The Herald

Hanover Presbyterian Church Wilmington, Delaware November 2024

Do You Hear What The Children Are Saying?!

New ideas can take a while to catch on, but "de-churching" is happening everywhere. Therefore, we must continue to try new ways of sharing the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the freedom of the Spirit, that we sing about every Sunday!

While the situation appears to be bleak, there is plenty of reason for hope. Y.D. (Youth Disciple) Sunday has been designed to introduce neighbors and whosoever will to the amazing Hanover community of faith.

Our first youth service was filled with special guests who witnessed two children being baptized and a performance by the Seventh Day Adventist youth choir. It is our hope to invite special guests every month.

Thank you to those of you who participated in faith, family and fun. Youth Sunday will only be successful if we all make every effort to invite our young friends and family members to church once a month.

We already have a request from a parent who attended the October youth service for a family baptism. We are searching for local youth musicians and groups to share their talents with us.

Rev. Brooke Scott will be the preacher/storyteller for our next Youth Sunday; Candice, owner of "Let's Play" is already planning the activities, and we have plenty of food, so the shopping is done. All we need now is for each of us to invite a young guest. All things are possible with God!

By Faith,

Pastor Stephany







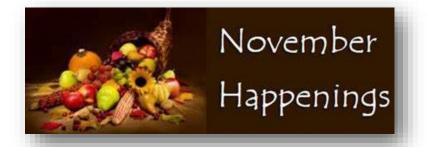


A Prayer for Young People

Lord, you came to us as a baby. Help us to see you in the children of today. Hold us to account for our treatment of those who look to us for guidance and hope. Move us to create a world



in which every young person in this nation's basic survival needs are met: food, shelter, a healthy planet, protection, healthcare, a good education, safety and a caring community. Help us open to all young people the rich world of books, music, art, and the joy of sharing and serving. Help all young people see themselves as beloved and precious in your sight. We ask this prayer in the name of the baby Jesus born long ago, who seeks to live in our hearts today. Amen.



~ COMMUNION & COMMUNITY SUNDAY - Sunday, November 3–9:30AM & 11AM The first Sunday of each month we share an hour of educational generational fun at 9:30AM and then communion during the worship service. It is also the end of Daylight Saving Time, so please remember to set your clocks BACK an hour on Saturday night!

~ **BAGELS & BIBLE STUDY**—Tuesday, November 5, 10AM—The Gathering Place Are there really signs that the end of the world is near? What does the book of Revelation say about the end times? This is our last meeting. Bagels are free! An extended breakfast menu is available for a minimal charge! If you'd like to join the study via Zoom, the Zoom ID is: 846 695 5981 There is no passcode. If you need the direct link please let us know by Monday at noon.

~ ALL SAINTS' & STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY—Sunday, November 10, 11AM

During this service, we will acknowledge the saints who have died over the past year, whose love for God and whose dedication to this congregation continues to bear fruit today. May their faithful legacy inspire us to continue to share our gifts of time, talent and treasure as we plan for the future. We now have the opportunity to leave a legacy that will live on beyond our years. Please plan to be a part of this very

special worship experience. Then following Coffee Hour, please stay for a viewing of the film:

1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture

This documentary explores how a mistranslation in the Revised Standard Version (RSV) of the Bible in 1946 had a profound impact on the church. The mistranslation at the center of the documentary stems from the

translation of two Greek words, *arsenokoitai* and *malakoi*, which appear in I Corinthians 6:9. For the first time these terms were translated as "homosexuals" in this version, which many scholars argue was inaccurate and did not reflect the original meaning of the words. Before 1946, these Greek terms were generally understood to refer to exploitative or abusive sexual behaviors. The documentary explores how this mistranslation has significantly influenced Christian teachings on homosexuality and has been used to justify exclusionary and harmful attitudes toward LGBTQ+ people. By correcting this translation error, *1946* encourages viewers to reconsider long-held assumptions and invites a more compassionate, historically grounded understanding of these Biblical texts. The movie is especially important to us as members of a More Light Church. Hope you will join us for this meaningful event!

~ YOUTH SUNDAY—Sunday, November 17, 11AM (see cover article)

~ 9TH WARD INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE—Thursday, November 21, 7PM

Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 W. Lea Blvd, Wilmington, DE 19802 Pastor Stephany is delivering the message "Audacious Resilience", and the Hanover Choir will be singing. Join us as we pray together for gratitude, peace and Uncommon Courage.

~ GRATITUDE SUNDAY—Sunday, November 24, 11AM

Our deacons are leading the service; Bea Wilson is preaching, and the Deacons will also host Coffee Hour. We'll be sharing our gratitude and praising God!





~ FOOD PANTRY - In September we hit an all time high of 43 families in one day. Now in October we set a record of 54 families in one day! Certainly, this is not the type of record we want to be reaching. Please keep the Food Pantry in mind when you are shopping. Any items you could add to your cart for us would be appreciated.

~ JB'S CAFE - We will be moving into the Gathering Place in November. Our menu will include soups and other cool weather offerings. Come in and get warmed by good food and fellowship!

~ FALL FLING REPORT - This year's event was probably the smoothest run one that we have had in past years. Thanks to the many helpers who priced and organized and all who donated their "stuff", we were ready to go on Saturday morning. The weather cooperated, and we were able to be outside as well as in the building. When 2PM came around, and the proceeds were counted, we were pleased to find that we had made just about \$2,500. That added to the \$2,174.75 that we made in the Spring brings us to within \$700 of our goal of \$6,000 for the year due to fundraisers. Hopefully, we will make that mark by the end of the year. Speaking of fundraising - we will have Peg's relish for sale next Sunday. If you'd like to order a jar or two, please call the church office. Once again, thank you to all the Hanover family and friends who make these events fun and successful! *~ Ellen, Ruth and Becky*

~ THANKSGIVING TURKEY BASKETS - We will be distributing turkeys again this year. What we need for the bags to go with them - sweet potatoes, vegetables, gravy, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, and frozen fruit pies. Thanks for your help!

~ **NEWS FROM THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY**—As I was putting books in our Little Library, I met this family who had stopped by to use the library and thanked us for providing it. Many library users are now putting books in the library when they take one. However, we are still in need of picture books (for parents to read to kids) and baby books (board books). If you have any to share, please leave them in the church office. Our readers will thank you. ~ Maggie Alexander





Stewardship Update

The stewardship season is upon us. Last week letters were mailed to ask all to consider how each of us might support the mission of the church in 2025, especially financially. Our congregation is vital and important to all of us and to the community around us. The church building is the place we meet for worship, but it's also a center for the community and for multiple missions and activities, like the food pantry, clothing closet, and multiple activities in the gym, that benefit both members and neighbors. Our staff inspire us, teach us, lead us in worship, keep us organized, and maintain the space we share on Sunday and weekdays. However, all of that requires money.

If you've been giving in support of the church and its mission, thank you! Do you have room in your monthly budget to increase how much you give in 2025? If you've hesitated to give, please contact me or the pastor and talk about it. We have a lot to do in this world, and your help makes it happen.

~ Jeff Long, Stewardship Committee

FINANCE REPORT

The Hanover finance committee provided September's finance reports to Session for its October meeting. At the end of nine months, we are running a deficit of over \$56,000. At 75% of the year, we have received only 64% of our budgeted giving goal of \$205,000. We have approximately \$215,000 in our investment account, but we have already had to draw on that account this year to cover expenses. We want to be able to draw on that account only for exceptional expenses,



We are grateful to all of you who have and will support Hanover, financially, and use your resources to serve with love and compassion. We need all gifts, because every gift – every donation can make a difference. If you prefer to donate online, please use this link <u>https://hanoverchurch.org/joinus/support-the-church/</u>.

Delaware Shakespeare's presentation of "The Winter's Tale" was a real hit. The performance was in the Hanover Social Hall. The performers were in the center of the hall surrounded by an audience of around 85 people. It was another fantastic event resulting from our partnership with Jefferson Street Center!







Good News!

The Presbyterian Hunger Program has donated \$10,000 to the Association of Mam Christian Women in Guatemala as a first grant to provide cows and seed potatoes. This will help families achieve greater food and income security. The money comes from the spring One Great Hour of Sharing offering, so the people of Hanover can enjoy knowing that our contributions are making a difference in the world.

Nancy and Jeff Long met several of the women pictured here and on their website - to see them and read more about their stories, click <u>HERE</u> for their website.





FHS Annual Meeting October 12, 2024

FEMALE HARMONY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

We met at the home of Cherise and Romain Alexander on a beautiful Saturday morning. We shared refreshments and talked about the past, the present, and the future. Ellen Casson made a photo tribute to the six women who had passed in the last three years, and we talked about their contributions and inspirational lives. We know that there are many changes coming, and we are determined to continue making positive impacts on our community and those who live in it through educational grants, special events, social outings, and being a caring community.



"This is the month of nuts and nutty thoughts — that November whose name sounds so bleak and cheerless perhaps its harvest of thought is worth more than all the other crops of the year." – Henry David Thoreau

Weekly Happenings

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

November Meetings

- Deacons-Sunday, November 3, 12:30PM \Diamond
- Worship Committee–Tuesday, November 12, 1:15PM \Diamond
- Faith in Action–Tuesday, November 12, 5PM \Diamond
- Personnel-Wednesday, November 13, 6PM \Diamond
- \Diamond Session-Tuesday, November 19, 7PM
- \Diamond Newsletter article deadline for December–Friday, November 22



November Birthdays

- Heather Dorsev 1
- 3 Lawondale Parker
- 6 **Denny Schreyer**
- 6 Austin Wilson
- 16 Amber Simmons
- 19 **Devin Pulliam**
- 20 Fred McFarland
- 22 Kathryn Long
- 23 Lillian Grasty
- 26 **Ralph Fortney**

Looking ahead to December ...

 Advent Christmas Luncheon—Sunday, December 22 Christmas Eve Service–Wednesday, December 24–5PM Special guest soloists at 4:45PM: Gus Mercante & Shannon Booth Johnson



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