

Masked Men Again?!

The photographs of masked men that I have recently seen on social media sites, has triggered the same deep disgust I felt the first time I saw footage of the Klan burning homes, lynching Black men, and using the symbol of a burning cross to justify their White supremacist and White exceptionalist ideologies.

A feeling of generational harm washes over me as I witness these cowardly people descending on construction sites, chasing migrants in fields, lurking in courthouse hallways, knocking on doors of homes, and surrounding cars.

Not long ago, it was with police dogs and water hoses that law officers terrorized. Today we see masked men wrestling men and women to the ground, jumping out of cars and chasing them. Today we watch as people are shoved into vans, detained unlawfully and sent off to prisons in other countries.

These masked men have shown up at elementary schools purporting to be working for the Department of Homeland Security. They say they are ICE agents, but no one knows, because just like before, they are not courageous enough to show their faces. This time however, they are sanctioned by a mad man who is in a position of power to pardon insurrectionists, criminals, and “insecure boys.”

Who are these masked men behind the large, black or green pieces of cloth, or bandanas covering the entire face, save for the eyes. Were the insurrectionists pardoned in order to become the presidents lynch mob? There is something particularly menacing about being attacked by faceless people. The mask not only terrorizes the victim of the attack, but it also uniquely empowers the perpetrator.

This country has a unique history with the particular terror of masked attackers. The Ku Klux Klan terrorized Black people in the American South in the first years after the end of the Civil War and through much of the 20th century.

So rampant was Klan violence in the years immediately after the Civil War, that it threatened to derail the promise of the 14th Amendment, which was ratified in 1868 and was designed to ensure that Black people would be equal citizens in post-Civil War America.

We have every right to know the identity of the officers who are abducting migrants and U.S. citizens from our streets. Officers of the state should be proud to identify themselves as such. When they are not, it is a warning flag for democracy.

Unfortunately, even the worst parts of history tend to repeat themselves. Fortunately, “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” (Rev. Theodore Parker - popularized by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Lord, hasten the bend and give us strength for the journey!

By Faith,

Pastor Stephany

Excerpts from this article were adapted from the article, “Masked Terror” by Sherrilyn Ifill, June 24, 2025.



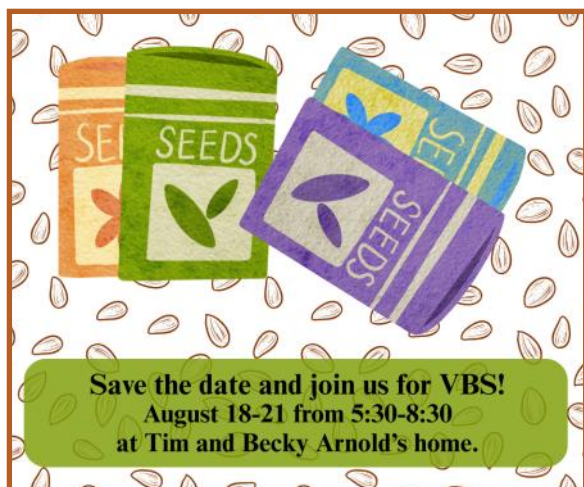
Bagels & Bible Study – We have two weeks left on our Bible Study—Tuesdays, July 1 and July 8. Pastor Stephany will meet with everyone in The Gathering Place at 10AM with bagels. Please join them as they study about the Gospels.

The theme for this study is: “Understanding The Gospels”.

- Who wrote the Gospels?
- Did the writers have an agenda?
- What societal context inspired each writer?
- How did each writer describe their relationship with Jesus?

Bring your Bibles—bagels will be provided!

~ Pastor Stephany



I'm Ruthie McFarland, and I am a member of the Wonderer's Discipleship Class. I enjoy playing and learning alongside my friends. I was very sad when summer first began, because that meant no more Sunday School for three whole months! However, it did mean a lot of fun was coming soon... at Vacation Bible School! Last year, I went to Vacation Bible School with my sister. For a few days, we learned, ate yummy dinners, and played in the pool. We learned about bees, and how bees are mentioned in the bible. It was a great experience and Frankie (my sister) and I still talk about how we're looking forward to the next one. This year, we're reading a book called *Seed Folks* and discussing it. I'm excited for what we'll do, because Ms. Nancy has asked me to help her put on a play or activity relating to the novel. I look forward to having a great time this summer!

~ Ruthie McFarland

First Friday Walks for Justice and Peace



Since the murder of George Floyd, church members and civic groups have been gathering on the first Friday of each month for a silent walk for justice and peace through downtown Wilmington. Leadership of the walks comes from Saints Andrew and Matthew and Westminster Presbyterian Church. We gather at 5:30pm at Saints Andrew and Matthew (719 North Shipley Street) and end at Rodney Square. Any questions, please contact Bill Getman at wfgetman55@gmail.com.

~ Bill Getman

What's happening at . . .

The Food Pantry - Food Pantry - We served 203 households in May, an increase of 62 and spent \$1,000 more on groceries and produce. There were 5 Thursdays in May which probably accounts for the increase in numbers somewhat. Our count has been running about 40 families each week. We are managing to keep food on our shelves and in the freezer thanks to donations from Giant, Wawa, and you. Thanks for your help!!!

What does the Food Pantry need right now?

~ **tuna**, **spaghetti sauce**, **canned pasta**, **boxed milk**,
money to buy eggs, **meat**, **laundry detergent**, and **produce** ~

JB'S Cafe - The weather is getting better, and we are able to have lunch outside now. It's amazing what a difference that makes. People obviously like to see us on the sidewalk! Come and see for yourselves the fun you have been missing!

The Scoop at Hanover - The weather was not kind to us in May, but it is improving now and we are scooping every Wednesday evening from 6-8pm. Be on the lookout for notices when the weather doesn't cooperate, such as extreme heat or rain.

Join us once and you will be hooked on making this your "go to" spot for a cool treat!

~ *Becky Arnold*



My name is Ruthie McFarland. I am a summer intern at Hanover Church, and I am excited to tell you about how much fun I've been having here.

My first day of work, I enjoyed eating hot dogs and water ice, along with helping Twyla in the office. I stamped envelopes for the Herald and participated in the prayer circle. The next day, I spent an hour working at the clothing closet, and played pickleball for a while. The rest of the time, I made posters for Hanover events, sorted bulletin board numbers, and created an idea for the bulletin board in the church school hall.

Overall, I am enjoying my time at Hanover church this summer, and I think the experience is great. The people I met and already knew there were kind and welcoming to me. I feel that I am helping lots of people, and that feeling makes me really happy. If you have any projects around the church that you'd like help with, please contact the Church Office.

~ *Ruthie McFarland*

1st Cohort of Sacred Grounds Completed March 2023

Interfaith celebrates the completion of the first cohort of Sacred Grounds Pollinator Gardens. ICHDE was one of the community organizations that was recognized as an official Sacred Grounds site. Sacred Grounds sites work to address issues such as storm water management and engage communities around environmental stewardship.



It has been more than two years, since Hanover participated in the recognition of the first cohort of Sacred Grounds Pollinator Gardens. Sacred Grounds™ is a National Wildlife Federation program that recognizes congregations, houses of worship, and faith communities that create wildlife habitat and actively link faith practices and caring for the environment. Pacem in Terris proposed a Peace Garden collaborative with Hanover Church and Jefferson Street Center. We received a Sacred Grounds mini-grant of \$1,000, for the creation of the Peace Garden pollinator project.

On June 16th Lindsey Walker of the National Wildlife Foundation and Sparrow Francis of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light visited the 19th Street Sacred Grounds peace garden. They wanted to see an

example of a successful pollinator garden, as they begin to support a new cohort of organizations develop gardens. We have lots of flowers in bloom to support pollinators and the little chairs and library add to the peaceful environment on 19th Street. Many thanks to everyone who participated in making this Sacred Grounds garden a reality.

~ Ellen Casson



The Female Harmony Society's Little Library Needs Your Books

Our Little Library at 19th and Jefferson gets lots of use. I've borrowed a couple of books myself. We've received donations from various sources, but many of them are older or special-interest books. While we can use a few of these, what we need are more current books of interest to the general public. So if you have a good book at home that you probably won't read again, or books that your children or grandchildren have outgrown and are ready to part with, please think about donating them. If you do, please leave them in the CHURCH OFFICE with a note saying "for the Little Library." Thanks.

~ Maggie Alexander

The Hanover Prayer Corner

Lord God, we ask for Your peace to settle deeply in every community and neighborhood worldwide. Where fear and crime have taken hold, bring safety and calm. Unite neighbors in friendship and cooperation. Heal divisions caused by prejudice or misunderstanding. Help communities work together for the common good, supporting one another through trials and rejoicing in blessings. May your peace guide local leaders and law enforcement to act justly and compassionately. Let every neighborhood become a place where peace flourishes and hope grows strong. Amen.



Let's Continue to PRAY!

In uncertain times, prayer reminds us that God is only a breath away. We are gathering on Zoom every last Thursday of the month at 7pm—our July prayer time is on **Thursday, July 31**. **It is a brief moment** to encourage one another with words of hope. Please join us as we pray for our families, our friends and our nation. We will send a reminder and Zoom link the day before each gathering.

~ Pastor Stephany

Finance Report

Soon, we will be mailing out six-month statements to everyone who has donated, financially, to Hanover. Thank you in advance for your support.

In our service on Sunday, June 29th, the congregation sang a beautiful hymn, "The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound." It was written by a Mennonite minister from Western Pennsylvania, Adam Tice, and won the 2005 Macalester Plymouth United Church hymn-writing contest. The words of this hymn describe the spirit of Hanover and how we live out our faith. Especially during these challenging times, our personal and financial gifts supporting Hanover are powerful and needed more than ever, as we serve others and fight for social justice.

~ Ellen Casson

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

*The Church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.*

*True faith will open up the door and step into the street.
True service will seek out the poor and ask to wash their feet.*

*True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied.
True mercy hears the homeless cry and welcomes them inside.*

*If what we have, we freely share to meet our neighbor's need,
then we extend the Spirit's care through ev'ry selfless deed.*

*The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.*



YOUTH SUNDAY

AT HANOVER CHURCH

SUNDAY, JULY 20

11AM

Bring your family and friends and join us for our youth-led worship service, followed by a time of food and fun and friends. We'll have a DJ along with games, too. It's a great time in our neighborhood!

**Hanover Church is at 1801 N. Jefferson St.,
Wilmington, DE 19802**

**For more info, call us at: (302) 658-5114
www.hanoverchurch.org**



EVERY THURSDAY

JUNE 26 - OCT 30 4pm - 7pm

EST. 2023

NORTHSIDE

FOOD AND CULTURE MARKET



Haynes Park

LOCAL VIBES. FRESH PICKS. COMMUNITY MADE.

**HAVE A SNAP
CARD?**

**VISIT OUR MARKET AND
DOUBLE YOUR SNAP
DOLLARS**



**LOCALLY GROWN & MADE
PRODUCE, HERBS - PLANTS
BREAD, BAKED GOODS, BAGELS
MEAT, YOGURT, CHEESE, MILK & EGGS
COFFEE DRINKS, BEANS, TEAS
FRESH COLD PRESSED JUICES
ARTISAN GOODS & FOOD TRUCKS
COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

**FOLLOW US FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, MUSICAL ACTS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



NORTHSIDEFCM.302

WWW.JEFFERSONSTREETCENTER.ORG



"My life, I realize suddenly, is July. Childhood is June, and old age is August, but here it is, July, and my life, this year, is July inside of July." —Rick Bass

Weekly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- ◇ JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am - 1pm
- ◇ Zumba—Tuesdays, 6pm—7pm
- ◇ Pickleball—Wednesdays, 10am - 12pm
- ◇ Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am
- ◇ Zumba—Thursdays, 6pm—7pm
- ◇ Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm - 7:30pm
- ◇ August newsletter article deadline—Friday, July 25

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 3 | Stephanie Hinson |
| 5 | Jerri Harmon-Matthews |
| 6 | Ruth Howell |
| 7 | Becky Arnold |
| 12 | Viola Smith |
| 14 | Marybeth Auld |
| 15 | Ayinde Flores |
| 15 | Tracey Turner |
| 18 | Bill Tudor |
| 20 | Leandra Moore |
| 22 | Maricela Rosario |
| 28 | Bill Balascio |
| 28 | Jude Harlan |
| 31 | Sophia Moore |



To our two newest graduates:

Judy Van Rooyen received a B.S. degree in Engineering from University of Delaware.

Natalie Jobes received a Masters of Science Nursing - Long Term Care from Capella University.

Congratulations to you both!

Looking at August . . .

Vacation Bible School
Monday, August 18
through

Thursday, August 21
5:30pm—8:30pm

At the home of Becky & Tim Arnold



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



Hanover 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/>

HOW TO DONATE TO HANOVER:
Now more than ever, thank you for your membership and donations.

Your support makes our work possible.