



Hanover Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, Delaware

February 2022

Dear Hanover Saints,

Roughly thirty years after Jesus was crucified, the Apostle Paul wrote to the suffering Christians in Rome (5:3-5):

And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Next month we will have been suffering from the covid-19 pandemic for two years. Although in various ways, and to varying degrees, we have all suffered. Owing to this microscopic virus, we have all experienced loss and yet few, if any, of us have the power to alter the course of the pandemic and reduce the suffering it brings.

In the face of this obvious and painful reality, I offer these words from Paul to recognize that it is in our endurance of the suffering we cannot control that we ultimately receive the fulfillment of our hopes and prayers.

Eighteen centuries after Paul, American educator Thomas H. Palmer wrote in his *Teacher's Manual*:

*Tis a lesson you should heed,
Try, try again.
If at first you don't succeed,
Try, try again.*

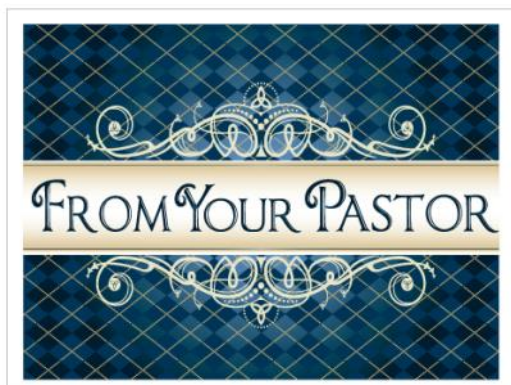
Just as Paul wrote about endurance, Palmer wrote about perseverance. As a teacher, he learned that it often takes multiple attempts to master some lessons.

Hanover saints, we are a people of Pauline endurance and Palmeresque perseverance. After having rejoiced in our reopening last November, with huge frustration we ceased worshiping in person on January 9th due to the spike in the omicron variant of the covid-19 virus.

We did so with the commitment to continually and carefully track the statistics so that we might return to gathering in person as soon as we would deem it safe to do so. With great and cautious optimism, we report that since January 12, the rate of new cases in New Castle County has dropped by 40%, the rate of hospitalizations has decreased by 28%, and the average rate of positive tests has dropped by 61%.

And so, trusting in God's mercy, the Session has voted to begin worshiping again in person on February 20th. At that point we will also open the building for use by other groups and ministries. With prayers that this will be our final reopening, turn the page to see the schedule for the next weeks as *we try, try again*.





(continued from page 1)

Sundays, February 6 & 13: The first two weeks of our annual Black History Month. The services will be pre-recorded and include guest preachers, and the links for the YouTube service and the Zoom time of fellowship (11:00am Sunday morning) will be sent out on Saturday evenings.

Sunday, February 20 – Worship in person at 11:00am.
Guest preacher for Black History Month. The choir will sing and there will be limited congregational singing. The service

will be recorded and posted on YouTube later in the afternoon. Fellowship will be in person in the Church School Hall where safely distanced tables will be set up. We will not serve food or beverages, but you are encouraged to bring your own!

Sunday, February 27 – Worship in person at 11:00am, followed by The (Virtual) Annual Gospel Vespers Concert! It will be pre-recorded and posted as a YouTube premiere event that will air at 12:30pm. We will air the concert on the screens in the sanctuary for all who would like to attend in person and rejoice in community.

Wednesday, March 2 – We begin the journey of Lent with a virtual Ash Wednesday service on Zoom at 7:00pm.

Sunday, March 6, and Sundays following... We will worship in person at 11:00am and have a socially distanced time of fellowship after worship in the Church School Hall. A recording of the service will be posted on YouTube on Sunday afternoon.

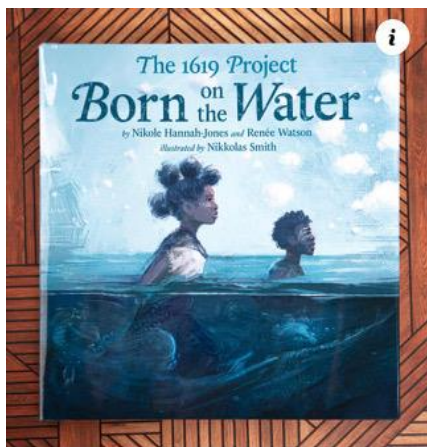
May God bless the times we share in worship and ministry, that – whether virtually or live – we would receive the fulfillment of our hope, and may it deliver...

Peace,

Andy



Community Sunday—February 6



Our intergenerational Community Sunday gatherings are fun and informative and can be an open place to share ideas and perspectives for all ages. Join Miss Nancy as she reads and talks about the book on Zoom this coming **Sunday, Feb. 6, at 9:30am.**

An illustrated work on the 1619 Project for young readers, this adaptation begins with a school assignment. A young Black girl is told by her teacher to trace her roots, but she is not aware of her origins beyond a few generations. When she recounts this at home her grandmother responds by gathering the family members together to tell their story. Thus begins a visual journey back centuries to the Kingdom of Ndongo in West Central Africa, the birthplace of their ancestors - "They had a home, a place, a land, a beginning . . ."

Hanover Presbyterian Church

1772

Celebrating 250 Years

2022

"Behold, I will do a new thing in you . . ." *Isaiah 43:19*



Our next 250 celebration:

Sunday, March 27—A New Thing: The Female Harmony Society
Who led the changes, how they happened, who was impacted, and the legacy that was created.

Hanover's History Trivia ~ *Tim Arnold, 250 Committee*

When you think about it, the minute you do something, it becomes history. It is not just about 250 years ago. Thirty years ago is long ago for many, and not so long ago for others of us. But, it is all history.

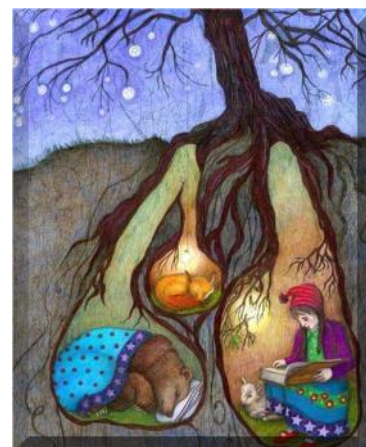
In 1992 a group decided to emphasize February as Black History Month for Hanover. Thirty years later, it has become and remains one of Hanover's hallmark activity periods. We rejoice in the knowledge that Hanover has that, and we are grateful that we can celebrate a 30th anniversary for such an important thing.

Of course history is being made right now as we continue to battle Covid-19 and its variants. That means that as we go in and out of in-person worship, we continue to keep faithful that it will soon just be another part of our history.

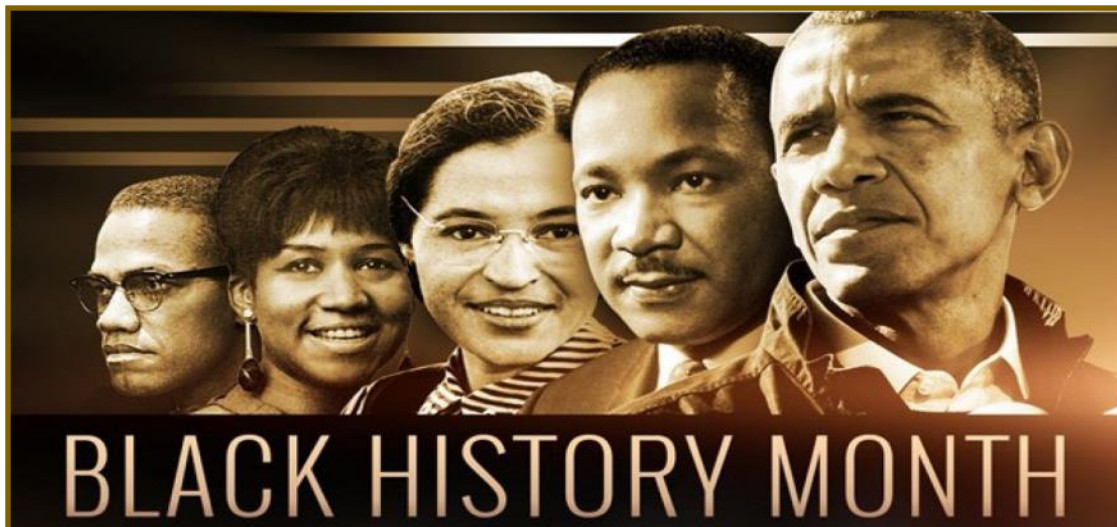
The winter solstice time is no longer celebrated as it once was, with the understanding that this is a period of descent and rest, of going within our homes, within ourselves and taking in all that we have been through, all that has passed in this full year which is coming to a close... like nature and the animal kingdom around us, this time of hibernation is so necessary for our tired limbs, our burdened minds. And yet the natural tug to go inwards battles with time and the weather can be so bitter that people are left feeling that winter is hard, because for those of us without burning fires and big festive families, it can be lonely and isolating.

Whereas in actual fact—winter is kind—she points us in her quiet, soft way towards our inner self, towards this annual time of peace and reflection, embracing the darkness and forgiving, accepting and loving embracing goodbye the past year. Winter takes away the distractions, the buzz, and presents us with the perfect time to rest and withdraw into a womb like love, bringing fire & light to our hearth . . . and then, just around the corner the new year will begin again, and like a seed planted deep in the earth, we will all rise with renewed energy once again to dance in the sunlight.

~ *Dee Laliberte*



~ "Folklore, Customs, Legends & Mythology" (Dee Laliberte)



At Hanover

Sunday Worship Services

February 6, 13, 20, 27

with Guest Speakers

**Sylvester Woolford, Sharon Moore,
and Rev. Brooke Scott**

Gospel Vespers

Premiere YouTube event

Sunday, February 27, 12:30PM

with Musical Guests

**Micah Graves, Gus Mercante, Tina Betz, Martin Hargrove,
Brian Gray, Moriah Middlebrooks**

What's Happening

with



THE FOOD PANTRY: The Food Pantry numbers were picking up as the year ended. We expect to see more clients in the New Year due to prices going up in stores etc. We also expect that we will need to be purchasing meat and other staples because of supply changes from our regular donors. We would really appreciate laundry detergent and other personal items. Thank you for your generous support.

JB'S CAFÉ: JB'S Cafe is back in business! Starting **Tuesday, February 1**, our staff will be on the job from 8am-1pm. We are looking forward to seeing our "regulars" and hopefully new customers. Stop on in for a morning cup of coffee or a little later for lunch. The soup will be hot and the grill will be fired up when you get here!



EASTER EGGS: Easter Egg time is "rolling" around! It's time to get the egg gang and any new candy makers who would like to join us for a few days of Easter egg making. Last year we had a fun and productive time and sold about 350 eggs. This year we could go for more! Anyone interested in helping with this project, please call Becky Arnold (302-584-0356) We will be starting production around March 24. Orders will be taken starting March 1. To order call the church office (302-658-5114). Eggs will be ready for pickup the week of April 10.



**“My humanity is bound up
in yours, for we can only be
human together.”**

—Desmond Tutu

Creation Care Matters



ECOPLASTIC COLLECTION – GETTING IT RIGHT

All donated plastic/bags must be CLEAN and DRY.

Plastic : **Only** #2, #4, and # 5 plastic, will be accepted. The number indicates the type of plastic. If you don't find a number, there may be letters indicating the type of plastic. #2 (HDPE), #4 (LDPE0, and #5 (PP).

Bags: #2 (HDPE) and #4 (LDPE) bags can be recycled and should be placed in separate bins. Most other bags can be recycled, but they must be bags and not random pieces of plastic wrap. Exceptions are bubble wrap and some plastic around large items. It's great if your bags have markings on them, but since most do not, it's good to know some general guidelines.

- plastic shopping bags (from any store — remove receipts, etc.)
- Ziploc-type bags for packaging food
- bread bags
- produce bags
- dry cleaning bags (remove staples, receipts, hangars)
- plastic newspaper wrapping
- product wrapping (such as covers a case of water bottles or paper towels)
- bubble wrap and air pillows (popped)
- plastic shipping envelopes (remove labeling)



Plastic bottle caps: Most plastic bottle lids can be recycled, even if they come from a #1 bottle. (Put them in the small bag at the collection site.)

Questions: Email Maggie Alexander (MaggieA10@verizon.net) or Alice Davis (AliceWilm@gmail.com)

COMING SOON - A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY



Through the efforts of the Female Harmony Society, there will soon be a Little Free Library located at 19th and Jefferson Streets. For anyone who doesn't know, a Little Free Library is a book-sharing box where anyone can take a book or share a book. It operates on the honor system. One doesn't need to share a book in order to take one, but it is hoped that when someone takes a book or two from the Little Library they will bring one or two to share.

The Little Free Library was built by Bill Tudor and decorated by Martha McFarland. It will be full of books for every age. We are hoping it will be used by the parents at Open Arms Academy, folks in the neighborhood, visitors to J.B's Café, and Hanover as well. Right now we don't need any books donations, but will let you know when we do.

Our tentative Opening and Dedication Ceremony is Sunday, February 27, 2022. We will let you know if this changes.

"Books let you travel without moving your feet." ~ Jhumpa Lahiri

For more information contact Maggie Alexander, Becky Arnold, Hillary Mohaupt, or Martha McFarland.



2021 Finance Highlights

The best highlight to share about the year-end review of 2021 is the fact that we received \$202,177 from our pledged and unpledged gifts to Hanover. We received \$162,019 in pledges and \$40,158 in unpledged donations. This is 99% of the budgeted amount approved for the 2021 fiscal year. In another stressful year, balancing COVID concerns with maintaining spiritual connections and a worshipping community, this is an amazing sign of support from our members and friends.

Other income highlights include:

Bequest	\$ 5,000
Memorials	\$ 1,250
Per Capita	\$ 596
Loose offering	\$ 1,087
Fundraising	\$ 4,985 (Easter Egg sales and 3 mini-super sale events)
Rent from Open Arms	\$53,482
Use of building by JSC	\$ 9,000
Other rent and bldg. use	\$ 5,025

More positive news: our "regular income" of \$284,272 is more than our budgeted amount of \$280,751, by about \$3,500. Regular income does not include restricted donations for the food pantry and other designated programs or special offerings. Restricted donation income totaled \$42,995, which includes \$5,475 toward the Hanover Capital Campaign.

Our expenses were \$316,407, which is about \$4,900 more than we budgeted for (\$311,502). If we take our regular income from regular expenses the deficit is \$32,135, which is about \$2,000 more than what we were predicting in our budget. Expense highlights include:

- \$4,587 in electric costs for the education wing, due to use of new office space
- \$5,114 paid in December 2021 for 2022 property and liability insurance costs
- \$14,706 for electric and gas, which is 74% of the budgeted amount due to lower use of the building

Hanover continues to have stock investments in a Fidelity investment fund. The value fluctuates daily, but the 2021 year-end statement showed a total of \$204,022. Included in that figure is a money market account of \$24,394.

Ellen Casson, Finance Committee





"If January is the month of change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers... February is for doers."

— Marc Parent

February Weekly Happenings

Prayer Circle—Mondays, 8:30am
 JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am to 1pm
 High Noon at Hanover—Wednesdays, 12pm
 Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am
 In-Person Worship—Sundays, 11am

February Meetings

Deacons: Tuesday, Feb. 1, 6pm
 JSC Board: Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7pm
 Worship Committee: Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1:15pm
 Faith in Action: Thursday, Feb. 10, 5:30pm
 Session: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7pm
 Article deadline for March Herald: Friday, Feb. 25

February Birthdays

1	Lee Buckley
1	Sean Simpson
3	Nancy Long
3	Jurgens Van Rooyen
4	Hope Alexander
4	Twyla Evitts
6	Nathaniel Arnold
6	Andy Moore
7	Tracey Lewis
8	Doris Murphy
9	Andrew Long
15	Gabrielle Murphy
16	Jean Gross
16	Sean Howard
17	Maggie Alexander
17	Jacob Arnold
21	Tom Davis
21	Mike Kirylik
22	Nancy Palmer
24	Melvin Matthews, Jr.
24	Irene Turner
25	Stuart Bailey
26	Chris Simmons
26	Larry Smith
26	Brian Zankowsky

Let's look ahead to March!

Lent at Hanover

Easter Eggs!

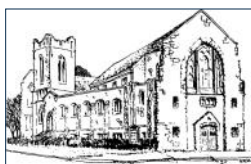
250 Celebration: Sunday, March 27
 The Female Harmony Society

**Can't wait to worship "in person" on
 Sunday, February 20!**



Hanover Street Presbyterian Church

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 Email: office@hanoverchurch.org
 Pastor Andy email: pastor@hanoverchurch.org
 Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HanoverPresbyterian/>



Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Andy Jacob
 Commissioned Ruling Elder: Tim Arnold
 Organizing Pastor: Rev. Brooke Scott
 Church Administrator/Minister of Music: Twyla Evitts
 Sexton: Herman Pulliam
 Child care: Jerri Harmon-Matthews
 Office Volunteers: Alice Cornelius, Ruth Howell,
 Katie Leep, Walter Scott, George Turner