NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church









Lent/Easter

Helping Others

Spaghetti Dinner

Fellowship

ore Opportunities

Grief Support

Explore Opportunities

Explore Opportunities

Explore Opp

Look Inside

1.1	-
Spaghetti Dinner	p. 2
Multi-Service Collection	p. 2
Easter Egg Hunt	p. 3
Good Friday Readers	p. 3
Easter Lilies	p. 3
God on Tap	p. 4
Fantasy Baseball	p. 4
Gathering	p. 4
Breakfast Fellowship	p. 5
Veterans Month	p. 5
Cemetery Decorations	p. 6
Book Club	p. 6
Everybody's Birthday	p. 6
Marriage Encounter	p. 6
Kids' Camp	p. 6
Council Corner	p. 7
Ballot Results	p. 7
Healthy Resolutions	p. 7
Pastor's Message	p. 8
Online Giving	p. 8
Handbell Choir	p. 9
Cemetery Help	p. 9
December Gathering	p. 10
Reconciling In Christ	p. 10
Celebrations	p. 11
Prom Gowns	p. 11
Contact Information	p. 12

Find HOPE this Lent

With war and calamities surrounding our everyday news, one needs *Hope*. Hope that only can come from a God who loves and cherishes us above all. Hope that is grounded in the word of God and shared by the testimonies of fellow travelers on this journey in worship together, praise together and pray together. Join us each Sunday for a time to reflect on God's message of Hope and join us each Wednesday Evening for a time to center ourselves in prayer and worship. An evening of prayer as Jesus began, with a time of fellowship in breaking bread together.

Lenten Dinners

Wednesdays, March 6th – 20th, 5:30 PM Soup, Sandwiches & Chef's Choice

Lenten Worship Schedule

Midweek Lenten Worship – Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary, March 6^{th} – 20^{th} , 6:30 PM

Sunday Lenten Worship, March 3rd – 24th, 9:00 AM

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday with Communion, March 24th, 9:00 AM Maundy Thursday with Communion, March 28th, 7:00 PM Good Friday, March 29th, 7:00 PM Easter with Communion, March 31st, 9:00 AM An Easter morning brunch will follow the worship service

Devotionals are available in the Welcome Center, information box outside in portico and online.

Become a First Responder for Grief



Saturday, March 2nd 10 AM - Noon Room 33

The First Aid for Grief workshop prepares Christians to be Good Samaritans during a tragic season of loss. We all need to be better educated, equipped and empowered to respond to people enduring a devastating loss, and to remain with them through their darkest days of grief. Join Randy Doaty, Christian grief educator, as he introduces his innovative philosophies and tools which have helped many others find a meaningful life following a devastating loss. We all love, we all lose, and we all grieve. Consider becoming a ready, willing, and able First Responder for Grief! To register, look for the signup sheet on the desk in the welcome center or signup online at https:// www.signupgenius.com/ go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-47583956-first. Any

questions, contact Rosalie Lisa at 610-416-8193.



Enjoy an all-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, March 16th, 4 – 7 PM **Fellowship Hall**

Dinner includes spaghetti with homemade meatballs and sauce, homemade bread, salad, drink, Pizzelle and ice cream. BYOB. Meals will be available for dine in or take out.

Cost

Adults - \$14.00

Seniors - \$11.00

Children

ages 7 - 12 - \$7.00

ages 6 or younger – free

Donations help local families

Throughout the month of March, New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church (NHELC) is collecting nonperishable items for distribution to local families through the Boyertown Area Multi-Service. Top ten items needed to help fill the shelves include the following.

Food

Apple juice • Canned soup • Crackers • Pancake mix and syrup • Rice • Instant mashed potatoes • Jell-O and pudding mixes • Oatmeal • Coffee and tea bags • Peanut butter and jelly

Non-Food

Laundry detergent • Paper towels • Deodorant (women and men) • Toilet paper • Shampoo and conditioner • Bar soap (unscented) • Diapers (size 4T, 5T and 6T) • Toothpaste and toothbrushes • Feminine hygiene products • Dish soap

Also, sugar-free, sodium-free and low-fat items for those with dietary restrictions are greatly appreciated. Please do not bring items with an expiration date already expired, home-canned items or medicines. These items cannot be accepted. Items may be dropped off at the church. Collection boxes are located in the Welcome Center, Fellowship Hall and Multi-purpose Room.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!





Easter Egg Hunt A holiday fun event for the kids Saturday, March 30th, 10 AM

This event will include the egg hunt, a story and craft and games. If you would like to help with a game or to read a story, contact Nikki Young at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org or 610-326-1335. Youth help is appreciated! Following the activities, we will have a light lunch of hotdogs, snacks and drinks. This event will be held rain or shine – outdoors weather permitting or moved inside if needed.

Will you donate candy?

Candy donations are needed to fill the eggs for the egg hunt. Candy must be smaller and individually wrapped. If you would prefer, cash donations are accepted too. A collection bin for the candy will be the Welcome Center or see Nikki Young with your donations.



"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

—John Wooden



Do you like to read?

Readers are needed for the **Good Friday service on March 29**th. If you would like to read, sign up on the sheet provided at the Information Desk in the Welcome Center.



Easter lily orders and payment are due March 3rd.

Order forms are available on the desk in the Welcome Center or call the church office at 610-326-1335 to place your order.





With whom do you discuss your faith?

Thursday, March 7th 6 PM at Main St. Pub in Bally

God on Tap is a monthly gathering to discuss a contemporary Christian topic over a meal. The discussion topic for March is "Other than casually, do we discuss our faith (dare I say evangelize) with people other than those we know from church? If so, why so? If not, why not?" For more information, email Randy Dotterer at RDPTW6489@Gmail.com or call/text him at 610-306-0621.



Participants enjoyed NHELC Fantasy Football league, so now NHELC is putting together a Yahoo Fantasy Baseball League, "NHELC All Stars" for fun. It's a very simple setup, and rookies are welcome. Baseball season is upon us! To get started, just use the link https://baseball.fantasysports.yahoo.com/b1/23328/ invitation?key=56529ca1f21f5596&ikey=5a2571f 5125c787e&soc_src=app-sh. Any questions about the league, contact Patrick Lucas at pat52376@yahoo.com, or messaged Pat in the NHELC player's fantasy football league through Sleeper (BirdBrainz).



Gathering News

The Gathering Event for Critical Information Checklist was a huge success. As usual the food was excellent, the fellowship great, and the presenters gave all valuable information. We had 60 people gathered to receive a manual where one or a loved one can find information in a critical moment of health or a catastrophic event. Attorneys Jeffrey Karver and Jamie Ottaviano gave valuable information on wills, advanced health directives, power attorney, and trust laws.

If you would like a copy of the information or for future events, contact Pastor Scott. We look forward to seeing you at our future events. Check out the schedule here or at newhanoverlutheran.org.

NHELC Gatherings – Future Events

Organizing and Downsizing April 11th at Noon to 3 PM

Key Note Speakers Paula Mayewski, streamline

specialist, M.Ed. Counselor Education and Emily Mayewski, streamline specialist/designer, AS in Interior Design, BS in Human Development https://homestreamspace.com/about-us/Lunch (free will offering), fellowship & ideas to help you and your loved ones! Please bring a desert to share

Childrens Mission Project June 13th at Noon to 3 PM

A mission project to create pillow casings and blankets for children with cancer and those in disaster relief shelters.

Lunch (free will offering), Fellowship & Mission project to help children

Please bring a desert to share

We are looking for ideas for information and projects in the fall. Contact Pastor Scott at 610-326-1335 or psstaub@gmail.com.

Breakfast Fellowship

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 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, March 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.

An Irish Blessing

To The State of May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

MARCH

IS VETERAN'S APPRECIATION MONTH AT THE GENERAL CARL SPAATZ USAAF MUSEUM



A WWII Experience & Lesson in History

The Gen Carl Spaatz Museum proudly announces its Veteran's Appreciation Month during March with a new, exciting special exhibit. US Military in Transition: Cold War to The Global War on Terrorism -1947 to Present

Come, see and learn about the transition of uniforms and equipment of US Men and Women who won the Cold War and carried the fight in the uncharted arena of the Global War on Terrorism.



\$5 OFF ADMISSION FOR ACTIVE DUTY AND VETERANS



spaatzmuseum.org





of another." Charles Dickens

Cemetery Christmas Decorations









If you have decorations on your loved ones' graves in the church cemetery, we request you remove the decorations by **March 10**th.

Celebrate everybody's birthday party

Sunday, April 14th 2 – 4 PM in Fellowship Hall

Join your church family to celebrate everyone's birthday. We will play games, have cake and ice cream and assemble birthday bags. The decorated bags will be distributed to the children of the families who are served by the Pottstown Cluster food pantry. Attendees are asked to bring any of the following items to be placed in the bags: cake mixes, frosting, birthday candles, **small** packs of birthday plates and napkins (only **unisex** plates and napkins, please). This is a Thrivent Action Team event. You will be able to sign up online on the Sign-Up Genius or on the sheet in the welcome center.

Book Club meets in April

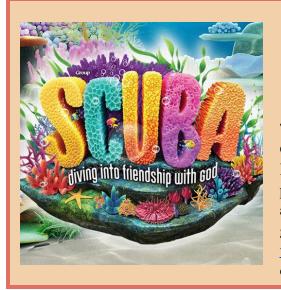
You are invited to join the NHELC Book Club in reading *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards. Participants will gather to discuss this book on Tuesday, April 2nd, at 6:30 PM at the Plaza Azteca in Greshville. Any questions, contact Sharon Tracey.

Marriage Encounter

April 5th – 7th Heritage Hotel in Lancaster

This year's theme is "Learn How to Communicate with Your Spouse in a Whole New Way!" For details of this event and to apply, go to God-LovesMarriage.org. Any questions about this event, contact Larr and Denise Etzler at 814-389-2973.

Pre-registration is required by March 3rd.



2024 Scuba Kids Camp

June 17th – 21st 9 AM - Noon

This year for Kids Camp we are going to dive into friendship with God. Signups are now open for NHELC's 2024 Scuba Kids Camp. Kids will sing and dance, do crafts, hear stories, have snacks and play games! Adult and youth helpers are needed to make this camp a success. Campers should be Pre-K – Rising 5th graders. Rising 6th graders and up can be Junior Counselors. You may sign up at vbspro.events/p/8afc23 or go to the information desk in the Welcome Center for blank sign up forms.

Council Corner

- If you unlock doors for church access, lock doors behind you. Doors have been left open causing a security risk.
- Giving/offering envelopes if you do not need offering envelopes, see Scott Geiser or Susan Gutshall (Simply Giving, other electronic giving)
- Council has elected new officers at the February Council Reorganization meeting:
 - President Todd Rothermel
 - Vice President Marty Hauser
 - Secretary Steve Eisenhart
 - Treasurer Ed Becker
 - Financial Secretary Scott Geiser
- "Tithe.ly" (electronic giving platform) was discussed and will be adopted to provide another electronic method of receiving donations. This is expected to be used in addition to the Simply Giving platform. See page 8 of this newsletter and other communication formats for more information.

Ballot Results

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 11, 2024, the following results were recorded.

Constitution Changes

Yes 65 No 1 Abstain 1

Nominees for Congregation Council

Monique Becker (1st term) 67

D. Martin Hauser (1st term) 65

Yvonne Peto (1st term) 65

Annual Report

Yes 65 No 0 Abstain 1

New Year, New Year Resolutions

By Marlene Hansley, MSN, RN

2024 is well underway and many of us may have made resolutions for the new year that may now be in our rear-view mirror. If so, you are not alone. Most resolutions made never last. We may try hard to change who we are and what we do but the task ends up being difficult. Taking charge of your health and yourself as an individual is something to consider in place of a new year resolution for 2024. Ideas to consider are:

- ✓ Eating healthy
- ✓ Getting regular exercise
- ✓ Getting a good night's sleep
- ✓ Taking time for yourself
- ✓ Getting regular check-ups and health screenings
- ✓ Checking in on our mental health

Taking time to manage your mental health is important and a good resolution for 2024. Good mental health is a major factor in emotional, psychological, and social well-being and affects how we as individuals think, feel, act, and how we handle life's challenges. Care of self is not only about our own personal well-being. Care of self affects the well-being of others around us. The American Heart Association website Healthy Living section offers many good resources on the above topics to help you be better in 2024.

Reference
American Heart
Association:
www.heart.org



Pastor's Message

"Lived to"

So often I hear or read that one died at.... And I have to believe there is more to that story. That one merely just doesn't die at an age or time. I believe one "lives to" an age or time.

If we believe in this resurrection story of Jesus, we are all traveling to our own Easter, our own resurrection. The premise that one dies at, rather than lives to, is wrong or moot. (I love the word moot. Moot is defined as having little or no practical relevance, typically because the subject is too uncertain to allow a decision.) As one states in the Apostles Creed that one believes, then one testifies to one's belief that there is no end to our lives, we simply travel from life to life.

One presence in one's current body ends; however, the life one gives is eternal. Eternal in the minds of others, the others that one lived with, positively impacted, and loved. Now, for those who wish to cling to fasting and sacrifice the things they love instead for Lent, well that's OK too. For here is the thing about living. When one "lives to" a time, one sheds

and/or sacrifices those things that don't matter anyway. One is focused on living a life of love, and shedding hate or fear.

One leaves behind the nuances that stop us from "living to" a time. By embracing a life that allows one to "live to", one chooses a life of love and meaning for oneself and others. When Jesus traveled to Jerusalem for three years, he spoke and taught that he would die. However, he didn't stop living. Jesus lived to the day he was crucified.

In those three years of ministry, Jesus lived by healing, feeding, and loving all of whom he encountered along the way to when the world defines his life ending on Good Friday. Maundy Thursday, Jesus ate and drank and was living life with close friends. Jesus lived life.

Like Jesus, one knows there is an end to one's mortal body. And then the conversation is not when one died at; however, I believe the question and conversation is in the how. How one lived to....

Peace, Pastor Scott



Now you can donate using a QR code



NHELC offers a new electronic giving method (in addition to the current Simply Giving platform) that allows users to give via ACH and Credit/Debit Cards without the need to maintain a Tithe.ly account. Simply point your smartphone camera at the QR code and follow the link. Select the fund you want to donate to, fill out your payment info, and you're done! It's that easy! Use Tithe.ly when grabbing some food on a Sunday morning from Chef Chris or pay for your Picnic Grove Spaghetti Dinner reservations electronically!

For Simply Giving users, there's no need to change to Tithe.ly. Simply Giving **is not** going away. Using Tithe.ly provides a more streamlined giving platform for "spot" donations (although recurring giving is supported).

For your convenience, QR codes for Tithe.ly and Simply Giving are below.

Tithe.ly QR Code



Simply Giving QR Code



Handbell choir rings at dedication and Rejoicing Spirits

On January 28th, the handbell choir presentation of *You Raise Me Up* was dedicated to the memory of Pastor Paul H. Howells. Pastor Howells was the Interim Pastor of New Hanover Lutheran Church from 1992-1994. He later served as Pastor of Ministry Development from 1995-1999. He was recognized for distinguished leadership to Lutheran Outdoor Ministries on January 12, 2018, when he was pre-

sented the Manlove-Howells Leadership Award. Pastor Paul died eleven days later on January 23, 2018, one day before his 89th birthday. During Pastor Paul's years of parish ministry and the decades that he served as Director of Outdoor Ministries for the Lutheran Church in America, he "raised up" three generations of champions for Christ. With the handbell presentation, the congregation remem-



bered, with love and gratitude, the life of service given by Pastor Paul to his God, the congregation of New Hanover Lutheran Church and to the many lives he touched during his ministry.

The Bell Choir played wonderful selections to embellish the February Rejoicing Spirits Worship. The Rejoicers were very appreciative and we thank the bell choir for their long day of service traveling and ringing in the morning and afternoon worships.



wanted: Paid Assistant Cemetery Caretaker

Duties consist of taking care of cemetery and church grounds, helping with maintaining equipment and assisting with funerals. If interested in this position, contact Norm Hunsberger at 484-431-3622 or nhunsberger29@gmail.com. Also, mowers are needed too. If interested, contact Norm Hunsberger at the contact information above.



May you have warm words on a cold evening, a full moon on a dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your door.

— Irish blessing

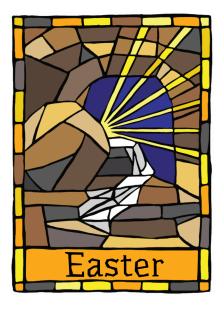
Mission project shows we care



On December 14th, the Gathering held a Christmas social for some fellowship and a mission service project. Thrivent monies and donations were received to allow the group to get together items for the homeless in Pottstown. Items purchased through Thrivent money were socks, underwear, snacks, hand warmers, and personal care items such as shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Donations of blankets, water, and other personal care items for use were obtained too. All the items were put together into individual care packages and were distributed to the homeless in Pottstown through the Pottstown Beacon of Hope.

The Shelter locations offered by Pottstown Beacon of Hope are rotated through various churches in Pottstown. You can learn about the project and volunteer to assist with meals and donate time at the shelter by logging on at

www.pottstownbeaconofhope.org. The homeless population in Pottstown and surrounding area is a growing concern especially with the recent weather conditions in the area. Thank you to the participants at the December Gathering for assisting in packaging the items and Thrivent for supporting the project with funds. Pastor Scott, Rosalie Lisa, and Marlene Hansley organized the mission service project for the group.



Reconciling in Christ

The core team would like to thank everyone who's participated so far in one-to-one discussions around the possibility of New Hanover becoming a Reconciling in Christ church. The feedback and views of the congregation during these individual discussions are a critical part of the journey to understanding if God is calling our church to be welcoming to all - especially to those identifying as LGBTQIA+, racially diverse, or gender diverse. If you wish to participate by becoming a core member or by participating in a one-to-one discussion, contact Sharon Tracey, Diane Bealer, Josh Young, Janet Psota, Rick Hausch or Pastor Scott.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 1 Sydney Renner, Kelli Ritter
- 4 Danielle Dugan, David Evans, Kelsie Rohrbach, Ted Schweiger, Mason Williams
- 5 Fred Agliano, Jr., Kimberly Dinsmore, Benjamin Rothermel
- 6 Zachary Mayan, Tyler Sauers
- 7 Leslie Gates, Derek Updegrove
- 8 Erik Johnson, Zachary Reed
- 9 Eric Hansley
- 10 Ethan Landis
- 11 Amy Foskey, Tyler Lynn, William Sibusiso Masuku
- 12 Alex Caputo, Brenda Hunsberger

- 16 Colleen Christ, Kyle Culp, Christine Miller, Faye Weidner
- 18 Craig Geiser, BobbiNuss, Mary Ann Peters
- 19 Emerson Leydet
- 20 Steve Eisenhart
- 22 Kim Trout, Lee Wesner, Nancy Wolfe
- 23 Michael Freed, Dieter Gahler, Ryan Schatz
- Ilana Bencsik, RobertGanovsky, RobertaGanovsky, Ron Hedrick
- 25 Noah Fatzinger, Bradley Fox, Jr.
- Aiden Girard, Madison
 Hansley, Kevin Hauck,
 Cameron Parker, Courtney Schweizer
- Joan Girard, SethO'Dell, Madison Shirk
- 28 Eleanor Erb

- 29 Brent Feick, Andy Grzywacz, Alicia Smoot
- 30 Matthew Duncan, Stephanie Fegley, Wayne Fowler, Jr.
- 31 Pat Corcoran, Cora Harrity, Brian Hansley, Tom McHugh, Jr., Logan Weisbach

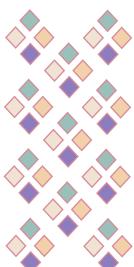
Anniversaries

- 5 Aurelio Zarza Rojas and Amanda Rojas
- 6 Barry and Sharon Spencer
- 10 John and Bobbi Nuss
- 14 Dane and Josalyn Mulvihill
- 18 Christopher and Rachel Clark
- 19 Bryan and Colleen Christ
- 22 Robert and Victoria Brett
- 24 Kerwin and Susan Reber
- 28 Kenneth and Pamela Shellenberger
- 29 Jeff and Kathleen Smoot



Over 800 dresses available for donation

"Once Upon a Prom" will be hosted by the Boyertown Junior Woman's Club on March 2nd, 3rd, 9th and 10th from noon to 4:00 PM. Any junior or senior high school girl in need of a special occasion dress is welcome to come browse our collection of over 800 dresses, in all sizes, plus accessories. This event is held at the Boyertown YMCA NOW located at 301 West Spring Street in Boyertown. All girls are invited to take a dress or two home for a small donation which benefits our local community. For questions, or to donate dresses/accessories, contact Anita Zuber at 610-367-0686 or Judy Leister at 610-858-6796.



2024 Executive Committee

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Keep in Touch

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Call for an appointment.

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Vice-president Marty Hauser

Secretary Steve Eisenhart

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& Music

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Audit, Finance, Stewardship

Financial Secretary Scott Geiser

Fellowship, Mission Service, Picnic Grove

Monique Becker

Peer Support Ministry

Jim Gross

Building Fund, Cemetery, Property

Yvonne Peto

Christian Education, Flutter

Nance White

Constitution, Mutual Ministry

Jeff Wise

Endowment