

NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church



Movie Night



Outdoor Worship



Mini Golf/Ice Cream



Road Trip

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“It's better to be an optimist who is sometimes wrong than a pessimist who is always right.” —Mark Twain

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Candy Bar

BINGO

Tuesday, July 2nd, 6:30 PM

This is a fun event for all ages! Participants will meet in Fellowship Hall. If you would like, bring a snack to share. Don't worry, some gummy/nut free prizes will be available in case candy bars are not a safe treat. Looking forward to seeing you there. To help with planning this event, sign up if you are planning to attend at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-57349518-candy>.

★ ★ ★ God on Tap ★ ★ ★

Thursday, July 3rd, 6:00 PM

Come to the July God on Tap at Main St. in Bally for dinner and discussion. In keeping with the holiday, the topic of discussion is “What do you think was the religious take away at the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence? After all, this country was founded on religious freedom.”

Any questions on this event, contact Randy Dotterer at 610-306-0621 or rdptw6489@gmail.com. If you are planning to attend, RSVP to Randy by Tuesday, July 2nd.

Take me out to the ball game!

Reading Phils

Saturday, August 16th, 6:45 PM

There's still time to sign up for the annual Reading Phillies game. **Reservations are due by Thursday, July 10th.** Tickets are \$12/person and we will be in the green seats area. Contact Nikki Young to sign up. This date is a fireworks night!

Meet Me at the Garden

Wednesday, July 9th, 6:00 PM

Join in fellowship at the church. A light dinner will be available followed by some time working on garden maintenance. Come join the fun as you help our garden team!

In addition, gardeners are needed Monday and Thursday mornings starting at 7:30 AM. No experience necessary to help in the garden. For more information, contact Doug Senne at 484-401-6424 or DSenne@verizon.net.

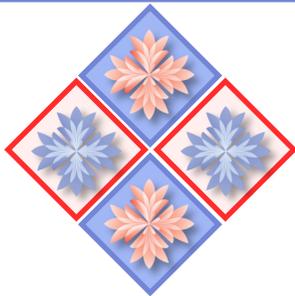


Reconciling in Christ Serving All and Loving Unconditionally Movie Night

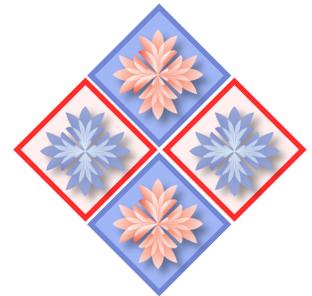
Tuesday, July 15th, 6:30 PM

Join the Reconciling in Christ team in the Fellowship Hall to watch the film entitled, 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture. The film is about 1.5 hours long and the recommendation age is 13 years and older. 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film's creators, 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening and inspiring.

Drinks and snacks will be available.



Small group meetings discuss Reconciling in Christ



The Reconciling in Christ team will be available for small group meetings or one to one discussions throughout the summer. If you are interested in participating, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com. In your email, please indicate with whom on the RIC team you would like to meet. The team member will coordinate the meeting. The members of the team are: Pastor Staub, Rick Hausch, Diane Bealer, Josh Young, Janet

Psota, Dee Singley, Sharon Tracey and Rae Bechtel. Since Rae is not an adult, there will be an adult joining Rae. The discussions will be held at the church, or at a mutually convenient location; dates and times will be determined by the participants. The RIC team is providing these opportunities for people who may be more comfortable discussing their questions, concerns or comments, in a small group.

Aging Grace-Fully series continues

Tuesday, July 15th, 12:30 PM

The July Gathering will feature a live-stream presentation with Mia Birdsong, author of *How We Show Up*. Through research, interviews and stories of lived experiences, the author guides viewers to return to their inherent connectedness where they find strength, safety and support in vulnerability and generosity, in asking for help and being accountable. This book literally and figuratively points viewers towards the promise of a collective vitality and leads to a liberating wellbeing so many seek.

Lunch will be available prior to the presentation. Participants are encouraged to bring a desert to share. A sign-up sheet is on the desk in the welcome center or go online to sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-56437663-july>.



Worship at the grove

Sunday, July 20th
9:00 AM

Come to worship at the church picnic grove (Swamp Picnic Road between Charlotte Street and Lutheran Road). Bring a chair if you wish or you can sit at the tables and benches under the pavilion.

Following the service, a pancake breakfast will be served. And, if you can help, volunteers are needed to set up tents for the campers at this year's Camp Falckner.

So mark the date and head out to the grove on Sunday, July 20th. Be sure to bring a friend to enjoy worship in nature followed by a hearty pancake breakfast.

325th Anniversary Key Chains and Magnets

The 325th Anniversary Committee has provided three more anniversary souvenirs for all members. Check out the basket on top of the display case in the Welcome Center near the photo display panels for magnets and two kinds of key chains. The anniversary pens and coloring books are there also in addition to a wrapper for the Moments in Time inserts.

Mini Golf and Ice Cream

Thursday, July 31st, 6:30 PM

Join your church family for a fun evening of mini golf and ice cream at Waltz Golf Farm. Fun prizes will be available for some of the best (and maybe the worst) golfers. Cost is \$12/person for mini-golf and ice cream. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-57351091-mini>.



Donate toys for The Great Swamp Picnic

Bring in small, new toys to be given at the fish pond. Remember babies and small children when you make your purchase. A collection box is in the Welcome Center. Thank you!



Trappe Trip

Tuesday, July 22nd

Itinerary

The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies

Located in the Dewees Tavern, the center boasts 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

This fully furnished museum interprets the families of Lutheran pastor Henry Muhlenberg and his son General Peter Muhlenberg.

The Speaker's House

The home of Frederick Muhlenberg, The Speaker's House is the home of an ongoing restoration project and the site of a Pennsylvania German kitchen garden.

Lunch

Lunch will be held at the Trappe Tavern.

The Old Trappe Church and The Brick Church

Camp Falckner campers will join the tour of our sister church, Augustus Lutheran Church to see their historic church building as well as the church where they worship today.

Cost

The cost is \$15 per person.

Participants will meet at NHELC at 9:00 AM and carpool to Trappe. A sign-up sheet is available in the Welcome Center or go online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-57296035-historic>. Deadline to sign up is July 16th.



"Proclaim the truth and do not be silent through fear."

— Catherine of Siena

Donations help local families

Throughout the month of July, New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church (NHELC) is collecting non-perishable 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

Soup	Canned fruits/vegetables
Cereal	Rice
Pasta sauce	Granola bars
Crackers	Coffee
Pancake mix	Condiments

Non-Food

Notebooks	Pens/pencils/markers
Folders	Backpacks
Glue sticks	Paper towels
Toilet paper	Dish soap
Laundry detergent	Diapers (esp. sizes 3-5)

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!

NHELC Book Club reads

The Sweetness of Forgetting
by Kristin Harmel

Join the club for dinner and discussion at the WQ Diner in Pottstown on Tuesday, August 5th, at 6:30 PM. Any questions about this event, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com.

Breakfast Fellowship

Women’s Breakfast

Wednesday, July 9th, 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.

Men’s Breakfast

Saturday, July 12th, 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.



The Green Book A message from the Pastor



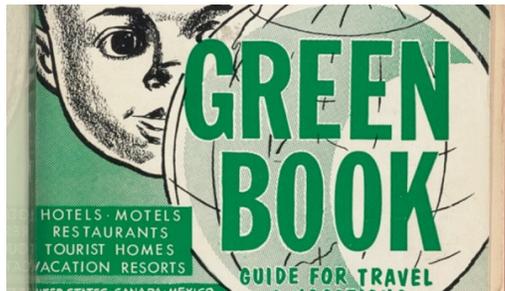
The Green Book was a travel guide published from 1936 to 1967, designed to help African Americans navigate the United States during the Jim Crow era. A period of intense racial segregation and discrimination, where Black people faced significant barriers and dangers when traveling, and their previously given constitutional rights were being taken away.

Beyond being a travel guide, the Green Book was a vital tool for ensuring the safety and well-being of Black travelers, who were often excluded from or targeted by businesses and establishments. It listed businesses like hotels, restaurants and gas stations that were welcoming to Black travelers, offering a crucial resource in a segregated society where many establishments refused service to Black people.

The guide, created by [Victor Green](#), became known as the “bible of Black travel” and was instrumental in enabling safe travel for African Americans across the country. Victor Green, a Black postal worker, recognized the need for such

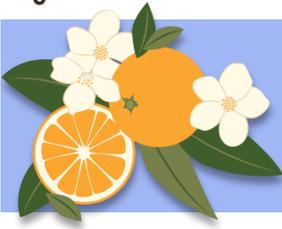
a guide after experiencing the challenges of travel himself and witnessing the experiences of others.

The Green Book ceased publication shortly after the passage of the [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#), which outlawed the types of discrimination that made the guide necessary. The Green Book stands as a testament to the resilience and ingenuity of African Americans in the face of adversity, and it remains a significant historical artifact and a reminder of a difficult period in American history.



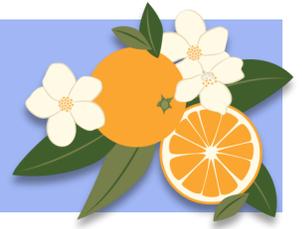
Today, many LGBTQ1+ citizens of the United States are also facing discrimination, hate and their legal and constitutional rights are being taken away. In many ways being reconciled in Christ and simply agreeing that LGBTQ1+ people have a place at Christ’s table in our sanctuary and ministries, is a survival guide for those people who feel threatened and unwelcomed at many other churches. Our community’s great capacity to Love, I believe, is a perfect place for all to enjoy God’s love safely.

Peace, Pastor Scott



Council Corner

Highlights from the June 19th meeting



- Finance continues to monitor the 2025 Annual Budget against actuals. Currently we are running a total deficit YTD; as of May 31 was \$54,818. The total income at the end of May (42% of the year) was at 38.5% of budget (40% offerings to budget) and expenses were at 46.3% of budget. The General Fund cash on hand at the end of May was \$27,009.
- 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 Council is currently working through the existing NHEL C Constitution to refine it in advance of the ELCA updates expected in August of this year. There will be informational meetings leading to a congregation ratification of the changes (2 congregational meetings required to approve changes).
- The Council has been discussing with the Property Committee the required remediation of the existing Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall air-conditioning systems. They are 35 years old and have reached the end of their lifecycle. Complete replacement is necessary. The Property Committee is working on contractor quotes and scheduling. The project is expected to start in fall of this year. More information forthcoming on how NHEL C will finance this project.
- The Council currently 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. 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, NHEL C 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.
- Giving/offering envelopes - if you do not need offering envelopes please see Scott Geiser or Susan Gutshall (Simply Giving, other electronic giving).
- Next Council meeting (open to all members) is scheduled for July 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM.



July CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Alice Nester, who will celebrate her 96th birthday on July 12th. For those who would like to send Alice a birthday greeting, Alice's address is Walnut Woods Apt. 301, 35 North Walnut Street, Boyertown, PA 19512

Also celebrating a birthday in July

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 Gerald Dotterer, Jamie LeVan, Lucille Powell, Heather Wurst | 15 Mason Artim | 29 Lily Hoffman, Joan Price |
| 2 Lori Corcoran, Vicki Dotterer, Teagan Martin, Jamison Rothermel | 16 Matthew Cavalari, Jim Edwards, Blake Hennessy | 30 Janet Psota, Brandy Smale |
| 3 Lisa Heck, Lisa Hibbs, Rylan Rupell, April Smith | 17 Michael McCarthy, Randy Morrell | Anniversaries |
| 4 Carol Estes, June Urbassik | 18 Archie Allen, Jr., Lisa Evans, Todd Stapleton, Erik Yanisko | 5 Mike and June Urbassik |
| 5 Cara Boyer, Matt Landis, Carolyn Velazquez | 19 Ronald Rath, Meredith Sugita | 6 Russell and Lois Biehl |
| 6 Pearl Moyer | 20 Amanda Halteman, Kerwin Reber | 11 Kevin and Robyn Brunner |
| 7 Barbara Dunn, Dominick Marino | 21 Bill Helmer, Darby Smale Seng, Justin Trowbridge | 13 Mike and Jennifer McCarthy |
| 8 Gianna Marino, Dave Pollock, Sr., Doug Rhoads | 23 Natalie Lindenmuth, Jordan Morrell, Don Swavely | 17 Nicholas and Dana Gilbert |
| 9 Jack Bowers, Randy Dotterer, Stacy Trowbridge, Kate Wenerowicz | 24 Kim Capone, Robert Snell | 20 Alex and Darby Smale Seng |
| 10 Ryan Schweiger, Taylor Waller, Logan Williams | 25 Julian Cole, Austin Spencer | 22 Allan and Sue Care |
| 11 Brian Hansley, Jr., Addison Smith, Steve Weidner | 26 Sarah Hollis, Mallory Sugita | 23 Pr. Scott and Marsha Staub |
| 12 Lily Lane, Anita Rath | 27 Mark Bowman, Kenneth Shellenberger II | 25 Kyle and Molly Woods |
| 13 Ryan Dubbs, Scott Geiser, Gavin Quinn | 28 Alaina Christ, Patty Grzywacz | 27 Jeff and Sharon Wise |
| 14 Tom Holiday, Ryan Springer | | 30 Robb Davis and Jenn Dell'Alba |
| | | 31 Bill and Wendy Helmer Don and Andi Swavely |

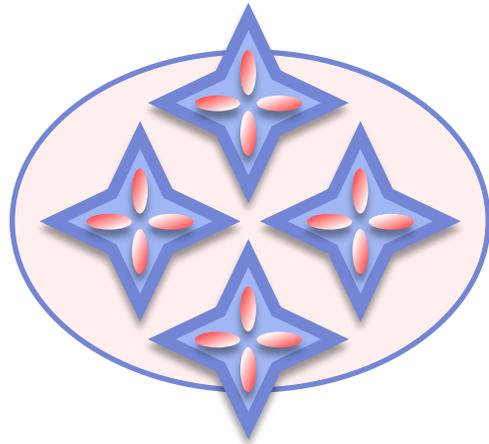


Schedule meetings or events with the office

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 susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org for requests or information.



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.

