The Herald

Hanover Presbyterian Church Wilmington, Delaware November 2025

Deed and Truth

On October 18th Pastor Stephany and I, along with other Hanover friends and members, joined our broader community to rise in protest against authoritarianism in our nation at the No Kings 2.0 demonstration. Well over a thousand people joined, from all walks of life, to come together in a unified message: that we will not stand idly by while people's civil liberties are being trampled.

As Christians it is our responsibility to stand in solidarity with the poor and the marginalized, to give our voice to the needs of those whose voices who are being silenced. The love of Christ compels us to preach the gospel in the face of injustice and be a prophetic witness in troubled times. But it is not enough for us to speak the truth only; we are called to be people of action.

1 John 3:18 says, "Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." NRSVUE. The life of a Christian is one that embodies love of God and neighbor. Demonstrations and solidarity movements are one way that we can stand in the way of injustice but are by no means the only way. There are many ways that we can use our voices and our bodies to take a stand against injustice.

I encourage all of us to reflect on what God is asking of us in this currant moment. Prayerfully consider what practical ways we can use our gifts to love our neighbor well. Spend time intentionally empathizing with the experience of those we do not understand and ask what the Gospel calls me to do in this circumstance. It is so easy to fall into traps of tribalism and whatabout-ism, to allow our preconceived notions of those who disagree with us or those whose experience we don't understand to give us permission to write them off or disengage. My friends, the gospel calls us into messy margins and uncomfortable situations. To not see people as enemies or aliens, but instead as beloved children of God. Not every person is called to serve in the same way, but I do believe that every person is called to serve.

Large demonstrations like the one on the 18th are designed to energize and empower further action. We must not grow weary of doing good. Let us continue to volunteer our time and resources in service to the poor. Let us continue to hold our elected officials accountable for how they stand against injustice. Let us continue to put love into action so our bold declaration of the gospel of Jesus will be heard, seen, and felt nationwide.

~ Pastor Silas

Pastor Silas has office hours on Mondays from 10AM - 1PM or by appointment.

Please feel free to stop in and talk with him!





REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time is ending, so please remember to set your clocks **BACK** an hour this coming **Saturday night, November 1**!



Discover the power of kindness with your whole church family at November's Community Sunday! Inspired by the Wonderer's lesson on the Fruit of the Spirit, this intergenerational gathering will explore kindness through a special reading of Nancy Elizabeth Wallace's book, *The Kindness Quilt*. Come to the Sunday School Hall at 9:30 a.m. on November 2 for a morning of fun and fellowship as we learn and grow together in God's love.

Be completely humble & gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ~Ephesians 4:2

Discipleship Classes for the Rest of November

Join us for discipleship classes this month to grow in faith and community!

Adults: The adult class will resume their study, "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Christ," by Rhashell Hunter.

The Wonderers: Hanover youth will continue to explore the Fruit of the Spirit, focusing on goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



- ~ **CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS**—**Sunday, November 2, 12:15PM**—join us immediately following Worship for a conversation about Hanover's Visions for 2026.
- ~ ALL SAINTS' & STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY—Sunday, November 9, 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 are also collecting our stewardship pledge cards during the worship service. Please plan on bringing your card with you (we'll have extra cards available if you need it). We have the opportunity to leave a legacy that will live beyond our years. Please plan to be a part of this very special worship experience.

- ~ VETERAN'S DAY—Tuesday, November 11—JB's Café and the Church Office are closed—
- ~ YD WORSHIP—Sunday, November 16, 11AM—we worship in The Gathering Place on the third Sundays of the month as our youth lead us in worship—then we enjoy food and an intergenerational time of music, games, and conversation—everyone is welcome!
- ~ **CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS**—**Sunday, November 23, 12:15PM**—we will have a discussion about the homeless issue in Wilmington.
- ~ THANKSGIVING DAY BLESSINGS
- ~ ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP—Saturday, November 29, 11AM
- ~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Sunday, November 30, 11AM



The world is changing, but God's love and protection remains the same. Let us gather for prayer, reflection, and spiritual support on **Friday, November 7, at 7PM on Zoom**.

We'll send out the Zoom link in the coming week.

By Faith, Pastor Stephany

The
Hanover
Prayer
Corner



Jefferson Street Center and Hanover Church had the pleasure of hosting the Delaware Shakespeare Community Tour for their two performances of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* on October 10th and 18th!



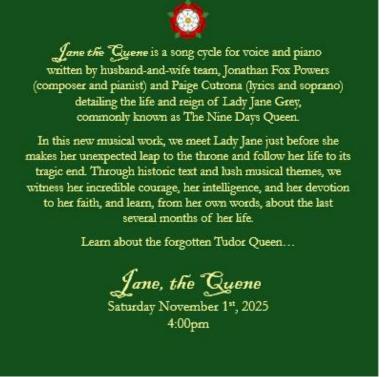
Del Shakes includes the audience in their performance in the round. The Hanover Church School Hall, or "wood room," as many people refer to it, is the perfect location for such a performance. Because the traditional set design of separating the "backstage" from "onstage" is absent, the audience members are able to connect with actors and clearly see the process of the performance.

The actors were fantastic, and everyone had a wonderful time. There were approximately 75 people in attendance. JSC and Hanover are pleased to be able to be partners in bringing this non-traditional and innovative production to the community.

~ Ellen Casson







Partnerships and Relationships Thrive at Hanover

The week of October 19th was a busy week at Hanover. Most weeks are pretty busy, but we will focus on just one so we can share the good news with those of you who may not be as aware of all the activities going on that benefit individuals and the community. In partnership with Jefferson Street Center, Hanover has a busy calendar on the Hanover web page.



Church Administrator Twyla Evitts tries her best to keep us straight with an up-to-date calendar. Check it out here: <u>Calendar</u> ... and by the way, please imagine all the work behind the scenes that goes on constantly to make it possible for these wonderful activities to happen.

Let's start with the Sunday, the 19th. It was Youth Sunday at Hanover, and we had a fantastic worship service followed by activities for the youth led by our partner, Let's PLAY Events. Our DJ, Jason, entertained everyone with music. Jason is also a community partner who helps out at the Food Pantry every week.

On Monday morning, in addition to trying to get "work" done in the office, the important focus of the Prayer Circle begins. Starting at 11 a.m., the Tai Chi Chih for Veterans class starts, and rounding out the day usually includes the Modern Dance group at 7 p.m. Tuesday, the 20th, was even busier. JB's Café opened for breakfast and went on into the early afternoon. The Breakfast and Bible Study group started at 10:30 a.m. The Clothing Closet was set up in the afternoon, and the Zumba class started at 6 p.m., and it was our monthly Session meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday started early with the Clothing Closet. There was Pickleball in the gym at 10:30 a.m. and the Bridge Club started playing cards in the lounge at 12:00 p.m. Choir Practice rounded out the day on Wed. evening.

Thursday morning also started early with the Food Pantry. The Sharon Temple Adventist School youth came at 1 p.m. to use the gym for recreation. Also, JSC and Hanover also hosted the *I Can Do 26.2 Kids* program. This organization is dedicated to combating childhood obesity by promoting good nutrition and physical activity. Families came in after school and used the Gathering Place for education about nutrition. At the same time, the Zumba class started in the gym.



On Friday, there was lots of cleaning up and setting up and also a rehearsal for a special program to be held on Saturday, Nov. 1st, *Jane the Quene*. The Hanover Yoga Class started at 6:15 p.m. Then on Saturday, the 25th, Hanover was still active with the Alzheimer's Support Group at 11 a.m. There was also a Mental Health Awareness Summit using the Church School Hall for most of the day, with an important effort to address the need for awareness and services for those suffering with mental illness in our community. Whew!! All good!

~ Ellen Casson

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 2026, 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 2026? 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





First Friday Walks for Justice and Peace Friday, November 7—5:30PM—6PM

Join us for this peaceful, prayerful walk through the center of Wilmington to promote an end to racial and social injustice. We gather in the SsAM parking lot (719 Shipley St) with people from various faith communities to share in this active, visible commitment to justice and peace in our community. We walk in silence, carrying battery-powered candles, ending at Rodney Square. Wilmington staff support this walk by holding traffic at cross streets. It is a very moving experience. Please join us on the First Friday of each month! Any questions, please contact Bill Getman at wfgetman55@gmail.com.

~ Bill Getman

Good news! We received three new members last week:

Michael Corbin Afam Madu Fred McFarland

They have all been attending Hanover for some time, and all three of them are very active in the life of the church.

Welcome, welcome!



Food Pantry - Households served - 158

Adults 271 Children 114 Total 385 New Clients 21

Expenses - \$1,880 Donations - \$540

We will be taking requests for turkeys on Monday, November 17 starting at 9AM. Please let anyone you know who might be interested. The number to call is: 302-658-5114.

We would appreciate these items for our bags that go with the turkey: cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing mix, sweet potatoes, and frozen pies. Thanks for your help!! ~ Becky Arnold

We received this note and had to share it with you all - this is what keeps us coming each week!

"To the entire staff and those who volunteer at the Food Pantry on Thursdays, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to you all. Not only do you help those in need (like myself); but your kindness, respect, and uplifting spirit is also given as well. That is priceless. Thank you for your dedication. It means so very much to me, and I truly would not make it through the month without your help. God Bless you all. Thank you."



JB's Cafe - Well, cooler weather is on the way. We'll soon be adding soup to our menu. We are going to try to stay outside (at least the cart) as long as possible. Eating and seating will be available in the Gathering Place. Our summer season has been a good one, and we hope our customers will continue to come on inside for the same great food and conversation!

~ Becky Arnold



Church Life - Right on the heels of Thanksgiving come the start of Christmas activities. Please mark you calendars for: **Sunday, December 7**. For our Birthday Sunday celebration, we will have a Cookie Swap. What a good way to get in the holiday mood by baking a batch of your favorite cookies and then share them with each other. Don't forget to bring a tin or something to put your selections in.

On **Sunday**, **December 14**, we will have our annual Christmas gathering after church. This year we thought we might switch it up a bit and have a Brunch. Fix up your favorite recipes for egg casseroles, holiday breads, fruit cups, breakfast meats, etc. and bring one to share with your Hanover family. We'll supply the cocoa, coffee, tea, milk and juice. Hope to see you all there!



"Peering from some high window, at the gold of November sunset and feeling that if day has to become night, this is a beautiful way."

~ E.E. Cummings

Weekly Happenings

- Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- Tai Chi Chih—Mondays, 12pm, 1:45pm
- JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am 1pm
- Zumba—Tuesdays, 6pm—7pm
- Pickleball—Wednesdays, 10am 12pm
- Clothes Closet—Wednesdays, 10am—12pm
- Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am
- Zumba—Thursdays, 6pm—7pm
- Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm 7:30pm
- December newsletter article deadline—Friday, November 21

November Birthdays

- 1 **Heather Dorsey**
- 6 Denny Schreyer
- Austin Wilson 6
- 19 Devin Pulliam
- 20 Fred McFarland
- 23 Lillian Grasty
- 26 Ralph Fortney

Looking ahead to December . . .

- Cookie Exchange—Sunday, December 7
- Advent Christmas Luncheon—Sunday, December 14
- Christmas Eve Service-Wednesday, December 24-5PM Guest soloists at 4:45PM: Gus Mercante & Shannon Booth-Johnson





Hanover Presbyterian Church

Address: 1801 N. Jefferson Street Wilmington, DE 19802

(302) 658-5114 Phone:

office@hanoverchurch.org Email: 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.