



New Holland Mennonite Church

September 27, 2026 • Volume 71, No. 39

Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School: 9:00 • Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Gathering & Praising God

El Senyor és la meva força (VT 118)
(In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful)

Call to Worship & Prayer
God, Be the Love (VT 43)

Wanda Gonzalez-Bortzel

Hearing God's Voice

Conversation with Children
Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9
Sermon: "Solvitur Ambulando" Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Bryan Hower

Responding

Just a Closer Walk with Thee (VT 743, vs 1,2,3)

Nickels For Neighbors: Chestnut Housing

Prayer of the People
Announcements

Lois Zimmerman

Sending

Go, My Friends, in Grace (VT 810)
Sending Blessing

Coffee: Rosanna Ceresini; **Greeter:** Tom Ceresini

Sound: Bryan Hower; **Nursery:** Ruth Douglas Miller

Offering: Francy Bailey & Ruth Douglas Miller; **Close:** Mike Bortzel

September 20: Attendance and Offering

Attendance: 37 (10 Zoom) • **Offering:** \$2,120.00

What We Value

With Jesus as our center, we commit to
including all people,
strengthening our relationships (and)
practicing peace and justice. (adopted February 2023)

NEXT SUNDAY: October 4

Coffee: Evelyn Bailey; **Greeter:** Jim Bailey

Song Leader: Jenn Esbenshade; **Worship Leader:** Sue Martin

Sermon: Bryan Hower; **Prayer:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

Children: Jen Morales; **Sound:** Wade Esbenshade

Nursery: Dawn Kaczor; **Close:** Jim Bailey

Offering: Wade Esbenshade & Sue Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

All events are at New Holland Mennonite Church unless otherwise indicated

SUNDAY, September 27: Backyard Concert featuring music by Andrew Pauls: 4 p.m. Bryan and Dawn's house. Bring friends, a chair, and a snack to share. Water and soda provided. \$10-20 suggested donation

WEDNESDAY, September 30: New Holland Parade: Thank you to everyone who signed up to walk in the parade. Our parade theme again this year is "God's Love Knows No Borders."

SUNDAYS in October: Nickels for Neighbors: The children will be gathering change before worship for Chestnut Housing which provides affordable rental housing to people experiencing homelessness. What began as an outreach of East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church in response to neighbors experiencing housing and food insecurity has grown to a dynamic, independent nonprofit organization providing over 50 affordable apartments and homes in our community. The 2026 Nickels for Neighbors grant will assist with Chestnut Housing's Bridgeport Housing project, a creative partnership including donors from Forest Hills Mennonite Church that is developing a property in the Conestoga Valley School District. **Bring your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, dollars, & checks!**

THURSDAY, October 1: Men's Dinner at Garden Spot Village Concord Room: Room is reserved from 5:30-8:00. Food is available to purchase until 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, October 4: Intergenerational Sunday School: Blessing the Early Learning Center Staff

SUNDAY, October 4, Fellowship Meal: Bring a hot and/or cold dish to share, along with your own place settings. Please bring hot dishes in a slow cooker.

What is God calling us to do in 2027?

This fall, all members and regular attendees are invited to join in discerning God's call for our church in 2027.

With guidance from Everence Stewardship Theologian Colin Saxton, the Leadership Team will facilitate a series of congregational conversations. What we hear together will shape a draft 2027 Ministry Plan, Narrative Budget, and Budget that reflect our shared sense of God's leading.

Mark your calendar:

- ♦ **Sunday, October 11:** 9 a.m. – *What is God calling us to do in 2027?*
- ♦ **Sunday, October 18:** 9 a.m. – *How do we carry out what God is calling us to do in 2027?*
- ♦ **Sunday, October 25:** 9 a.m. – *How will we fund what God is calling us to do in 2027?*
- ♦ **Sunday, January 10:** 9 a.m. – Presentation of the proposed 2027 Ministry Plan, 2027 Narrative Budget, and 2027 Annual Budget.
- ♦ **Sunday, February 7:** Annual Congregational Meeting and vote on the 2027 Ministry Plan, Narrative Budget, and Annual Budget.

Following October 25, the Leadership Team and Finance Committee will meet together to incorporate congregational feedback to bring a proposed 2027 Ministry Plan, Narrative Budget and Annual Budget to the congregation at the January 10 meeting.

Following the January 10 meeting, the Leadership Team and Finance Committee will incorporate congregational feedback and bring a final 2027 Ministry Plan, Narrative Budget, and Annual Budget to the congregation at the February 7 Congregational Meeting for a vote.

This is an exciting season in the life of our congregation. We hope you'll be a part of these important conversations as we listen together for God's leading and shape our ministry for the coming year.

If you have questions or would like more information as we head into this process, please contact Steven Lantz.

SUNDAY, October 11: *Juntos en el Duelo, Unidos en la Oración* (Together in Grief, United in Prayer) Please join us as we come together to remember, lament, listen, and pray in solidarity with immigrant communities. This gathering is an opportunity to make space for grief, to hear one another's stories, and to remind our immigrant neighbors that they are not alone.

Two ways you can participate:

1) Invite immigrants to join you: We especially want to welcome members of our local immigrant communities. Invitation letters are available in both English and Spanish that you can adapt and share with people you know.

2) Help us welcome and care for those who come: We are looking for volunteers to: Greet people as they arrive. Serve snacks. Usher and help people find seats. Help set up additional chairs if needed. Volunteers, please arrive at 3:00 p.m. If you are available to help, please let Pastor Dawn know.

Thank you for helping us create a welcoming space where people can grieve together, find community, and know that they are surrounded by love and prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21: Women's Dinner at Garden Spot Village Concord Room: Room is reserved from 5:30-8:00. Food is available to purchase until 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, October 28: Book Club: 7 p.m. at Jenn's house (199 Eastern School Road, New Holland). Jenn leading discussion. Book: *The Kin*, by Tayari Jones: Good books, lively discussion, strong opinions, differing perspectives, and plenty of laughs—sometimes even about the book!

Sunday, November 22: Annual Covenant Sunday

Land Acknowledgment: We acknowledge, with humility, that the land where we sit and stand today is land that was home to the Susquehannock, Shawnee, and Lenape people. Let us be aware that we occupy their homeland, and that their presence is imbued in this land.

Pastor: Dawn Ranck-Hower; **Leadership Team:** Dawn Kaczor, Ruth Douglas Miller, Steven Lantz, Lois Zimmerman
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