JAM leader

For next year we hope to split the elementary class into age groups after Sunday morning opening. To do this, more volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work. I hope to get four volunteers for lower and four volunteers for upper elementary. Then each leader can teach one week a month. Ideally, this will be established before summer break. Contact Nikki Young if you are able to help!



Are you crafty?

Everyone can help out with our VBS decorations this year. Check the Welcome Center for planets, stars, rockets etc. that can help out with our decorations. If you would like a family project we will be looking for command centers that can largely be made with some cardboard and recyclable materials. Want to make a rocket or a planet – we'll take it. We are limited only by your imagination. Contact Nikki Young if you would like to help!

Kids can serve as Junior Ushers

Some kids have expressed an interest in helping ushers before the services. This is not a spot that is mandatory to be filled, more for those that desire to serve. The children will report at 8:30 and they will assist ushers with things such as opening the door and greeting people, handing out bulletins, helping to hand out other papers or communion elements. They can help out and then at 9:00 head in to church as normal. I am creating slots for no more than two a week. One is fine, but some kids may be shy to work alone and will work better as part of a pair. Simply sign up so we do not have an abundance of helpers. When they come at 8:30, the ushers will let them know how they can help! Contact Nikki Young with any questions. Sign up at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4eafac2caaf4c16-junior#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4eafac2caaf4c16-junior#/)

A New Spring

Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances.

— Jane Truax

Mark your calendar

Easter Breakfast

April 9th, 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Meet - n - Greet Violet Mandic, GRACE band leader

April 16th, after worship

Grove Clean Up

April 23rd, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Gathering of Daughters

May 7th, 12:00 noon

Confirmation Sunday Fellowship Hour

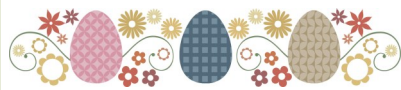
June 4th, 10:05 AM

Chicken Dinner at the Grove

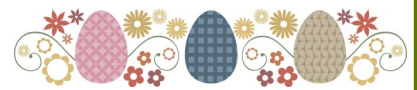
June 24th, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Breakfast at the Grove

July 23rd, 10:00 AM



Pastor's Message Easter Traditions & Change



I last shared about my family's fun filled, all ages, full contact Easter Egg hunt. No filming is allowed for various reasons. However, as a child I grew up with different traditions for Easter, and the ensuing family gathering. One of the earliest memories I have of Easter is the coloring of the eggs.

During my childhood, the tradition of coloring eggs was very simple. You buy the three primary colors of food coloring in small glass bottles and place the colors in a bowl. If you were fancy, you bought the special wire, that would ensure a perfectly monochrome colored egg. If a family member became adventurous, they would mix colors, and/or use a Q-tip to put a stripe or dot on the egg. Really basic stuff.

Then as I got older, I was invited to other families to color eggs. I then became aware of using onion skins to color eggs a tan color, wow! Then, some families used paint brushes and left the background white while placing their names and/or designs on the eggs. These bizarre traditions never made it back home, as we were perfectly happy with the primary color dipping process, with the occasional dot or stripe.

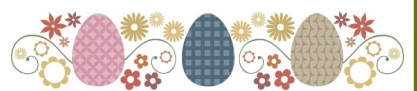
Then, as I grew older, I witnessed Easter in Germany one year. I was surprised to see a parade of

children carrying sticks with soft pretzels firmly pressed on the stick with an egg adorning the top. Not a bad lunch. Curious, I searched for other traditions, and found the French competing for the largest omelets made, Hungarians splashing each other with buckets of water, Greeks shoot fireworks at each other, and Czech Republicans whipping each other with pussy willow branches. All of a sudden, my family's Easter Egg hunt seems rather tame.

However, all the traditions share one common element. They involve people in the community gathering together to share in the joy of the Risen Christ. People working together as one body for one purpose. We may differ in how we celebrate Easter; however, the integral word is "celebrate." This Easter, I pray you find a common reason to celebrate with family and here with your friends at New Hanover, or wherever. For the first time in three years, I believe we all have the opportunity as a community to celebrate as one body in Christ. Christ is Risen, Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Peace my friend,

Pastor Scott



Annual Congregational Meeting - Jazz

We had a Jazz full day of celebration in worship and fellowship gathering. Our annual meeting was filled with joyful worship, great music (as always), and of course, fantastic food! We were treated to an important update to our capital campaign by Richie Musser, of Kirby Smith & Assoc., jazz musicians for our worship and meeting entertainment, and a New Orleans inspired menu by Chef Chris & Crew. Thanks be to God, our volunteers and staff who made this celebration special. The Capital Campaign update summary flyer is included in this newsletter.



Wetland Reparation Forest and Education Area

Our new Wetland's Forest planting is complete. Maintenance will be required to get the Forest to maturity. We currently are straightening the protective sleeves. The Forest will provide shelter and food to the wildlife located in our area, as well as provide a stable boundary for the wetlands. Come and check out the education kiosk to learn more about our project. If you would like to learn more and be involved in this and other conservation projects, contact me, Pastor Scott.

Garden of Hope

Our garden is ready to go. The beds are rototilled, shaped and handling with love. We are ready to plant Saturday, April 1st, at 9 AM. Come and join us.





April Celebrations

Senior (90 and older) Birthday

Hazel LeVan
90 years old on April 25th
35 North Walnut Street Apt. 214
Boyertown, PA 19512-1031

Anniversaries

- 7 Andy and Jen Van Dyke
- 10 Raymond and Teri Bechtel
- 12 Ed and Tina Phillips
- 13 Rick and Deb Becker
- 16 Rick Garcia and Ligia Ayala
- 23 Matthew and Donna Landis
- 25 Robert and Jenn Cavalari
- 26 Ken and Patricia Grzywacz
- 29 Thomas and Jayne McHugh
- 30 Bill and Sandy Wilson

Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1 Daulton Moyer,
Connor Smale, Debra
Smale | 13 Kadence Fox, Diana
Hazel, Mandy Hamilton,
Adam Helmer, Natalie
Meeker, Jennifer Van
Dyke | 20 Justin Gallagher, Cathy
Gehringer, Marty Herold,
Karter Lehigh, Tim
Mutter |
| 2 Cameron Gorman, Kelly
Hennessey, Barry Spencer | 14 Amanda Hoffman, Phyllis
O'Boyle, Hayley Quigley | 21 Allison Bowman, Jim
Boyer, Alexia Campbell,
Ashley Mutter |
| 3 Ruth Bauer, Tyler
McConnell | 15 Carl Dey, Cody
Eichenlaub, Gwen Grant,
Dustin Smale | 22 Rick Becker, Kelly
Hauser, Amanda Rojas,
Sandra Yanisko |
| 4 Carter Allen, David
Grant, Samantha Wurst | 16 Lisa Caputo, Sue Care,
David Helmer | 23 Tara Hauck |
| 5 Ryan Black, Katrina
Clark | 17 Andrew Dubbs, Dwight
Marazas, Joshua
Nimmerichter, Nancy
White | 24 Stephanie Ray |
| 6 Christopher Clark,
Carol Feick, Craig Moser,
Gary Moser, Sharon
Robbins | 18 Michael Lambert,
Charlotte Lindenmuth | 25 Ralph Borneman,
Hazel LeVan, Molly
Woods, Shyla Wright |
| 7 Ronald Comtois, Alexa
Moser, Kathy Taylor | 19 Timothy Dinsmore,
Jeffrey Magee, Hannah
Waltermyer | 26 Madison Bowman, Erin
Eisenhart |
| 8 Jordan Becker, Jennifer
Boyer, Carl Eisenhart,
Jamie Holiday | | 27 Zachary Foskey,
Joshua Heck, James Price,
Noah Waltermyer |
| 9 Jason Crunetti, Christian
Schweizer, Jaime Scott | | 28 Jenn Dell'Alba |
| 10 Scott Dotterer, Carol
Dugan, Ursula Gamler,
Eric Meeker | | 29 James Brandt |
| 11 Graham Beaver, Jess
Davis, Michelle Kehs,
Sylvia Morrell | | |
| 12 Brian Eisenhart, Genesis
Garcia, Sadie Hubley,
Rodney Snell | | |

Spring renewal

By reading the Scriptures I am so renewed that all nature seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to be a pure, a cooler blue, the trees a deeper green. The whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel fire and music under my feet.

—Thomas Merton

Contact Information

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church
2941 Lutheran Road
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 2 PM
Call for an appointment. 610-326-1335

Staff

Pastor The Rev. Scott Staub
pastor@newhanoverlutheran.org

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nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall
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Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Bell Choir Director Barbara Eisenhart
eisenbarb@aol.com

Sexton, Jen Boyer
jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer
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Bill Bauer, rwbauer7@gmail.com
Norm Hunsberger, namron29@comcast.net

Council

Pastor Scott Staub
President Steve Eisenhart
Vice-president Todd Rothermel
Secretary Barbara Repa
Treasurer Edward Becker
Financial Secretary Scott Geiser
Jim Gross **Jeff Wise**
Vicki Mutter **Nancy White**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Easter, April 9th

Worship 9 and 11 AM

Breakfast 9 - 11 AM
(come anytime between 9 and 11)



A Sign of Spring

In *The Story of the Easter Robin* (Zonderkidz), Dandi Daley Mackall retells an old Pennsylvania Dutch tale of the robin's compassion as he witnessed Jesus' death.



On Good Friday, a plain brown robin flying over Jerusalem was curious about the "nest" atop Jesus' head. When the bird realized it was a crown of thorns, he tried to dislodge it. As the robin pulled out a long thorn from Jesus' forehead, a drop of blood landed on the bird's breast, staining it red. Now the robin's red breast is a symbol of Jesus' loving sacrifice, and the robin's early-spring song is a reminder of Jesus' joyful resurrection.

Welcome Violet Mandic Grace Band Leader

Join me in welcoming Violet Mandic as our Grace Band Leader. Violet will start directing our Grace Band as of April 10th. We will have a meet & greet reception with Violet immediately following the worship on April 16th.

Violet's many talents include her leadership and teaching skills of all ages in classical and praise music genre. Violet has a solid resume of performance, and accompaniment. We very much look forward to the start of Violet's ministry with us. More information can be found at https://1.facebook.com/1.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsupersophisticated7.wixsite.com%2Fhealingmusicnotes%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2AfXcjHd11V-doGzVumCfMXHjxWYHwiyz_PgoyRutc6OVOJoX8FZCP-S4&h=AT3p5YDk7egCu8JfFY-VwWsMBMq3v1bitHflcM0cbXn5fA09kpfrYKz1-v6aZz8sc1DloNVpsxgSlmkJIJvXQ45dLuJ-UrD5yjRQyjoC7I0SxkQOF_rXmaVFQ4jZLaAbD5PwDor0MBzoKYCvQDJmNeif37g

Pastor Scott

Geraniums for Pentecost, May 28, 2023

Red geraniums will decorate the sanctuary on Pentecost, May 28. If you would like to place an order, fill out this form indicating how you desire your sponsorship to appear in the bulletin. Geraniums may be picked up after the service on May 28 and taken home for your own garden. This form along with your payment may be placed in the offering basket or returned to the church office by **Sunday, May 7, 2023**.

Suggested donation:

1 single geranium is \$6.00.

Qty. _____ at \$6.00 = _____

10" pot containing 3 geraniums is \$20.00.

Qty. _____ at \$20.00 = _____

Amount Enclosed _____

In Memory/Honor of _____ by _____
(circle one) (please print) (please print)

In Memory/Honor of _____ by _____
(circle one) (please print) (please print)

Place this form along with your payment in an envelope (available in the Welcome Center and Narthex) and return to the church office or place in the offering plate. Please make checks payable to NHELCC.

Order deadline is May 7, 2023.

Please pick up your geraniums immediately after the 9:00 AM service on May 28, 2023.

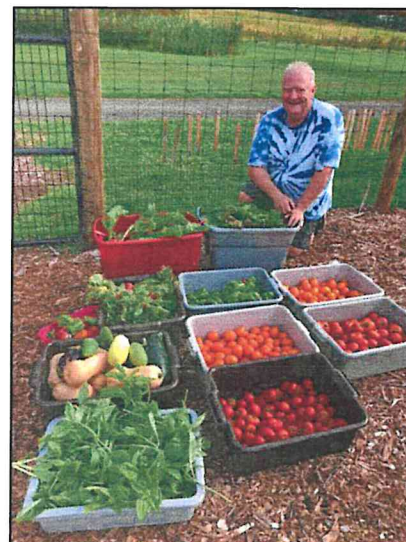


New Hanover Lutheran Church Feasibility Study Executive Summary

Thank You

Dear NHELc Family,

First and foremost, it has truly been a blessing to partner with you on this journey so far! We cannot thank all of you enough for completing the survey with your heartfelt feedback, giving up your time to chat with us by phone, Zoom or in person for an interview and most importantly praying for the church through this process. The information below is an executive summary from the Feasibility Study. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to reach out. New Hanover Lutheran Church is a special place because you understand that you are a family. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this incredible family over the past couple of months!



Yours in Christ,

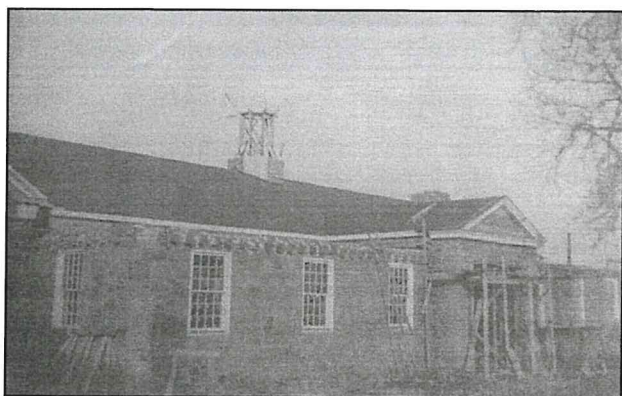
Richie Musser, Rachel Musser, and Sarah Teichmann

BY THE NUMBERS

- 94% of households hold a very good to superior overall view of NHELc.
- 83% of households marked that they are at least somewhat involved with the church.
- 71% of those responding have been attending NHELc for 20 years or more. An additional 12% have been members of the church for 11 to 20 years and 1% of those who filled out a survey have attended for 6 to 10 years. 15% are “new” members who have been attending for five years or less.

THEMES

Community – New Hanover Lutheran Church has a long history and members love their church! Even families who move away still consider this their ‘church home’ and have much love for the people and overall community. During interviews and conversations, when the word “community” was mentioned, it was closely related to the welcoming atmosphere in the church. As one member mentioned, “I love that we are a warm, caring community.” The other sense of community is the call to serve those outside of the church (outreach). The sense of community and togetherness is highly valued at NHELc.



Facilities – New Hanover Lutheran Church has been around for generations, and members want to ensure it is well kept for generations to come. Many households spoke about the historic nature of the building, and the need to update, beautify, and tend to it in an intentional and strategic way. As one member wrote, “Although I like to donate for projects that benefit the people and community, I realize that our building is old and needs to be updated in order to house those who gather for worship and fellowship.”

THEMES

Ministry & Outreach – Some of those responding to the survey and interviews acknowledged that they are not well versed in the impact of NHELC’s ministries. Moving forward, NHELC will make it a priority to communicate the impact the church has through the building, initiatives, and programs. Other members of NHELC understand the need to upkeep the building, but do not want to lose focus investing in missions such as the food ministry program. Through this Feasibility Study process, opportunities have arisen for other potential avenues of funding for ministries, such as the food program. These are a focus this spring and the church hopes to secure tax credits and grants that would go directly to our community ministries.

Campaign Vision – Members were overall supportive of all components of the vision (see below). As one member wrote, “I trust that the property committee, along with the pastor and church council, are doing and recommending the work that needs to be done in order to be good stewards of our church property.” That said, as the campaign moves forward members would like continued transparency on how decisions are made, the cost of projects and the timeline. The campaign team will ensure that members receive detailed information on the campaign goals and objectives as well as details about individual projects as the church moves through this process.

SUPPORT

