September 2023 NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church -



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Blast off into the new program year Sunday, September 10th

Blast off into New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church's (NHELC) new programming year. This year's theme is Space, a continuation from Kids Camp. You won't want to miss this!

Worship

9:00 AM

Third graders will receive their Bibles during worship. If you have a third grader Or a student who didn't receive a Bible when in third grade, contact Nikki Young.

JAM (Jesus and Me) 10:15 AM

Fun activities are planned for all ages.

Congregation Picnic 11:30 AM

The main course and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Communion

Worship at NHELC on September 3rd with Altar Communion and October 29th with Pew Communion. World Communion Sunday is October 1st.



Choirs resume

Feel like you're walking on a cloud! Add some uplifting music into your life. Join a choir.

Handbell Choir

Rehearsals are Thursdays, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

For more information, contact Handbell Choir Director Barb Eisenhart.

Chancel Choir

Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 6th, 7:00 – 8:15 PM

Kid's Choir

Rehearsals for youth ages 3 - 12 resume **Sunday**, **September 17th**, **11:20 – 11:50 AM**

For more information on the Chancel Choir and Kid's Choir, contact Director of Music Ministry Patricia Nyce.

Breakfast Fellowship

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, September 9th, 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.

Women's Breakfast

Wednesday, September 13th, 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.



Shine for NHELC's kids Become a JAM teacher

Want to make a BIG difference in the lives of NHELC's kids? Prayerfully consider serving then talk to Nikki Young about assisting in the JAM (Jesus and Me) ministry.

We are looking for two teams of four: one for the pre-k - 2^{nd} graders and one for the 3^{rd} - 5^{th} graders. With two teams of four, everyone can serve just one Sunday per month.

Mid-week Dinners

Wednesday, September 20th 5:45 PM

Take a break planning dinner and join your church family for the monthly Loaves & Fishes midweek dinner. The monthly dinner get-together returns in September and will be held the third Wednesday of the month in fellowship hall throughout the program year.



Help support NHELC's chartered Boy Scout Troop 367 through their car wash. The cost is \$5.00. Proceeds benefit the scouts with dues and camping activities. Thank you for your support.

Adult Study Forum The Phoenix Affirmation

Starting Sunday, September 24th, at 10:15 AM

What is It? - The twelve Affirmations express a more traditional, inclusive, and expansive role for Christianity. The Affirmations say that, as Jesus teaches us, our Christian love should be expressed in three ways: by loving God, neighbor, and self. Join us each Sunday as we explore what it means to love God, love neighbor, and love thy self. We encourage you to sign up in the welcome center or online at newhanoverlutheran.org signups, to get an idea of what space and materials we will need.

The public face of Christianity in America today bears little connection to the historic faith of our ancestors. It represents even less our own faith as Christians who continue to celebrate the gifts of our Creator, revealed, and embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Heartened by our experience of the transforming presence of Christ's Holy Spirit in our world, we find ourselves in a time and place where we will be no longer silent. We hereby mark an end to our silence by making the following affirmations:

"As people who are joyfully and unapologetically Christian, we pledge ourselves completely to the way of Love. We work to express our love, as Jesus teaches us, in three ways: by loving God, neighbor, and self."

(Matt. 22:34-40 // Mk. 12:28-31 // Lk. 10:25-28; Cf. Deut. 6:5; Lev. 19:18)

Christian love of God Weekly Studies include:

- 1. Walking fully in the path of Jesus, without denying the legitimacy of other paths God may provide humanity;
- 2. Listening for God's Word which comes through daily prayer and meditation, studying the ancient testimonies which we call Scripture, and attending to God's present activity in the world;

- 3. Celebrating the God whose Spirit pervades and whose glory is reflected in all of God's Creation, including the earth and its ecosystems, the sacred and secular, the Christian and non-Christian, the human and non-human;
- 4. Expressing our love in worship that is as sincere, vibrant, and artful as it is scriptural.

Christian love of neighbor includes:

- 5. Engaging people authentically, as Jesus did, treating all as creations made in God's very image, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, nationality, or economic class;
- 6. Standing, as Jesus does, with the outcast and oppressed, the denigrated and afflicted, seeking peace and justice with or without the support of others;
- 7. Preserving religious freedom and the Church's ability to speak prophetically to government by resisting the commingling of Church and State;
- Walking humbly with God, acknowledging our own shortcomings while honestly seeking to understand and call forth the best in others, including those who consider us their enemies;

Christian love of self includes:

- Basing our lives on the faith that, in Christ, all things are made new, and that we, and all people, are loved beyond our wildest imagination – for eternity;
- 10. Claiming the sacredness of both our minds and our hearts, recognizing that faith and science, doubt and belief serve the pursuit of truth;
- 11. Caring for our bodies, and insisting on taking time to enjoy the benefits of prayer, reflection, worship and recreation in addition to work;
- 12. Acting on the faith that we are born with a meaning and purpose; a vocation and ministry that serves to strengthen and extend God's realm of love.

God on Tap Thursday, September 7th 6:00 PM Main Street in Bally

Come to dinner and join in the discussion of a contemporary Christian topic. For more information, email Randy Dotterer at <u>RDPTW6489@Gmail.com</u> or call/text him at 610-306-0621. God on Tap meets the first Thursday of the month.

Confirmation

We have an exciting year planned for Confirmation! We will be reaching out to parents of 8th graders soon. Watch for an announcement for a parent/ student meeting to be held in September. If you have an 8th or 9th grader, who wants to participate in confirmation, contact Nikki Young at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org.

> Book Club Tuesday, October 3rd 6:30 PM

The NHELC Book Club is reading *The Paper Place* by Miranda Cowley Heller. All are welcome to meet and discuss this book on October 3rd at Plaza Azteca in Boyertown. If you have any questions, contact Sharon Tracey.

"I'm a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who sending a love letter to the world."

- Mother Teresa

State Representative Donna Scheuren's SENIOR LIVING EXPO



Senior citizens, their families and their caregivers are encouraged to attend!

Over 25 exhibitors from local and state agencies, medical organizations and a variety of senior-focused organizations will be on hand to share their expertise and information on services and issues important to seniors.

THE EXPO IS FREE TO ATTEND

A boxed lunch will be provided to seniors and their caregivers who register by 9/14/23. Please call the Gilbertsville office at **610-323-3299** to register.

RepScheuren.com Facebook.com/RepScheuren



2023

THURSDAY,

SEPT

New Hanover Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services 2154 Swamp Pike, Gilbertsville, PA 19525



Men's Mission Trip Saturday, October 14th 9 AM - 8 PM

Highlights

- General Spatz Museum and Escape Experience
- Mid-Atlantic Air Museum Tour
- Bible studies, fellowship and more

Watch for more details and opportunity to sign up.

The value of solid relationships

"Most of life's great moments — the ones that resonate in our hearts and minds — involve other people," writes John C. Maxwell in *Today Matters*. "Rarely do we experience these times alone. And even when we do, our first inclination is to share them with others."

Maxwell then poses this challenge: "Think back to the most important experiences of your life, the highest highs, the greatest victories, the most daunting obstacles overcome. How many happened to you alone? I bet there are very few. When you understand that being connected to others is one of life's greatest joys, you realize that life's best comes when you initiate and invest in solid relationships."

Thy will be done

Placing ourselves completely into God's hands can be challenging. If you need help in that area, pray these words from Thomas à Kempis: "Lord, you know what is best. May your will decide what shall be done. Give what you will, how much you will and when you will. Do what you know is best for me. Do what pleases you and brings your name most honor.

"Put me where you will, and deal with me in all things as you please. I am in your hand — turn me backwards and forwards, turn me upside down. Here I am, your servant, ready for anything, for I have no desire to live for myself but only to live perfectly and worthily for you." Cove is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that

flames the candle of service.

ervice is the candle that ignites the torch of hope.

Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith.

Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God.

fod is the power that reates the miracle of love.

William Arthur Ward

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Harvest Home

Sunday, September 24th

Bring non-perishable donations with you to worship for the annual Harvest Home celebration of our bounty. Before entering the sanctuary for worship, drop off your donations at the designated area in the Welcome Center. At the beginning of the service, children will bring the items to the altar for a blessing.



will meet to discuss several questions posted weeks beforehand. The questions will pertain to our everyday lives, no matter who we are, where we are in life or age. We will apply our collective experiences, wisdom and Bible scriptures to help the discussion along. There are no prerequisites; come as you are, and everyone is invited. If you like to listen or talk, please come. Contact Pastor Scott is you have any questions and look in the bulletin or website for posted dates and questions in the near future.

First Communion Wednesday, October 18th

First Communion class with be held following the Loaves and Fishes meal from 6:30-7:30 PM. Students from 2nd grade and older may take the class at their parents' discretion. If you feel your child is ready to take communion, contact Nikki Young at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org to sign up for the class. If possible, a parent or guardian should attend with the student. Sign up by September 1st so we can be sure to have enough workbooks. First Communion will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 29th.

Wave of Light Sunday, October 15th 6:30 PM

On October 25, 1988, President Ronald Reagan designated October as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. This was a time to honor the young lives lost and a time to support the family and friends who endured the loss. A petition in 2002 generated October 15^{th} as the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day which is acknowledged in all 50 states.

NHELC will host an outdoor (weather permitting) wave of light service on Sunday, October 15th, at 6:30 PM. Do you know someone who was touched by such a loss? Invite them to come. Watch for further details in the bulletin and on Facebook. Contact Nikki Young with any questions.

Pumpkin Frolic

Sunday, October 22nd 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Come join the fun of pumpkin related activities including pumpkin decorating, fall crafts, scavenger hunt, games and snacks. Participants will be painting pumpkins, not carving them for safety purposes. Pumpkins and paint will be provided. This is a Thrivent Action team service project. There is no charge for this event; however, please bring some nonperishable food for Preston's Pantry at Boyertown Multi-Service. Signup on the designated sheet on the welcome center desk or at https://www.signupgenius.com/

go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-pumpkin1.

To be sure there will be enough pumpkins for those attending, sign up by October 16th. This event will be held in fellowship hall.





Join us for our 5th annual In God's Image event! Saturday, October 7, at Upper Dublin Lutheran Church with keynote speaker Pastor Noah Hepler! In God's Image is a day-long (9-2) program of worship, workshops, conversation, and resources. Sponsored by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, this is sure to be a great day. Folks from all over the region — Lutheran and non-Lutheran, church "professionals" and those who just want to know more — will gather at Upper Dublin to share their experiences, learn about ministry potentials in their contexts, and share joys and concerns about inclusive and expansive ministry. It is the aim of this event to equip those who are passionate about ministry for and with LGBTQIA+ folks in their congregation, their families, their workplaces to be able to reach out in love and support for their beloved.

Sign up in the welcome center. Contact Sharon Tracey at <u>lbd36@aol.com</u> for more information. Thank you.

Hope defined

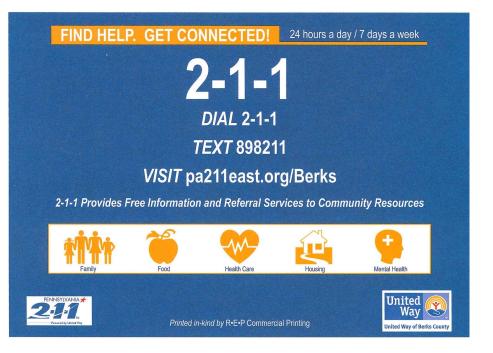
Hoping does not mean doing nothing. It means going about our assigned tasks, confident that God will provide the meaning and the conclusions. It is not compelled to work away at keeping up appearances with a bogus spirituality. It is the opposite of desperate and panicky manipulations, of scurrying and worrying.

And hoping is not dreaming. It is not spinning an illusion or fantasy to protect us from our boredom or our pain. It means a confident, alert expectation that God will do what he said he will do. It is imagination put in the harness of faith. It is a willingness to let God do it his way and in his time. It is the opposite of making plans that we demand that God put into effect, telling him both how and when to do it.

> -Eugene Peterson A Long Obedience in the Same Direction



is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1



Recently I am amazed at the news and articles on failed explorations. Recently, Russia has crashed a rocket onto or dare say, into the moon creating a new crater: hopefully not defacing the Man on the Moon! Being fair, the United States has burned up probes in Mars' atmosphere, by a simple mistake of not converting English to Metric measurements occurred. And then there are famous Polar and deep-sea explorations where short cuts were taken and the question screams out, "What were they thinking!" However, we as human beings keep trying to finish the quest, "Right?"

Sometimes, I believe, our faith life is a quest, an exploration. We start, stop, crash and burn (so to speak), and/or, with the help of God's Grace exceed. However, with any exploration, the most critical item is the supply line to keep one nourished and healthy during the journey. There are many nourishing items to take along on your own faith exploration. Bread, water, and hope. In John 6:35, Jesus states "Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Seems simple, for successful exploration of faith, carry Jesus along for the exploration; however, how does one do that?

Jesus promises us to be with us always. That's great! So let's explore, we have an eternal source of faith and nourishment to tap into. However sometimes on our exploration, we don't take advantage of the bread that Jesus offers, and it's not enough to just claim we are Christians to tap into this source of nourishment. Jesus' teachings and life living examples are the one source of nourishment that will sustain you on our faith journey: however, not always our favorite. For Jesus asks us to share our wealth, give our time and our talents, attend Bible study or devotions, and constantly pray. That's a lot of sacrifice of oneself over instantaneous feel-good moments that the world has to offer. Choosing Jesus sometimes is like

choosing Brussel sprouts over ice cream. Jesus tells us our explo-

ration of faith will not be easy for the exploration is all about sacrificing one's own ambitions for the good of all.

Like all other failed explorations, the lack of preparation and carrying the right supplies will end not so well. However, there are many opportunities to explore your faith here at NHELC, that will help you. For our children, JAM classes each Sunday and family events will nourish the hearts, bodies and souls with music, games and Bible lessons. Youth are offered opportunities to have fellowship and service through the Flutter Group, along with Catechism, and Sunday JAM youth studies. Adults will be able to attend Thursday Morning fellowship and Bible study get togethers, service projects, food and garden mission events, along with Sundays morning Bible discussions reflecting on the world events and how we engage. In addition, monthly fellowship meetings will be held to educate one on services for seniors and adults of all ages. So that's a large menu of nourishment for your entire faith journey.

In Jesus, we find the nourishment for our explorations of faith. My hope is that you find what you need here at NHELC. On a vacation recently, I asked a person what their title was. They replied, "I am the director of destination management." I thought, what a great title for a pastor, Director of Faith (or Final) Destination Management. Please feel free to contact me if you are having troubles or planning an exploration of your or your child's faith. As your director of faith (or final) destination, I am willing to help you plan, and prepare for your successful exploration of faith, avoid the crash and burn and have a successful faith exploration.

Peace, Pastor Scott



Dreaming of being a TV producer/director?

Sign up with Amy to learn how you can produce and direct our weekly worship service. The sessions will be scheduled for two hours at a time so you can learn and practice using the equipment. There are two spots or one family spot available per training session.

September		October	
Tues., September 5 th	TBD	Sun., October 1 st	10 - Noon (after worship)
Thurs., September 14 th	6:30-8:30 PM	Tues., October 3 rd	6 - 8 PM
Sun., September 17 th	10 - Noon (after worship)	Thurs., October 19 th	10 - Noon
Tues., September 26 th	6-8 PM	Sun., October 22 nd	10 - Noon (after worship)

November		December	
TBD		Tues., December 5 th	1-3 PM
Wed., November 15 th	1-3 PM	Sun., December 10 th	10-Noon (after worship)
Sun., November 26 th	10-Noon (after worship)	Sun., December 17 th	10-Noon (after worship)
Tues., November 28 th	6-8 PM	Wed., December 20 th	10:30-12:30 PM

All Dates are subject to change. Check for a signup Genius at www.newhanoverlutheran.org.



Happy Birthday

- 1 Jane Johnson, Cynthia Mack, Skylar Mathias
- 2 Holli Nuss, Nicole Rohrbach, Jay Smith
- 3 Kristina Lang
- 5 Harry White
- 6 Bryce Manthorne
- 7 Molly Moylan
- 8 Cameron Hauser
- 9 Annabel Bechtel, Chase Haraske, Diane Heffner, Jim Mack
- 10 Valencia Sabastro, Kevin Wilson
- 11 Victoria Brett, Ron Fegley, James Lindenmuth, Erin Magee, Jenna Psota, Beverly Smale
- 12 Mason Ammarell
- 13 Morgan Fox, Cindy King, Carlo Malantonio

- 14 Jason Kunsch, Justin Smoot
- 15 Nathan Beaver, Debbie Solazzo
- 16 Nicole Ewing, Emily Gallagher
- 17 Tanner Buchholtz, Patricia Ehst
- 18 David Czarnecki, Matthew Reed
- 20 Bryan Christ
- 21 Taylor King, Kelsey Renner
- 22 Julia Hauck, Cameron Parker, Matthew Rohrbach
- 23 Avery Brunner
- 24 Linda Adams, Deb Matthews
- 25 Sheridan Cole, Cheryl Goodwin, Paxton Moyer, Michele Parker

- 26 Ray Bechtel III
- 28 Ryan Morrell, Beth Schweiger, Suzanne Weller
- 29 Lester Renninger, Jennifer Yost
- 30 Samantha Allen, Diane Bealer, Kendra Rothermel

Happy Anniversary

- 2 Jason and Brandy Marino
- 5 Ed and Monique Becker
- 6 Adam and Leslie Gates
- 7 Charles and Christine McNichol
- 9 Brian and Joan Flack
- 12 David and Bonnie Lynn
- 17 Rodney and Carolyn Snell
- 19 Ronald and Joan Comtois
- 22 Dieter and Wendy Gahler
- 24 Brent and Sally Sugita
- 28 Kenneth and Linda Motzer

The cost of hiding our light

A Los Angeles restaurant owner rediscovered a neon light had been covered — without being disconnected first — during a construction project 77 years prior. The calculated electricity cost to run the hidden light all that time was \$17,000!

People don't intentionally hide light; that would be counterproductive, not to mention wasteful. Yet when we shrink back from sharing Jesus' good news, we do indeed hide "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14) that is in us. When we're too modest to use God-given talents such as singing, playing piano or reading to bring others joy, we hide our light. When we put our own wants ahead of meeting someone else's needs through giving and serving, we hide the light of God's love. And at what cost?

"Let your light shine before others," Jesus says, "that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (verse 16). How do you let your light shine?



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.

Staff

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 **Grace Band Director Lindsey Waltermyer** goldielw@gmail.com **Bell Choir Director Barbara Eisenhart** eisenbarb@aol.com **Sexton Jen Boyer** jcboyer0408@gmail.com **Bookkeeper Maria Boyer** mariaboyer@comcast.net Cemetery Bill Bauer - rwbauer7@gmail.com Norm Hunsberger - namron29@comcast.net

Council

Pastor Scott Staub Peer Support **President Steve Eisenhart** Memorial Fund, Worship & Music Vice-president Todd Rothermel Garden of Hope/Food Ministry, Personnel Secretary Barbara Repa **Christian Education Treasurer Edward Becker** Audit, Finance, Stewardship **Financial Secretary Scott Geiser** Fellowship, Swamp Picnic **Jim Gross** Building Fund, Cemetery, Property Vicki Mutter Evangelism, Flutter, Mission Service/ Social Ministry, NYG Jeff Wise Endowment, History & Archives Nancy White Constitution



<u>SEPTEMBER</u>

2023/24 Program Calendar

Events will be added and we will alert you when that is the case! Check us out on Facebook or at www.newhanoverlutheran.org

10 - Move up Sunday (3rd grade bibles) / Church Picnic

19 - Meet me in the Garden - 6pm dinner and light gardening

20 – Loaves and Fishes Dinner 5:45

24 - Festival of Harvest Home Worship (Bring non=perishable food and kids will bring forward at start of worship)

<u>OCTOBER</u>

1 – World Communion Sunday

18 - Loaves and Fishes Dinner 5:45

18 – First Communion Class (2nd grade & up at parent/staff discretion) 6:30–7:30

15 – Pregnancy and Infant loss Wave of Light Service 6:30pm

22 - Pumpkin Frolic 2:00-4:00 (Paint/Carve pumpkins, games)

29 - Reformation Sunday - First Communion and Reception/all ages

NOVEMBER

5 – All Saints Sunday

- 11 Roast Beef Dinner 4–7
- 15 Loaves and Fishes Dinner 5:45

23 – 9am Thanksgiving Day Community Worship Service

<u>DECEMBER</u>

- 10 Advent /Christmas Craft Event 2-4
- 10 After Church, Special Congregational Meeting (Budget)
- 17 Christmas Pageant (after church) PM Caroling and Rejoicing Spirits

24 - Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 (Family) and 8:00

<u>JANUARY</u>

Check the bulletin and facebook etc. for added events

<u>FEBRUARY</u>

4 - Scout Sunday
11 - Fastnacht Jazz Social
and Congregational Meeting
14 - Ash Wednesday

MARCH

24 – Palm Sunday (Kids parade) 30 – Easter Egg Hunt 31 – Easter Sunday

<u>APRIL</u>

6 – Box City – Details to come

MAY

19 – Pentecost and Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation Sunday)

<u>JUNE/JULY</u>

2 – Music Sunday 17–21 Kids Camp 2024 July 23–26 Camp Falckner

Look for summer events to be announced in May 2024

<u>Recurring Events</u>

Worship = Sunday at 9am JAM - Sundays 10:15-11:15 Kids Choir – Sundays at 11:20 Chancel Choir - Wednesdays at 7pm Handbell Choir - Thursdays at 6:15 Monday Prayer Session 1:15 1st Thursday – God on Tap 2nd Tuesday - Chosen 300 2nd Wednesday - Mid-week breakfast 2nd Saturday - Weekend breakfast 3rd Wednesday – Monthly Loaves and Fishes Meal 5:45 Rejoicing Spirits Worship - 3rd Sunday at 3 (2:30 fellowship) Walnut Woods Worship – 3rd Tuesday at 10 am Adult Forum and Fellowship -Thursdays at 10 am

Contact the church office for info or to learn other areas to serve! We are always looking for volunteers!