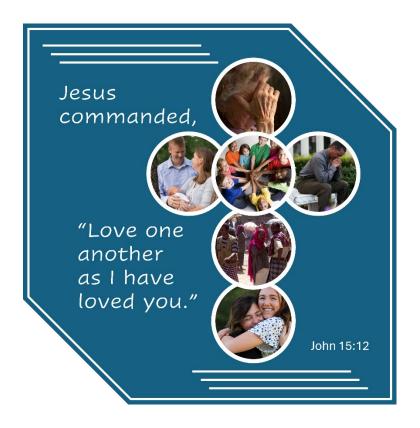
Welcome to worship at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5, 2024



This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

The Rev. Wayne Moritz, supply pastor Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry Lindsey Waltermyer, Grace band leader

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

All worship can be viewed online at newhanoverlutheran.org facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch and on YouTube.

May your worship experience strengthen you with God's love and grace.

Prelude

Welcome

Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Hymn In Christ There Is No East or West ELW #650

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.
Children's Message

Lindsey Waltermyer

First Reading 1 John 5:1-6 Nancy Gross A reading from the book of 1 John

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

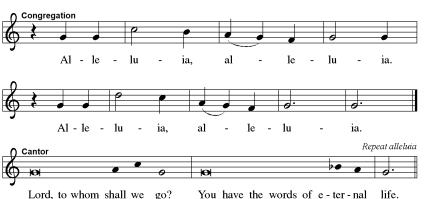
⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Here ends the reading.

Please rise as you are able.



Carolyn Fleming, cantor



Gospel John 15:9-17 The holy gospel according to John Glory to you, O Lord. Pastor Wayne

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Message Pastor Wayne

Please rise as you are able.

Song of the Day Came to My Rescue Grace Band

Verse 1:

Falling on my knees in worship, Giving all I am to seek Your face. Lord, all I am is Yours.

Verse 2:

My whole life I place in Your hands. God of mercy, humbled I bow down, In Your presence, at Your throne.

Chorus:

I called, You answered, And You came to my rescue. And I, I wanna be where You are.

Verse 2

Chorus 2x

Bridge:

In my life, be lifted high. In our world, be lifted high. In our love, be lifted high.

Repeat bridge

Chorus 2x

Ending:

I called, You answered

"Came to My Rescue" Words and music by Marty Sampson, Dylan Thomas and Joel Davies. © 2005 Hillsong MP Music; Hillsong Music Publishing Australia. Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession God of grace, hear our prayer.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Table, open to everyone. The usher will direct you when to come forward. Communion glasses are found on the stand at the front of the line to your right. Take an empty glass if you are choosing to commune with wine or a pre-filled glass (with grape juice) if you will be communing with grape juice. Receive your bread from the pastor, gluten-free bread from the plate, and the wine, or blessing over the grape juice from the lay assistant. There are two wine stations, so please, choose the open station. Persons not communing may receive a personal blessing (simply keep your hands down at your sides or folded across your heart).

Communion Praise What a Friend Grace Band

"What a Friend" Words and music by Matt Maher. © All Essential Music; Be Essential Songs; I Am "They" Publishing; I Am A Pilgrim Songs; IAMTHEYSONGS. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please rise as you are able.

Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

The people give a sign of peace to each other.

Please be seated.

Offertory

Choir Anthem Incline Thine Ear to Me Chancel Choir

"Incline Thine Ear to Me" by F. H. Himmel. © G. Schirmer Choral Church Music. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW#884

The offering is brought forward for a blessing.

Announcements

Please rise as you are able.

Sending Hymn Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ELW#836

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Go get'em!!!

Postlude Trumpet Tune Anthony Giamanco

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Announcements

Today

We welcome back Pastor Wayne Moritz to the pulpit this morning to lead our worship service.

The bulletin is presented to the glory of God by Steve and Faye Weidner.

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of their son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Kendra Rothermel's 5th anniversary by Todd and Stacey.

The communion is presented to the glory of God with thanks for the joy Erin Eisenhart brings to her family, with love.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God by Lucille Powell.

Serving Today Head Usher: Jim Gross; Ushers: Brian Flack and Jim Dugan; Lector: Nancy Gross; Children's Sermon: Lindsey Waltermyer; Acolyte: Norm Hunsberger; Communion Assistants: Terry Santangelo and Brenda Hunsberger

Next Sunday Head Usher: Marty Hauser; Usher: Elfriede Ilik; Lector: Erica Lucas; Children's Sermon: Donna Kehs; Acolyte: Madelyn Artim

Altar Guild members serving this month: Jean Moser, Jane Johnson and Jo Anne Wirt.

The Nursery room is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during worship services as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment; toys and books are included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Doors leading to fellowship hall and the education wing remain locked during the worship service for the safety of all.

Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online **Food Drop Off** – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, portico J.A.M. – Today, 10:15 AM, room 21 Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary Kids' Choir Rehearsal – Today, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15 Gathering of Daughters – Today, noon, rooms 1, 11

Cub Scouts – Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, rooms 1, 14, 21-23, 27, 31, 33

Boy Scouts – Tuesday, 6:30 PM, picnic grove

Women's Breakfast – Wednesday, 8:30 AM, Shorty's Sunflower Cafe

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:30 PM, portico Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32 Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, rm 15 Food Ministry Board – Wednesday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, room 33

Handbell Choir Rehearsal – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15 **District Scout Committee** – Thursday, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, room 30

Pancake Breakfast Setup – Friday, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, rooms 1, 11, 14

Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, 7:30 – 11:00 AM, rooms 1, 11, 14 Men's Breakfast – Saturday, 8:00 AM, room 1 Car Wash – Saturday, 8:30 – 11:30 AM, parking lot Balloon Ground Crew Training – Saturday, 2:00 – 6:00 PM, rooms 33, 34

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, portico J.A.M. – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 21

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary Kids' Choir Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15

Women's Breakfast is this Wednesday, 8:30 AM at Shorty's Sunflower Café on North Charlotte Street in Pottstown. Reservations are needed. To reserve your seat, contact Sandy Wesner at 215-679-9021 or email slwesner@comcast.net by Tuesday noon. And don't forget, husbands are invited too.

The Men's Breakfast is this Saturday at 8:00 AM at the Scout Pancake Breakfast held at the church. Men: note the change in location this month to help support the scouts. Any questions, contact Ron Fegley at 484-300-3025.

Upcoming Events

Cemetery Clean Up If you have Easter decorations on your loved ones' gravesites, please remove the decorations by Wednesday, May 15th.

Garden of Hope Summer Planting is on Saturday, May 18th, at 9:00 AM. Bring a hand trowel. Any questions, contact Donna Kehs at donnakehs@gmail.com or 610-212-2673.

The next Gathering event, a Childrens Mission Project, will be held on Thursday, June 13th, from noon to 3 PM.

2024 Scuba Kids Camp June 17th – 21st, 9:00 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.

Camp Falckner, an overnight camp in the picnic grove, will be held Monday through Thursday, July 22^{nd} – July 25^{th} . All youth who will have finished 5^{th} - 12^{th} grade by the end of the school year are welcome to attend. Registration is now open! Forms can be found in the Welcome Center or on the church website. Online registration is also an option. Questions? Reach out to Lindsey Waltermyer.

325th **Anniversary Communion Wine Naming Contest** A special batch of wine has been created and sponsored by Doug and Bette Senne for our 325th Anniversary of this congregation. Marsha and Pastor Scott helped in various stages and now is the time to name the wine! You are invited to participate in the naming of the wine.

Send a written submission to Pastor Scott with your creative name for the wine by June 1, 2024. You may drop off your entry at the church office. Send via postal mail or email Pastor Scott at psstaub@gmail.com. The winner will receive a bottle of the wine with their creative label. Submit your suggestion as "The 325th Anniversary Wine's name should be Suggested label color(s) and/or additional artwork to be included.

Take me out to the ballgame, Saturday, August 3rd, 6:45 PM Join us for some fun and fellowship at the Reading Phillies Baseball Game on August 3rd. This event is open to NHELC members and scouting groups. We're hoping for a big turnout so be sure to sign up early. Following the game will be a Megablast Fireworks - you won't want to miss it! Currently, we are waiting for the contract to know what the ticket price will be. If you would like to attend the game, contact Nikki Young or sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAA F4C16-49105168-reading. Reservations are due by June 1st so we can guarantee to have enough tickets for all.

Attention Graduates If you are graduating this spring – high school or higher education, we would like to celebrate with you. Send us a picture, where you are graduating from and what your future plans are (and anything else you'd like to share). Email your information to nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org then watch for the graduation posting in an upcoming newsletter.

The NHELC Book Club is reading *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. You are invited to join the discussion of this book on Tuesday, June 4th, at 6:30 PM at the Plaza Azteca in Greshville. Any questions, contact Sharon Tracey.

Next year marks the 325th anniversary of the NHELC congregation. And we are going to celebrate throughout the year with special events and services! Do you want to help? Contact Lee Wesner at 215-806-1807, or slwesner@comcast.net. Hurry! The celebration planning has already begun.

Pictures needed for the pictorial directory Have you submitted a family photo to be included in the new pictorial directory? To submit a picture, email it to Nance White at

<u>Nance2237@yahoo.com</u> ASAP. Or, drop off your photo in an envelope in Nance's mailbox in the Archive room. Be sure to include all the names of those in the photo.

Reconciling in Christ update: If you would like to participate in a one-to-one discussion around the possibility of New Hanover becoming a Reconciling in Christ church, welcoming to all - especially to those identifying as LGBTQIA+, racially diverse, or gender diverse, contact Sharon Tracey, Diane Bealer, Josh Young, Janet Psota, Rick Hausch or Pastor Scott.

Walk/run to fight hunger, Sunday, May 5th, 2:00 PM The Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities will host a CROP HUNGER WALK and fun run at the Hill School. This one mile or 5K event will raise awareness and funds for local and global food security. To participate or to donate, go to pottstowncluster.org/pottstowncrophungerwalk2024. Questions, email communications@pottstown cluster.org or call 610-970-5995.

New Hanover AARP is hosting a bus trip to Magic and Wonder Theatre in Paradise, PA for Juke Box Jive, a music variety show featuring hits from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Free time at Kitchen Kettle Village and a buffet luncheon will be included before the show. The cost is \$120. The bus leaves the church parking lot at 8:45 AM on May 15th. For more information and to reserve your seat, contact Carol Griffith at (484) 363-7376.

Hot Air Balloon Ground Crew members are needed. The balloonists who launch from NHELC are hosting a ground crew training session at NHELC on May 11th, from 2:00 – 6:00 PM in room 33. If interested or would like more information, contact Blair Beard at 484-948-5399.

Cars, Coffee and Christ cruise-in car/bike show at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Obelisk will be held Saturday, May 18th, from 8:00 – 10:00 AM. Participants can stop in for a few minutes or a couple of hours. This free admission event is an opportunity to share your stories, show off your ride, enjoy refreshments and leave a confidential prayer request. St. Luke's is located at 3206 Big Road in Zieglerville.

Resources

The Peer Support Ministry webpage on the church's website (newhanoverlutheran.org) has recently been updated with resources for mental health and wellness. Visit the webpage for information.

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. NAMI has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups. NHELC has links with helpful information available on our website (newhanoverlutheran.org) or contact NAMI Helpline or PA Addiction Helpline directly.

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 is available Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text "Helpline" to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

You Can Help

You can donate to NHELC ministry electronically. Simply point your smartphone camera at one of the QR codes below and follow the link.

Tithe.ly QR Code



Simply Giving QR Code



NHELC is collecting non-perishable food items and full sized personal hygiene items throughout the months of April, May and June. Donations will be distributed through the Pottstown Cluster. Collection boxes are located in the welcome center, fellowship hall and multi-purpose room. Thank you for your contributions that will help those in need.

Mowers are needed to maintain the church grounds and cemetery. If interested in this position, contact Norm Hunsberger at 484-431-3622 or nhunsberger29@gmail.com.

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. A sign-up Genius is available at www.newhanoverlutheran.org. All Dates are subject to change.

Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

Food Ministry

More than 175,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations on the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/.

Meals help those in need Dear pastor. I write this thanking you all for the hard work you put into making all the meals you prepare for unity. We are very fortunate and grateful for all time you all put into everything. Thank you so much. Dylan S.

Another note of appreciation

Hello, I just want to take this time to thank you and the lady's that take the time out of each week to make our house at 367 chestnut, the delicious meals. We can't explain how grateful we are for you and the lady's at the church to do that for all the men and women each week. It truly is a blessing and we appreciate it so very much. Thank you, The women at 367 chestnut st.

Get Well Cards

Get well cards for Pastor Ric Elliot can be mailed to the address is 267 Country Club Drive, Telford, PA 18969.

Prayer Requests

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Tina

Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Grieving: family and friends of Susie Moyer

Military: Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle

Woods, Danny Foust

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Toni Rath Katy Mahon-Miller Matt Hall Luann Hanley William Trotter Carol Estes Kathy Kane Maxwell Girard Pat Fryer Jean Renninger Pr. Kork Moyer Betty Lou Shadle Julia Hauck Tony Mancini Raul Castro Amy LeVan Jeffrey Kunsch Wilma Lahr Bernadette Phillips Melissa Mary Lou Doug Weaver Joan Wagner Robert Ganovsky Dorothy Bingaman **Emily Ocelus** Eric & Wendy Hess Sue Care Deb Matthews Marceline Chris Fatzinger Anne Eshleman Daniel Johnson Kim Frain Hank Droneberg Pena family Jen Perez Frank D. Pam Helfrich Barb & Tom Faust Andy Van Dyke Janet Pam Abbott Holli Muffler Louise Karns Denny Smith Pr. Jennifer Phelps Jessica Trout Verdie Smith Sandy Wesner Mabel Gaugler Helen Foulke Carla Hausmann Joan Price Betty Seroski Ralph Borneman Lucille Powell Virginia Specht Mary Alice Mack Jeffrey Weems Arnold Amundsen Joan Scheffey Chuck Beck Ally Musser & family Rich Freed Marlyn Bieleski Lee Wesner Joe Casey Flack Pastor Ric Elliot Charla Vandegrift Herbert Vandegrift

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road Gilbertsville, PA 19525

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

Contact Information

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

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

peersupport@newhanoverlutheran.org

Sexton, Jen Boyer

jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer

mariaboyer@comcast.net

Cemetery, Norm Hunsberger

nhunsberger29@gmail.com



Treat Mom for Mothers' Day and Support the Youth

This Saturday

Pancake Breakfast 7:30 – 11:00 AM Fellowship Hall

NHELC's Scouts BSA Troop 367 will host the pancake breakfast. Enjoy a hearty breakfast including pancakes and sausage with an optional addition of "Deluxe" toppings.



Suggested Donation \$10 for ages 11 and up \$8 for ages 5-10 Free for ages 4 and under

Add \$2 for Fresh Fruit / Whipped Cream / Chocolate Chips.

Car Wash 8:30 – 11:30 AM Parking Lot

NHELC's Flutter youth group will host this event.

A free-will donation will be received to help fund the youth activities.



Mission Service Disciple's Stories

Self Esteem & Dignity Delivered

NHELC aided in the delivery of over \$750,000 of Hygiene and household goods during the past three months. What started as a \$250.00 Thrivent Action Team to deliver personal hygiene products to Veterans in need, manifested in the pickup and delivery of tons of personal hygiene, paper household goods and pull ups for all ages.

Together with the Veterans Coalition of PA (VCOP), NHELC team members distributed the much-needed products that bring dignity, self-esteem most important, SMILES to many souls. The program reaches area schools, churches, homeless tent cities and family shelters.

In addition, over ten area shelters and pantries received everything from deodorant, pull ups, wipes, paper towels, and hygiene products. It didn't take much, the spark started with a Thrivent Action Team and a few conversations. Together with a major manufacturer, Chosen 300, Opportunity House, Keystone Military Families, VALOR, OLIVET (Girls & Boys Club), and our fabulous giving NHELC volunteers.

Sometimes it all starts with a simple act of generosity or conversation. I was told once, Discipleship is like one beggar telling another beggar where to get a loaf of bread. Martin Luther's last words spoken says it all, "We are all beggars, this is true." We are all beggars helping and loving our neighbors. If you would like to know more about Mission Service projects, contact the Pastor.

New Hanover Family Learning Center Update

As we continue to look toward NHELC's future, the Council and Learning Center team realize that the learning center will eventually provide additional income to support more of our ministries and the upkeep of our facility. Our planned goal to open this coming fall has changed and we are now hoping to open by Fall of 2025. As we continue to plan for this new ministry despite the challenges and delays, we are providing the following information to help you understand the scope of our progress as we work toward final congregational approval.

- Progress is being made with New Hanover Township. We have come to an agreement for their sewer requests. We still need to complete a traffic study.
- It has been almost 25 years since the education wing was built, so we are working on plans to update and renovate this section of the building to make it more functional and meet building requirements. This will include adding restrooms that are ADA compliant (Americans with Disabilities Act Standards). After drawings are created, quotes for the project will be acquired.
- We have put together financial reports based on estimated costs. We are also looking at income sources including grants, loans, gifts, etc. for startup costs. The financial reports will be updated as we gain additional information.
- A group of volunteers, council members, and staff have begun working meetings every two weeks to keep this project moving forward, to resolve issues and concerns, and to provide additional updates to the congregation.

Please keep this project and the leaders in your prayers. If you have any questions or would like to get involved with planning, please reach out to Donna Kehs, Todd Rothermel, or Pastor Scott.

Send

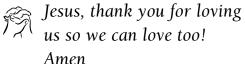
Ways to love

Congregations of people everywhere share Jesus' love in all kinds of ways. Offerings are given, food and clothing collected, quilts are made, prayers said, and homes are built.

Circle all the ways your congregation shares Jesus' love.



How else does your congregation share Jesus' love? Draw a picture of it here.



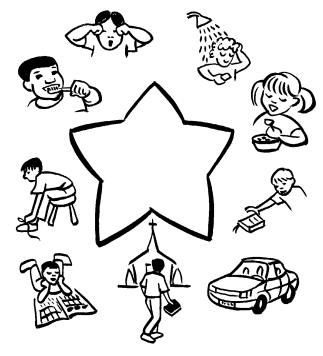
This week

Love a neighbor by surprising them with a plate of homemade cookies!



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the sixth Sunday of Easter. All of us get ready for worship in different ways, and our families celebrate Sundays differently. What did you do to get ready for church this morning? What will you do after church?



Draw a heart around everything you did this morning to get ready for worship, and inside the star, draw a picture of something your family usually does together after worship.

hear & celebrate

Jesus' new commandment

John 15:9-17

Jesus and his friends, the disciples, did everything together. They ate, played, worked, and cared for others. Jesus was a wonderful teacher, and he taught them many things about God. One day when Jesus was with his friends, he gave them a new commandment. This is what Jesus said.

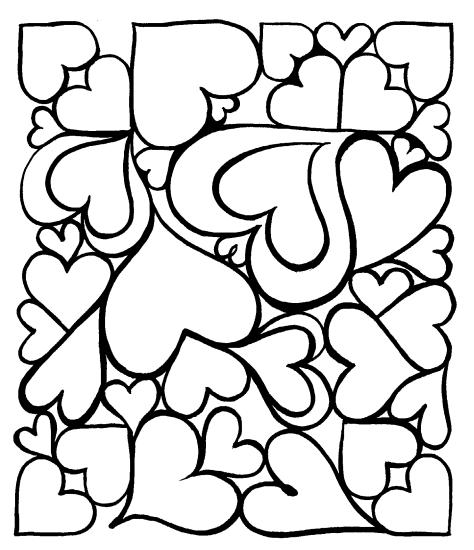
Color in the boxes with hearts, and discover Jesus' new commandment.

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Hearts the same

We can love because Jesus loves us!

Find and color 12 hearts that are the same.





Choose one thing that your family will do together every Sunday. Maybe you'll make pizza, play games, or take a walk....Enjoy your time with each other.

In Christ There Is No East or West



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis ci ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out but the whole wide earth. gold - en cord close his ser - vice is the bind - ing hu - man-kind. of sure - ly kin All chil-dren the liv - ing God are to me. all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

"In Christ There Is No East or West" Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt. Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949. Text and music are in public domain.

Came To My Rescue

Words and Music by Marty Sampson, Dylan Thomas and Joel Davies



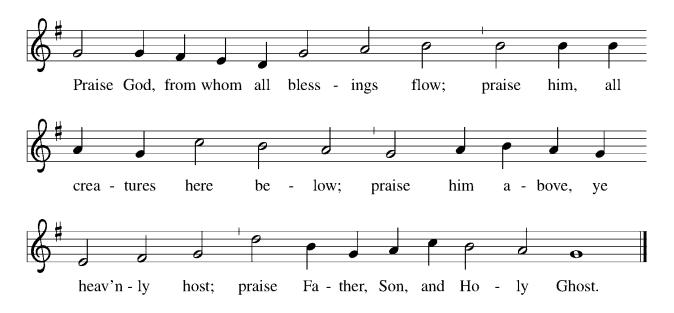
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be lift - ed high.

In our love,

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



[&]quot;Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561. Text and music are in public domain.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy ful, joy ful we a dore thee, God of glo ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv ing and for giv ing, ev er bless-ing, ev er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove. stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way. Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea, Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the of day. light chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re joice in thee. teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922. Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt. Text and music are in public domain.