

Let us start the New Year off by

Renewing Our Spirits!

Please join Elder George Turner and Pastor Stephany for a six-week lunch and learn series:

The Spiritual Art of Journaling

Every Tuesday, beginning January 13 – February 17, 2026

12PM to 1PM in The Gathering Place

Like the stories of ordinary people in the Bible, your story is sacred and inspiring. Which biblical personality do you relate to most? During what part of your life have experienced an undeniable presence of God? How have your spiritual gifts best served you and others?

"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." Galatians 5:25

Spiritual journaling:

- Cultivates Mindfulness and presence.
- Enhances self-reflection & Insight.
- Nurtures gratitude and Positivity.
- Strengthens connection with God.
- Encourages personal creativity and Expression.
- Facilitates reflection during life's transitions.
- Develops Compassion and Empathy

For more information, please contact: Pastor Stephany at (410) 493-6748.

By Faith,
Pastor Stephany



Thursday, January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Friday, January 2	First Friday Walk—5:30PM at SsAM's
Sunday, January 4	Discipleship Classes—9:30AM
	Worship w/Communion —11AM
	Congregational Annual Meeting—12PM
Monday, January 5	Prayer Circle - 9:30AM
	Building Use Committee - 1PM
Tuesday, January 6	JB's Cafe - 8AM - 1PM
	Black History Month meeting—4PM
Wednesday, January 7	Clothing Closet - 10AM - 12PM
	Pickleball - 10AM - 12PM
	Choir rehearsal - 7PM - 8:30PM
Thursday, January 8	Food Pantry - 8AM - 10AM
Friday, January 9	Yoga - 6:15PM
Sunday, January 11	Discipleship Classes - 9:30AM
	Worship - 11AM
	FIA Movie - 12:15PM
Monday, January 12	Prayer Circle—9:30AM
Tuesday, January 13	JB's Café—8AM—1PM
	Lunch & Learn study—12PM—1PM
	Worship Committee—1:15PM
	Faith in Action—5PM Zoom
Wednesday, January 14	Clothing Closet—10AM—12PM
	Pickleball—10AM—12PM
	Choir rehearsal—7PM—8:30PM
Thursday, January 15	Food Pantry—8AM—10AM
Friday, January 16	Yoga—6:15PM
Sunday, January 18	Discipleship Classes—9:30AM
	Youth Sunday Worship—11AM
Monday, January 19	MLK Day—Church Office closed
Tuesday, January 20	JB's Café—8AM—1PM
	Lunch & Learn study—12PM—1PM
	Session via Zoom—6:30PM
Wednesday, January 21	Clothing Closet—10AM—12PM
	Pickleball—10AM—12PM
	Community dinner—5:30PM—7PM
Thursday, January 22	Choir rehearsal—7PM—8:30PM
Friday, January 23	Food Pantry—8AM—10AM
	February newsletter article deadline
	Yoga—6:15PM
Saturday, January 24	Alzheimer's Support Group—11AM
Sunday, January 25	Discipleship Classes—9:30AM
	Worship—11AM
	New Year's Brunch—12PM
Monday, January 26	Prayer Circle—9:30AM
Tuesday, January 27	JB's Café—8AM—1PM
Wednesday, January 28	Clothing Closet—10AM—12PM
	Pickleball—10AM—12PM
	Choir rehearsal—7PM—8:30PM
Thursday, January 29	Food Pantry—8AM—10AM
	January Prayer Zoom Call—7PM
Friday, January 30	Yoga—6:15PM
	2025 Annual Reports are due!



What's Happening

Food Pantry - The Hanover Food Pantry has been blessed this Christmas season by an overwhelming show of support by way of not only food, but monetary donations as well. Many thanks go to the Triangle Neighborhood Assoc. for their generous gifts of food and money. As a side note: we seem to have an abundance of canned vegetables and beans. Perhaps, canned fruit, peanut butter, and spaghetti would be helpful to us. Thanks, too, to Hanover members for their support through Ungifts. Apparently, our Food Pantry is dear to the hearts of many people not directly involved with Hanover, who over the years have supported us because they appreciate what we are trying to do for our community. Our dedicated volunteers are a real gift as well. This group of twelve individuals have been faithfully filling their posts 52 weeks of the year for many years. When we all work together to help each other we like to say- "Expect Miracles, They're Normal!!"

JB's Cafe - BRR... there is definitely a lack of heat outside these days! We have moved inside to The Gathering Place for our Tuesday adventures in dining. Come on in to get warmed up by not only the food but the camaraderie that abounds. There is a seat for everyone!

Church Life - We have been a busy group this past month, and now we are ramping up for January. We will be starting our Community Dinners again. The first one will be on **Wednesday, January 21 at 5:30PM**. Hanover members, neighbors, and friends are invited to come eat and enjoy getting to know one another better. Our first meal will feature Chili of all kinds. This is an appeal to all chili makers—we would surely appreciate a pot of your favorite recipe. I am pretty sure that the Food Pantry can provide what you would need to make it. Please let me know if you would like to help!



Annual Reports: It's that time of year again – we are collecting articles for our 2025 Annual Report. Please submit your articles to the office at: churchadmin@hanoverchurch.org by **Friday, January 30**.

The world is changing, but God's love and protection remains the same. Let us gather for Advent prayers and reflection on **Thursday, January 29, at 7PM on Zoom**.

We'll send out the Zoom link in The Scoop and by email on that Thursday.

*The
Hanover
Prayer Corner*



Finance Report

The Hanover finance committee provided November's finance reports to Session for its December 2025 meeting. At 92% of the year, we had received 88% (\$180,149) of our 2025 budgeted income pledge goal of \$205,000. The good news is this is significantly better than at the same time in 2024. The challenging news is that all of our regular income as of November 30th (\$253,328) is not enough to cover all of our expenses of \$273,251 through November, so we are running a deficit of almost \$20,000.

Our pledges for 2026, as of December 10, 2025, equal \$147,119 from 40 pledges. This is also significantly improved over this time in 2024. We are very grateful to all of you who have supported Hanover, financially, and have pledged to continue doing so. Pledges are gratefully received at any time during the year. We need all gifts, because every gift – every donation – makes it possible for Hanover to serve others with love and compassion. If you prefer to donate online, please use this link <https://hanoverchurch.org/joinus/support-the-church>.

Finance Committee: Amy Harris, Bill Tudor, Tim Arnold, Ellen Casson



Property Committee Updates



Boiler for the Church:

In October and November, multiple repairs have been necessary to have the steam boiler operate efficiently and up to code. The cost of repairs total \$4,623. A new cap on the furnace vent system had to be custom made and was installed in October. A deteriorating pipe also needed to be replaced and was also repaired in October. Then the boiler pumps failed, requiring pipe and electrical repairs in November.

Alley Fence and Gate:

The property and finance committees joined together in a request to the Session to approve funds to have a fence and gate installed at the entrance to the alley. We received a quote from A&R Iron Works in the amount of \$5,395. The fence will be the same material as the handicap ramp railing. It will be 60 inches high and have a double gate. The gates will have a quick release on the inside as an emergency exit to get out of the alley. The gate will also have a key and coded access from the Baynard side. Recently, we have had an increase in issues related to homeless individuals using the alley. We also have had trash receptacles stolen. To protect property and increase safety, we feel the fence and gates are necessary.

Funding through JSC for Storage:

In partnership with Jefferson Street Center, a grant request was submitted to the Chichester duPont Foundation. In December, JSC received funding to renovate and add storage in the former dressing area outside of the bathroom located in the stairwell on the Baynard Blvd side of the church. As the use of the Community Hub increases, we need to store equipment and supplies in a safe and efficient way and this funding will definitely help with that.

Ignite Funding from New Castle Presbytery:

Hanover Church is a grateful recipient of funding to enhance our sound and video system in the sanctuary and also to enhance our portable wireless system. We submitted a request for funding to purchase additional wireless microphones, microphone stands, speakers, transmitters, and receivers. Through David Harris, we were able to connect with an expert in the field. He told us we have a good system overall, which is good news. We look forward to improving it for worship and for outside use by the community.

~ Ellen Casson, Property

Movie Discussion - *The Hate U Give* – Sunday, January 11, 2026

Join us after worship on Sunday, January 11 for a special screening of the critically acclaimed film *The Hate U Give*. We'll gather in the front of the sanctuary at about 12:15PM to view and discuss the movie.

The Hate U Give is a powerful and thought-provoking film based on the bestselling young adult novel by Angie Thomas. It tells the story of Starr Carter, a teenager who moves between two worlds: the poor, mostly black neighborhood where she lives and the wealthy, mostly white prep school she attends. Her world is upended when she witnesses the fatal police shooting of her childhood friend, Khalil. As public outrage grows, Starr finds herself at the center of a national conversation, facing pressure from all sides to find her voice and speak out for justice.

This movie addresses urgent themes of racism, police violence, identity, and the courage it takes to stand up for what's right. It is rated PG-13 for mature themes and language and is recommended for teens and adults.

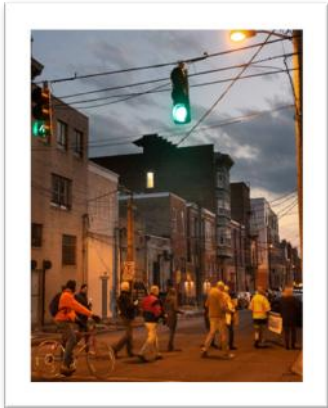
We hope you'll join us for this meaningful event as we explore how faith calls us to respond to injustice and to love our neighbors boldly and bravely.

~ Maggie Alexander



First Friday Walks for Justice and Peace

Friday, January 3—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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



We will be having our Annual Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 4, 2026**. Agenda items will be the 2026 Budget and the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2026. Please plan on joining us.





Christmas Eve brings many Hanover members and friends together. The service was full of beautiful music, a moving spiritual message offered by Pastor Stephany and Pastor Silas, and the comfort of fellowship. This group enjoyed the Christmas Eve service at Hanover, followed by food and fellowship. In the photo, we just happen to have the longest living Hanover member, Denny Shreyer (center front), at age 103. Then beside Denny we have the person who has been a member of Hanover for the longest period of time—Ruth Howell, who has been here for 81 years. Behind Ruth is Becky Arnold and next to her is son, Peter, and husband, Tim Arnold and me. Happy New Year, everyone! ~ Ellen Casson



Youth Sunday in December was an incredible day! We were all in the Church School Hall with festive tables, food, our DJ, Let's Play crafts, Pastors Silas & Stephany, the choir, the Advent wreath, and our wonderful youth! It was a day of love and joy as we anxiously awaited the birth of Jesus!





THOUGHTS

"THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS" ~ HOWARD THURMAN

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.



VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS



The Art Studio | 310 Kiamensi Road, Wilmington | newcastlede.gov/artstudio

VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS

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Fridays January 9 - February 27
10am-12pm

FREE for Veterans, pre-registration is required





*"In January, the new year stands before us like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written."
~ Melody Beattle*

Weekly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- ◇ Tai Chi Chih—Mondays, 12pm, 4:30pm
- ◇ 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
- ◇ February newsletter article deadline—Friday, January 23

January Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Greg Harris |
| 8 | Bernice Van Rooyen |
| 15 | Aysha Gregory |
| 21 | Alice Cornelius |
| 23 | Rochelle Ransom |
| 26 | Sebastian Gross |
| 27 | Jeff Long |

What's Happening in February?

We'll be celebrating Black History Month all through February. Look for what's happening each week in The Scoop and next month's Herald!



Hanover Presbyterian Church

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Email: office@hanoverchurch.org

Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HanoverPresbyterian/>

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