

NEW HANOVER HIGHLIGHTS

A Publication of The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church



Chicken Dinner



Garden of Hope



God on Bikes



Church Organ

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“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.”

— Robert Louis Stevenson

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Chicken Dinner

Sunday, June 14th

The annual chicken dinner will be held on Sunday, June 14th, at the picnic grove. Dinner includes grilled chicken, homemade pasta salad, homemade baked beans, homemade coleslaw, beverage and dessert. BYOB. You can enjoy your dinner at the grove or get it as take out. Dinners will be available from 3:00 – 6:00 PM. You won’t want to miss live music by Sons of Phelan (John, Jeremy and Orin) from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. Bring your lawn chair, sit back and enjoy.

Garden of Hope

Can you help in the New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church (NHELIC) Garden of Hope? No experience necessary.

Summer Harvest

Saturday, June 13th, 9:00 AM

There will be lots of fresh produce ready for harvest.

Weeding and Harvesting

Mondays and Thursdays throughout summer, 7:00 AM

Help is needed for regular maintenance.

Any questions about helping in the church garden, contact Jim Mack.



Kids Camp

June 15th - 19th

Kids Camp is coming! Have you signed up to participate or help? If not, you can do that at vbspro.events/p/nhelckidscamp2026. We are looking forward to a great week!

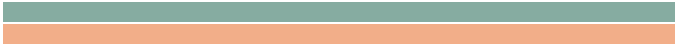


Candy Bingo

Wednesday, July 8th
6:30 – 8:00 PM



Candy Bingo is back by popular demand! Bring a snack to share! So we can plan accordingly, signup online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-64316918-candy> or use this QR Code.



God on Bikes

Do you ride a motorcycle? We already have God on Tap; would you be interested in God on Bikes? Weather permitting, motorcyclists will travel to an “interesting” place, that would include a lunch stop. Participants will help dictate the day we ride, be it a Saturday or during the week. All input of “an interesting place” would be greatly appreciated! It doesn’t matter what kind of bike you ride! Text or email Randy Dotterer at 610-306-0621 or email him at RDPTW6489@Gmail.com with questions or if you are interested.

Enjoy breakfast and fellowship every month at local diners

Women’s Breakfast

Wednesday, June 10th, 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 Lynn Fegley at 484-300-6281 by Tuesday noon before the breakfast.

Men’s Breakfast

Saturday, June 13th, 8:00 AM
Brookside Family Restaurant
1338 North Charlotte Street

The men are back to their monthly gathering at Brookside Family Restaurant. Come out for good food and friendly conversation. No registration is required. Any questions, contact Ron Fegley at 484-300-3025.

Camp Falckner

July 27-30, 2026 at the Church Picnic Grove

Camp Falckner is just around the corner! This overnight camp is open to all youth who will have finished grades 5 -12. Registration is available [online](#), but there are also paper copies available in the Welcome Center. Reach out to [Lindsey Waltermeyer](#) with any questions.

Vicar's message

Dear Friends in Christ,

June brings reminders of growth and new life all around us—and I see that same spirit alive in NHELCC.

One exciting sign of this is the Garden of Hope, now underway through the vision, planning, and hard work of many faithful hands. Gardens teach us something important about faith: we prepare, plant, and care for what has been entrusted to us, trusting God to bring the growth.

The Garden of Hope is more than a project—it is a ministry of hope, hospitality, and community. As work continues, we are still in need of volunteers. Whether you enjoy planting, watering, organizing, or simply lending a helping hand, there is a place for you. I invite you to prayerfully consider joining this growing effort. Even if you are unavailable at the posted times, you let us know when you can come and we can provide you with tasks!

At the same time, we have now completed the Sunshine Learning Center merger. This transition has involved countless hours of planning, problem-solving, and collaboration. There is still work to be done of course! I want to express sincere gratitude to everyone who has helped carry this work forward. Much of this effort happens behind the scenes, but it reflects deep commitment and care for the future of this ministry and the families we serve.

Though different in many ways, these two efforts share a common purpose: both are investments in hope and in the future God is calling us toward. They remind us that ministry happens not only within church walls, but wherever we work together in faith and service.

As Paul writes, *“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth”* (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Thank you for the many ways you continue to nurture faith, serve our community, and share in God's work among us.

Grace and peace,
Vicar Nikki

Designated June donations benefit Reconciling in Christ

The Reconciling in Christ team is collecting donations during the month of June for Reconciling Works, a non-profit organization, to fulfill our annual donation, commitment. Reconciling Works provides outreach and education for congregations on their Reconciling in Christ journey and strengthens relationships with current Reconciling in Christ partners.

There will be a container in the narthex for cash or check donations and a designated QR code is provided to donate through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly). If you are writing a check, please make it out to NHELCC with Reconciling Works in the memo space. Thank you for considering making a donation to support this organization.

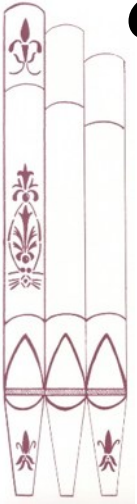


God on Tap

Thursday, June 4th, 6 PM
Main St. Pub in Bally

This month's conversation topic will be *“When does God get a day off?”* God designed us to need “down time”, time to chill, time to block out all of the negatives that may be eating at us. With the world on a 24-hour time clock (think time zones) there must be people contacting Him all hours of every day. When does He get His down time? You are welcome to come and join in this conversation. If you can attend, RSVP to Randy Dotterer at 610-306-0621 via email or text no later than noon on the 4th.

Congregation Receives Sizable Gift to Improve Organ



At the December meeting, the Congregation Council voted unanimously to accept a \$275,000 gift intended to improve and provide anticipated maintenance to the church organ. The gift offer was presented to the council by Steven Eisenhart who was approached by an individual desiring to ensure the longevity of the organ as a memorial to his mother. In conjunction with Director of Music Patricia Nyce, Steve and the donor (who wishes to remain anonymous at this time) worked together to prepare the project requirements and solicited bids from two local pipe organ manufacturers. Dieffenbach Pipe Organs, LLC, of Green Lane, Pennsylvania, was selected to perform the work which will include:

1. Regulate (adjust) the sound of several ranks of pipes in the existing instrument so that they better balance with the rest of the instrument. *This work was accomplished in mid-May.*
2. Install several digital sounds (generated by speakers) to provide greater musical flexibility

to the organist. *This work will occur in mid-August.*

3. Install a new, larger console (where the organist sits) to accommodate the new digital sounds and provide the organist with the latest technology available for controlling those sounds. *This work will occur in mid-August.*
4. Perform the usual maintenance required of every pipe organ between 40 and 50 years of use. During this work, the organ will not be operational for several months due to it being dismantled to access the components in need of maintenance. *This work will occur in the spring and summer of 2027.*

The existing pipe organ was installed by the Schantz Organ Company of Orrville, Ohio in 1986 and is of very high quality. It has served the congregation well and, as a result of this gift, will continue to do so for the next 50 years. Details regarding a service of dedication and a dedication recital will be forthcoming.

Scouting News



Troop 367 would like to thank the members of NHELCC for their endless support of our scouts. It was wonderful seeing so many familiar faces at our Pancake Breakfast event.

The Troop recently celebrated Brandon for achieving his Eagle Rank. Brandon is also a part of our Philmont Crew. In late June the Philmont crew will be leaving for a twelve-day adventure in Cimarron, NM. They will hike over 70 miles on their trek.

Our Cub Scouts enjoyed a weekend of camping at Musser Scout Reservation in the Castle. The highlight of their weekend was fishing and several scouts caught fish.

NHELC's Martin Luther book receives world recognition

Dear Members of the New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church,

The Congregation Council is pleased to share an update regarding the placement of our historic 1545 Martin Luther book, *Wider das Bapstum zu Rom vom Teuffel gestiffit*, to the **Pitts Theology Library at Emory University**. Since arriving at the library in winter 2025, the book has been recognized as a “true treasure” and is now one of the most significant items within the prestigious **Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection**.

The library has taken extensive steps to ensure the book is preserved for future generations while remaining accessible to the world:

- The book was officially cataloged by Dr. Armin Siedlecki and inspected by Emory’s preservation team.
- A custom-made box is currently being crafted to house the volume.
- The book has been fully digitized, including the unique pen and ink drawings and Luther’s own manuscript inscriptions.

The impact of this loaned book is already being felt in the academic community:

- Our book is now discoverable through major global bibliographic resources and Emory’s online catalog.
- Dr. Timothy Wengert has already published an article regarding this volume in *Lutheran Quarterly*.
- The book will be a centerpiece for future exhibitions, public tours, and classroom visits, helping students and patrons learn about the 16th-century Reformation.

You can view the fully digitized version of the work, including the inscriptions that make our copy so special, at the following link: <https://>

digital.pitts.emory.edu/s/digital-collections/item/104092

Richard Manly Adams, Jr., the Director of the Pitts Theology Library, has expressed his deep gratitude to our congregation for entrusting them with this item. He has also extended a warm invitation to any member of our church to visit the library in Atlanta to see the book in person.

We should all be very proud that this piece of history from New Hanover is now serving as a vital resource for scholars and the general public worldwide.

Sincerely
The Congregation Council

Texas Roadhouse

70 Buckwalter Rd., Royersford 610-948-4006

RIB RALLY FUNDRAISER

— Get It To-Go —

Let's Rally Together!

Help support our friends at

Troop and Pack 367

Pre-orders end on June 2

Pick up dates

Wednesday, June 3 or Thursday, June 4

Scan the QR Code below to place your order and choose your pick day and time.

The \$12 RIB RALLY Meal includes: Fall-off-the-Bone Ribs (4 bones), Seasoned Steak Fries, Fresh-Baked Bread, Homemade Honey Cinnamon Butter, PLUS, you receive a Peanut Bag

Free Appetizer Voucher for your next visit

Troop and Pack 367 receives \$3.00 of EVERY MEAL SOLD!



Council Corner

Highlights from the May 21st Council Meeting

- Finance reported the total General Fund budget deficit YTD as of April 30, 2026 was \$27,708. Please make an effort to “catch up” on your giving in 2026.
- Finance reported income and expenses as of April 30, 2026 (33% of the year) - total income was 26.8% and expenses were 29.4 % of the approved 2026 budget. Expenses are being kept in check and in alignment with the current giving percentage.
- The Endowment Fund provided a quarterly income amount of \$11,347. This is budgeted income.
- The approved 2026 General Fund budget is a **deficit** budget of ~\$90,000. We are 33% through 2026 and the deficit is growing. The deficit will vary depending on the timing of a new Senior Pastor and the compensation package. 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.
- The Property Committee is overseeing an HVAC project to replace the 35-year-old air-conditioning system that services the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. The total cost is estimated at \$80,000. The Capital Campaign funds will partially cover the expense. The Council is asking for directed donations to help offset this capital expense.
- The Council is grateful to share that our congregation has been the recipient of a generous legacy gift by Carol Estes. This gift is a testament to her deep love for our church and their vision for our future. While this gift provides a much-needed bridge to sustainability, it is not a replacement for our collective participation. Our ministries continue to depend on the faithful, recurring contributions of our members.
- All meeting and event requests by committees, members or non-members are to be communicated to the Church Office Manager. Susan Gutshall, NHELCO 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).

The next Council meeting (open to all members) is scheduled for Thursday June 18, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

Reflecting the Father's Name

Renowned actor Sidney Poitier once said, “I decided in my life that I would do nothing that did not reflect positively on my father’s life.” For those blessed with a father they admire and respect, such a decision can be deeply shaping. How might it influence the way you set priorities, live with integrity, or serve as a positive example to the young people watching your life?

For all of us — children of the only perfect Father — may this be our prayer and intention:

God, while earthly fathers are a blend of strengths and flaws, you give yourself to us as our heavenly Father, wholly loving, kind and deeply invested in our good. Help me seek to reflect positively on you. May my life spread your love, kindness and care far and wide, and may others see you in me. Amen.

Upcoming Celebrations

Card Shower

Happy Birthday to Betty Hinrichs and Jerry Dotterer. Betty will celebrate her 92nd birthday on June 28th and Jerry will celebrate his 90th birthday on July 1st. You can help these two celebrate their birthdays by sending them birthday greetings. Here are their addresses.

Betty Hinrichs

2195 Martin Drive
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Jerry Dotterer

91 Hillside Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512

Also celebrating a birthday

- 1 Avery Bealer, Allan Care, Ava DeLong, Amy Marazas, Luann Mitch, Darlene Rohrbach
- 2 Brian Flack, Elsa Lucas, Dot Reinert
- 3 Erin Morrell, Kevin Shirk, Bradley Steltz
- 5 Karen Lehigh, Corrin MacLuckie, Alana Mauger, Colton Smith
- 7 Hunter Tattershall
- 8 Amber Finn, Casey Flack, Robert Morrell, Keena Wright
- 9 Matt Marazas
- 10 Douglas Weisbach
- 11 Robin Fatzinger, Ben Fowler, Alaina Van Dyke
- 12 Sandra Freed, Brian Van Dyke
- 13 Bob Ilik, Madeline Kunsch, Sophia Medlar, Janine Springer
- 15 Mike O'Hara, Helen Wilding
- 16 Nick Gehringer
- 17 Donna Kehs, Judy Sloan, Linda Van Pelt
- 18 Debbie Beitler, Kim Hollowbush
- 19 William Allen IV
- 20 Alicia Allen, Nate Ewing, Justin Gilbert, Gary Rohrbach, Aubrey Woods
- 21 Ryan Corcoran, Connie Rohrbach, Emmily Salas

- 22 Mackenzie Fatzinger
- 23 Adalynn Brett, Nick Goodwin, Rosalie Lisa
- 24 Barbara Noecker, Brian Tracey, Christian Van Dyke
- 25 Ian Gross, Lincoln Noecker, Dan Van Dyke
- 26 Brianna Beitler, Jana Nuss, Lara Weisbach, Anna Yanisko
- 27 Finn Beaver, Joe Caputo, Ryan Gamler, Marlene Hansley, Diane Lambert
- 28 Sandro Galliano, Kay Kurtz, Judy Swartley
- 29 Rosalina Mauser
- 30 Valarie Dubbs, John LeVan III

Anniversaries

- 3 Tim and Kim Dinsmore
Scott and Wendy Schiavo
- 4 David and Laura Richardson
- 5 Kevin and Tara Hauck
- 7 Gary and Jean Moser
Tim and Vicki Mutter
- 8 Will and Summer Davis
Scott and Barbara Repa
- 9 Bill and Sharon Tracey
- 10 Gerald and Susan Fretz
Gregg and Marlene Waller
- 11 Tom and Jamie Holiday
- 14 Francis and Joan Girard
Bryce and Jane Manthorne
- 15 Keith and Cathy Crowther
- 18 Jim and Danielle Dugan
- 21 Chris Reinke and Alana Mauger
- 22 Dave and Jenafer Mayan
- 24 Ryan and Lindsey Waltermeyer
- 25 Kevin and Stacey Shirk
- 26 Carl and Barbara Eisenhart
- 27 Harry and Nance White
- 28 Ray and Lisa Hibbs
- 29 Fred and Laura Camp
Nate and Nicole Ewing

Welcome Statement

You are always welcome at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a growing community of believers in Jesus Christ, rooted in God’s love and guided by Christ’s example. We strive to reach out with compassion, offering a place where you can grow in faith, experience God’s grace and feel safe and celebrated. At New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, we want you to gather with us at our table. Rooted in our Lutheran faith and belief that we are all children of God and made in God’s image, we welcome all people with dignity and love.

In Romans 15:7, Paul writes, “Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”

By this belief, we are committed to intentionally following Jesus’ example of unconditional hospi-

ality, love and justice. Here, you are not only included, you are respected. We affirm and value people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, ages, abilities, body sizes, relationship statuses and economic or immigration statuses. We are committed to the ongoing work toward racial equity and inclusion in all we do. You are invited to fully participate in our worship, sacraments, leadership positions, gatherings, and ministries. In our identities, we are united by the common faith we hold, and recognize we each offer unique gifts and perspectives. We believe that this transforms lives and deepens the faith of our community.

Christ’s door is open to all, so is ours.

NHELHC is a Reconciling in Christ Church



You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair .

— Samuel Ullman

2026 Council

Edward Becker, treasurer
Monique Becker
Steve Eisenhart, secretary
Marty Hauser, vice-president
Jim Mack
Yvonne Peto

Todd Rothermel, president
Dee Singley
Andy Van Dyke, financial secretary
Nikki Young, vicar

Contact Council
council@newhanoverlutheran.org

Let’s keep in touch

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

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

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

I’ve learned that people are more influenced by how much I care than by how much I know.

— Anonymous