

## “Expanding the Table”



“The table was an altar  
around which Jesus welcomed the world  
to experience communion with God  
and with one another.  
There at the big table they were all treated  
with equal dignity,  
and they left his presence with that dignity intact.”  
— John Pavlovitz “A Bigger Table”

### Gathering

Preservice: *God of the Bible (SJ 27)*

Call to Worship

Sue Martin

Leader: Welcome to a time of wonder

**People: and music that calls us home.**

Leader: Welcome to hear God’s words  
that inspire and challenge

**People: and to reminders that we are offering  
holy hospitality.**

Leader: Hospitality that teaches us how to  
open our lives to others

**People: leading us to fully live open minds,  
open hearts, open doors.**

Opening Prayer

Leader: God of the Widow at Zarephath,

**People: God of Joseph the Forgiver,**

Leader: we stand in awe of people who showed  
hospitality in the midst of sacrifice and betrayal.

**People: Take us deep into the heart of hospitality.**

Leader: Help us to understand that the generosity  
the world needs often demands sacrifice  
on our part.

**People: Be with those who have never known a table  
blessed by laughter and welcome,**

Leader: who have seldom heard affirmations  
and who do not know your abiding love.

**People: Remind us, O God, that we are to set  
many tables, to speak blessings often  
and to be your love in the world.**

Leader: In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

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### Praising God

*Will you come and follow me (SS 39)*

*I will come to you in the silence (SS 49)*

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

“Nickels for Neighbors” Video

Offertory: *He came down (SJ 31)*

## Hearing God's Word

Conversation with Children Karina Morales

*(Ages 4 and under dismissed to nursery)*

*Longing for light (SJ 54)*

*(Anyone who wishes may color at the tables during the sermon.)*

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon: "I was afraid so I ..." Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

## Responding

Prayer for Courage

Lord Jesus,

When I would shut my eyes –

because I am afraid to see,

when I would hold on tightly –

because I am afraid to share,

when I would close my doors –

because I am afraid to get involved,

may I find courage

in the company of your people,

learning with them to open my eyes,

my hands,

my home

and my heart.

Amen.

*A place at the table (bulletin insert)*

Sharing and Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Bryan Hower

## Sending

*Go, my friends in grace (SS 57)*

Benediction

**Coffee/Greeters/Close:** Evelyn & Jim Bailey

**Song Leader/Pianist:** Jenn Esbenshade

**Praise Team:** Bryan Hower, Jen Morales, Danika & Tammy Snader

**Usher:** Riley Snader; **Sound:** Judy Nguyen

**Nursery:** Evelyn Bailey (Nancy Hooper)

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

**October 6:** At Spanish Mennonite • **Offering:** \$585

**Teacher's Appreciation:** \$55.00

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

**October 14:** Curvin & Lois Zimmerman

## NEXT SUNDAY: October 20

**Coffee/Greeters/Close:** Sue & Tim Martin

**Worship Leader:** Dawn Ranck-Hower; **Usher:** Evelyn Bailey

**Song Leader:** Jenn Esbenshade; **Sound:** Davin Esbenshade

**Praise Team:** Dawn Kaczor, Seth Lantz, Steven Lantz

**Prayer:** Wade Esbenshade; **Children's Time:** Bryan Hower

**Nursery:** Lois Zimmerman (Judy Nguyen)

## Upcoming Events

*(All events held at church unless otherwise indicated)*

**Oct 16** Youth Group: Oregon Dairy Corn Maze, 6 p.m.

**Oct 18** Women's Luncheon, Yoder's Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.

**Oct 20** Sermon: Wayne Speigle

Sunday School: Visioning for Youth and Adults

**Oct 23** Youth Group Bible Study at Ridgeview Mennonite

**Oct 27** At CrossNet Ministries: 9 a.m. tour, 10:00 worship  
No coffee provided.

**Nov 3** Sermon: Dawn Ranck-Hower

Fellowship Meal

**Nov 9** Men's Prayer Breakfast, Squireside Café, 7:00 a.m.

**Nov 10** Sermon: Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Nov 15** Women's Luncheon, Yoder's Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.

**Nov 17** Sermon: Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Nov 24** Sunday School: Visioning for Youth and Adults  
Covenant Sunday, Sermon: Dawn Ranck-Hower  
Communion / Fellowship Meal

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**Pastor:** Dawn Ranck-Hower; dawn.ranck@verizon.net; 1/215/237-1485

**Leadership Team Chair:** Wade Esbenshade

**Leadership Team:** Steven Lantz, Lois Zimmerman

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18 Western Ave., New Holland, PA 17557 • 717/354-0602

www.NewHollandMC.org • Hearing Aids Available

*A nursery is available for children ages 4 and younger.*

## Church News

**CHORD Fun Activity** (for junior & senior youth): Oregon Dairy corn maze. **Sunday, Oct 13**, 6:00 p.m. (*CHORD is the name chosen for the youth group made up of youth from New Holland, Meadville, and Ridgeview Mennonite Churches. It was chosen for the double meaning of harmony and strength to represent the connection among the churches.*)

**2019 ACC Nickels for Neighbors:** Coins gathered **October 13** and **20** to give to Training Station Preschool, an outreach of CrossWay Church, in Maryland. The playground must be removed to allow access to plumbing updates needed underneath the equipment. The playground will be reconstructed.

**ELC Teacher Appreciation: October 14.** Bob Weaver will purchase veggies and fruit. Mark offering envelope with "ELC Veggie Distribution." Contact Bob if you can help on October 14.

**ELC Open House to Celebrate the First Step of the Building Improvements!** Thursday, **October 17**, 6-7:30 p.m. The goal is to finish the additional two hallways over the Christmas break while the children are not at the Center. An additional \$36,000 needs to be raised by the end of November (money given or pledges made) to make this goal a reality. (Upgrades will help the Center to receive a STAR 4 rating.) Bring friends.

**A Preferred Future:** During Sunday School on **October 20** junior youth through adults (members and regular attendees) are invited to dream together. What is your picture of a preferred future for New Holland Mennonite Church? Complete the following sentence, "I have a dream that someday ..."

**Worship at CrossNet Ministries:** Our church has related to CrossNet Ministries for years, yet most of us have never been there. On Sunday, **October 27** we will gather at CrossNet (123 W Franklin Street) at 9:00 a.m. for a tour and introduction to the various programs they offer. At 10:00 a.m. we will gather for worship in the youth center.

**CrossNet Meal:** Our congregation will be supplying a meal for 20-25 boys on Tuesday, **October 29**. Sign up in foyer.

**Atlantic Coast Conference Annual Assembly:** Saturday, **October 26**. 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. For delegates and others. Includes worship, delegate business, congregational storytelling, and singing and sharing with Bradley Kauffman from the new hymnal, *Voices Together* as well as workshops on a variety of topics. Information: [atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly](http://atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly).

## Community News

**Lighthouse Vocational Services Banquet:** Thursday, **October 17**, 6:15 p.m. Yoder's Banquet Center. Featuring: Ministers of Music. RSVP 717/354-0355 or [info@lighthousevoc.org](mailto:info@lighthousevoc.org).

**Friendship Community's 47th Anniversary Dinner,** Thursday, **October 24**, 6:30 p.m. Shady Maple. Speaker, George Dennehy is capturing attention all over the world for his unique talents. Born without arms, he plays music from his heart using his feet. Cost: \$22. Register: [friendshipcommunity.net/dinner](http://friendshipcommunity.net/dinner).

**Volunteer Opportunity:** York County Prison holds in civil detention 750-850 immigrants on average every day. Volunteers provide support for detained immigrants without friends of family nearby. Attend a training/information session on **October 24**, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Landisville Mennonite Church. Spanish speakers are especially needed for this initiative, but all are welcome to participate. RSVP Beth Martin: [robeth@ptd.net](mailto:robeth@ptd.net) or Dale Stoltzfus: [logcab7@ptd.net](mailto:logcab7@ptd.net).

**Exploring Voices Together:** Sunday, **October 27**, 6-7:30 p.m., Neffsville Mennonite Church. An evening of singing, stories and insight into *Voices Together*, the new hymnal being published by MCUSA. A donation will be gathered to help cover costs.

**Pathways to Housing Breakfast:** Thursday, **October 31**, Garden Spot Village. CrossNet will be sharing the vision and updates on Pathways to Housing and well as sharing about their work towards addressing homelessness in the ELANCO community. RSVP: [Lisa@elancocross.org](mailto:Lisa@elancocross.org).

**New York City Bus Trip:** Saturday, **November 2**. Sponsored by Hinkletown Mennonite School. Travel by charter bus and make your own plans. Register by October 25: \$55 per person. After Oct 25: \$65 per person. Leave at 6:30 am and returning by 10 pm. Information [www.hinkletownschool.org](http://www.hinkletownschool.org).