

Hanover The HERALD

Hanover Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, Delaware

August 2023

"Remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." 1st Thessalonians 1:3



Grace and Peace to you, Hanover!

The time for us to begin our two-year ministry journey together has arrived! As I prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead, I am filled with gratitude and joy for the years of ministry that have preceded this call.

My first year of ministry with you will be spent getting to know members of the congregation, our parish neighbors, members of the faith community, Presbytery colleagues, and community leaders.

I am acutely aware that there are no easy answers to the problems facing many of our main-line congregations and communities. Through prayer, discernment, and conversations, I will follow the Spirit's leading.

Your commitment to serve the community and provide leadership for your congregation inspires and encourages me. With your continued leadership and support, we will discover additional ways to be a relevant and faithful church in this unique period in our nation's history.

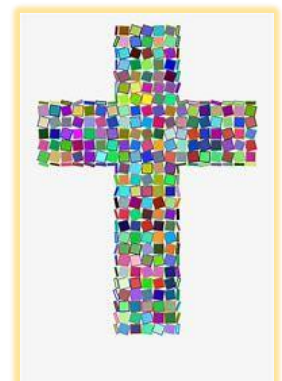
Together we will discover the way forward as we build on the solid foundation that has brought you this far.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts, your hopes and dreams, and your faith stories.

By Faith,

Pastor Stephany

Join us on **this Sunday, August 6**, for Pastor Stephany's first Sunday here at Hanover! The Hanover Choir will make a special summer appearance, and we'll have a reception following the service. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us!



Welcoming Pastor Stephany

One way we can extend Hanover's hospitality to Pastor Stephany is to make it as easy as possible for her to get to know us. So, on Aug. 6, and for several weeks thereafter, the Worship Committee will provide name tags & felt-tipped pens on the tables near the entrances to the sanctuary. Please write out your name tag and wear it during worship and coffee hour. This will be a great way to say "Welcome" to Pastor Stephany as well as to help us get to know each other better. Thank you!

VBS on VBS

(Vacation Bible School on Van Buren Street)

August 21-24 from 5:30-8:30pm

Gardens of the Bible:

From Eden to Revelation

For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

~Isaiah 61:11



We return to the home of Tim and Becky Arnold (2105 N Van Buren Street, Wilmington, DE) for our 2023 VBS, Gardens of the Bible. We will be reflecting on four gardens in the Bible and how they inform our faith. And since it's all about gardens, we will also discuss creation care and the health benefits of spending time in nature.

In our non-traditional way of doing VBS, we meet at 5:30pm for swimming and conversation around Tim and Becky's pool, and enjoy a potluck supper starting around 6:15ish. After a brief intergenerational time together, we break into two groups—youth and adults—for further discussion and activities around the evening's garden passages. We end by 8:30pm each day.

We are excited to have Pastor Stephany join us for her first Hanover-style VBS. What a wonderful venue for us to get to know one another!



Child Care for Sunday morning worship is now available every Sunday. Jerri Harmon-Matthews and Alexandra Evitts alternate each week and provide child care for all children. They are in the Church School Hall from 9:30am to 11:30am. Please feel free to let your children enjoy a time of coloring, playtime, and fun conversation.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Hanover property committee is always busy behind the scenes, especially our "Mr. Fix-it" Sexton, Herman Pulliam. Usually, he is on the roof or in the boiler room, but on this day, he was under the sidewalk exploring Hanover's abandoned oil tank. Herman would like to turn the tank into a hot tub, but DelDOT and DNREC have other ideas.

Thanks to our State Representative Nnamdi Chukwuocha, Hanover was able to access community transportation funds to finish fixing the sidewalk on Jefferson Street. We expected we might run into issues, because the sidewalk that needs to be fixed is suspended on steel girders and wire mesh over the oil tank. The suspended sidewalk area is approximately 30 feet by 14 feet.

Bill Tudor and Herman estimate that the tank is around 10 feet wide and 10 feet long, and 5 to 6 feet deep. That would put it in the 4,000 to 5,000-gallon range, which means it comes under the jurisdiction of DNREC, even though it was installed before the department even existed. DelDOT does not contract for sidewalk repairs, if the sidewalk is not on solid ground.

The property committee is going to be working with representatives of DelDOT and DNREC, and their recommended contractors, to see if the tank has to come out, or if it can be filled and buried inside the open space. Bill Tudor and Herman think the steel girders might still be solid and a method using panels between the girders for concrete might work. Unfortunately, the funds to pay for it will probably not be community transportation funds. Who knows where we will end up. Herman may get his hot tub yet! ~ *Ellen Casson*



Dear Hanover Saints,

If you've already returned the June 29 "Hanover Members & Friends Information Form", many thanks!

If you haven't, here are 2 easy ways to do so:

1. A committee member will be in the church school hall after worship the next 2 Sundays. Please stop by, complete your form, and leave it with the committee member.

2. Forms are on the church office counter. Help yourself and give your completed form to Twyla.

Please Note: The Survey Monkey format is no longer available so, even if you still have the email with the Survey Monkey link, you won't be able to access Survey Monkey. Please complete a paper form.

Thanks for returning your completed form by Thursday, August 10.

Gratefully,

*Membership Committee: Ruth Howell, Jude Harlan, Stephanie Hinson,
Eloise Downing (Session Clerk 302-304-0579)*



What's Happening



JB's Café—What could be better in the midst of a heatwave than a cool, refreshing water ice? Stop by on Tuesdays to get yours! We have lemon, cherry, or mango. We also feature fresh fruit cups and garden salads for those days when a light meal is all you're looking for. Plus, you get to visit with neighbors and friends! We'll be on the corner of 18th and Jefferson from 10-1. Hope to see you there!

Food Pantry - Our Thursdays are much busier now than a few months ago. Instead of an average of 20 families per week, we are serving 35-40. Fortunately, (thanks to your donations) we are still able to provide fresh produce to all which is something our clients really appreciate. The red wagon is at the back of the sanctuary every Sunday for any donations you might have to drop off. Thanks for your support!



Blue Rocks Game —The good news is that we once again, thanks to Romain, have been able to get Sky Box tickets to a Blue Rocks game! We will be cheering for our hometown team on **Thursday, August 31**—the gates open at 6pm; opening pitch is 6:35pm. Call the church office to reserve your seats - 20 tickets are available.

Church Life—We're looking for fresh ideas for ways we can get our church family together at events other than worship on Sunday mornings. We welcome any and all suggestions. We do have a few notions that are in the "formative" stages. Think Murder Mystery Dinner, Game Night or a Sports Day Picnic at Fox Point—featuring horseshoes, bocce and volleyball. What would YOU like to do? Give any suggestions to Becky Arnold, Stephanie Hinson, Norris Cramer or Bea Johnson.



Coffee Hour Hosts—We are in need of Coffee Hour hosts! Please see the schedule on the bulletin board and sign up. It's easy to do—it can be as simple as a cookie and a drink. You can also host with a partner—however it works best!

Thank you for supporting our fellowship time each week.

Hanover and the Female Harmony Society join together to give grants to college students connected to Hanover. We thought you'd enjoy reading part of Hanover member, Chris Jacob's application: Chris is a full-time college student at the University of Delaware where he is majoring in Communications.



"Hanover Presbyterian Church and its Hanover saints helped raise me. At the time my father took the position as that pastor at Hanover, I was four years old, not old enough to have any real interest in Biblical literature, but old enough to really enjoy "Veggie Tales" in the nursery during worship. As I've grown up, Hanover has been a second home time and time again, from irreplaceable Sunday School programs to Gospel Vespers. Hanover took care of me year around all the way to my confirmation and graduation from high school around the time I turned 18.

Since then, as I've gone out into the world, I've met more and more people who are very disillusioned or frustrated in their experience of their churches. I realized pretty quickly having "Pastor parents" progressive enough to happily perform marriage ceremonies for gay couples wasn't the image people got from the phrase. Not to mention, a church as dedicated in its community service efforts as Hanover is sadly an anomaly. I can't tell people who've experienced corporatism or homophobia in other churches they are wrong, but Hanover is all the evidence I will ever need to tell them that that ugliness is not found in every church. Much to the contrary, I'm blessed to sometimes feel like the only person my age I know who remains totally content with the church experience they grew up with. To this day, I know the Hanover Family is around with open hands any time, and my spirit is stronger simply for that knowledge."

Stained Glass Window Project



Hanover Church stands for Hospitality, Diversity, and Justice -- and we seek these daily through our mission of outreach in our community and beyond.

Today we seek to share another treasure with our community: our nearly 100-year-old Chancel Window. The window faces 18th Street and the parks along the Brandywine River in the city of Wilmington, Delaware. With your help, the beauty and brilliance of the window will be enhanced inside the church, and once again visible from outside.

The window, titled "Christ, the Good Shepherd," has another unique claim to fame. It is one of the few windows designed by Anne Lee Willet, co-founder of the Willet Stained Glass & Decorating Company with her husband, William, in 1898.

Please give what you can to help restore this artistic, historical, and community treasure. Visit our GoFundMe campaign on our website's homepage at: www.hanoverchurch.org to make an online donation and get more details about our efforts.

Many thanks for your support!

CONTINUING TO GIVE . . .

The work of Christ is going strong at Hanover, and we rely on your pledges to keep us running smoothly. Here are the ways that you can continue to give your pledge and other offerings:



Sunday morning Worship: The offering plates are ready!

Mail: Please send your check to:

Hanover Presbyterian Church, 1801 North Jefferson Street, Wilmington, DE 19802

Drop-off: You can go to the Jefferson Street Open Arms Academy/Church Office entrance and put your envelope inside the gray mailbox on the left door. It is safe and secure there, and Herman and/or Twyla will pick them up.

Drop-off in person: If you want to hand your check to the office in person, the office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am–5pm.

On line: Go to our website: www.hanoverchurch.org - scroll down to the bottom of the screen and you will see Online Giving. Click on the yellow highlighted word Donate - the next screen will be ready for you.

Thank you so much for supporting Hanover all year long.

Heavenly Humor



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Evan Pulliam
- 7 Frances McFarland
- 11 Brett Pulliam
- 11 Marshae Pulliam-Bibbs
- 13 Quazeem Rosa
- 15 Brittany Peterson
- 15 Karin Wilson
- 16 Susan Anderson
- 18 Norma Reid
- 18 Michael Zankowsky
- 18 Elizabeth Heiks
- 22 George Turner
- 29 Leon Wilson
- 29 Michele Zistl
- 30 John Heiks



Hanover and JSC Partner to Receive Ignite Grant

On July 24th, Hanover and Jefferson Street Center received the wonderful news that we received \$12,340 requested for programming and also maintenance and supervision of the gym space of the Gathering Place Community Hub.

Hanover and JSC are working in partnership with local stakeholders, especially residents, parents, and neighborhood organizations, to establish an accessible community hub, that is built with and for the community it serves. JSC serves as a connector and facilitator, and strives to mobilize and uplift community programs that explore new ideas, build creative solutions and develop sustainable relationships. JSC and Hanover, working together as a secular non-profit and a faith-based organization, have a unique opportunity to reach diverse communities around Northwest Wilmington and provide a vital community-based asset. The Community Hub provides the space for programming and capacity building, addressing the need for recreational and learning opportunities, as well as receiving resources and services.

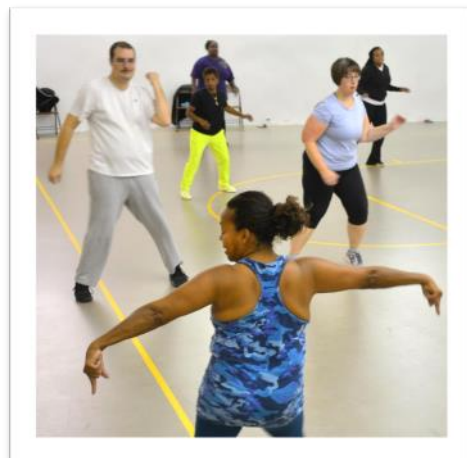


With the help of previous Ignite funding, Hanover and JSC were able to complete renovations of the gym portion of our community hub, including installation of a sprinkler system. This happened during the height of the Covid-19 Pandemic. In consultation with Healthy Communities Delaware, we conducted a Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment. It confirmed what we already recognized - there was an overwhelming need for safe and healthy options for stress relief, including exercise, counseling, and safe, healthy forms of interaction with others.

Our existing gym programs currently include a Zumba class, pickleball, yoga, open basketball, and Sharon Temple Middle School recreation. The Ignite funding will support professional instruction for the Zumba class and also maintenance and supervision of the gym.

As Hanover said in its letter of support for the funding, "Our purpose is to create a community hub, in partnership with Jefferson Street Center, Inc. (JSC), through which we will live out our deepest values of hospitality, diversity, and justice... In our Call to Worship on Sunday, April 30th, we declared, 'Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.' Opening our hearts and our community hub space to all our neighbors is what Hanover wishes to continue to do, in gratitude to the grace of God in our lives!"

~ Ellen Casson





“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”

— John Lubbock, *The Use Of Life*

Weekly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9am
- ◇ JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am - 1pm
- ◇ Zumba—Tuesdays, 6pm
- ◇ Pickleball—Wednesdays, 10am - 12pm
- ◇ Clothing Closet—Wednesdays, 10am -12:30pm
- ◇ Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am
- ◇ Zumba—Thursdays, 6pm
- ◇ Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm - 7:30pm

August Meetings Schedule

- ◇ Worship Committee: Tuesday, August 8, 1:15pm
- ◇ Session: Tuesday, August 15, 7pm
- ◇ Staff meeting: Wednesday, August 16, noon
- ◇ VBS: Monday, August 21—Thursday, August 24
- ◇ PAG meeting: Wednesday, August 30, 1pm Zoom
- ◇ Blue Rocks Baseball Game: Thursday, August 31

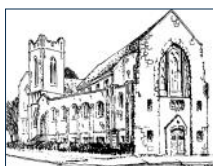
Looking ahead to September . . .



- * **Sunday Worship returns to 11am on Sunday, September 10.**
- * **The Wonderers Discipleship Class resumes meeting on Sunday, September 10.**
- * **Faith In Action will host a book review on Sunday, September 17.**
- * **Jeremiah's Coffee House is on Saturday, September 23.**

Hanover Street Presbyterian Church

Address: 1801 N. Jefferson Street
 Wilmington, DE 19802
 Phone: (302) 658-5114
 Email: office@hanoverchurch.org
 Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HanoverPresbyterian/>



Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stephany D. Graham Walker
 Commissioned Ruling Elder: Tim Arnold
 Organizing Pastor: Rev. Brooke Scott
 Church Administrator/Minister of Music: Twyla Evitts
 Sexton: Herman Pulliam
 Bookkeeper: Anthony Condoluci-Smith
 Child care: Alexandra Evitts, Jerri Harmon-Matthews
 Office Volunteers: Alice Cornelius, Ruth Howell,
 Katie Leep, Walter Scott, George Turner