

"New Things"

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." – Isaiah 43:19

Although winter desperately clings to the bleak and cold, the daffodils, forsythias and crocuses are signaling the beginning of a new season.

No matter what challenges seem to be lingering in our lives, our hope also rests assured in the certainty of God's order. Seasons change!

God is up to something new at Hanover. As we draw closer to the summer months, I look back at how quickly this season of serving as Transitional Pastor is passing.

As I reflect on all that we have experienced together in this short period of time, I think about how immediately familiar this partnership felt. Right away I began to suggest new ideas, plan new events and implement new activities. Most surprisingly was the fact that no one tried to discourage me from doing any of these things.

Radical hospitality is one of Hanover's greatest assets! It is easy to feel welcomed here. As the Spirit inspires more people to become a part of this unique faith community, more new ideas will be introduced into the life of the church.

There will be suggestions for new ways of worshiping, for new ways of serving, and for new ways of being the church of the future.

In Isaiah 43:19, the prophet encourages the people of Israel to notice the gradual shifts taking place in their lives. What appeared to be dormant was actually in process all along. God's plans are often gradual, but steady.

Perhaps this season of new beginnings at Hanover has been germinating for many years. Maybe this is the season when the prayers and faithful practices of the current members and the saints who have gone ahead of us will yield a new harvest!

It is important to recognize the new thing that God is doing in this present time. We must be willing to release some things in order to receive and cultivate the blessings and opportunities that God will provide.

"See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you." – Isaiah 42:9

By Faith,

Pastor Stephany



nor consider the things of old.
Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth,
do you not perceive it?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
APRIL

Wednesday, April 1	Pickleball - 10AM – 12PM Choir rehearsal – 7PM – 8:30PM
Thursday, April 2	Food Pantry – 8AM – 10AM
Friday, April 3	First Friday Walk—5:30PM at SsAM's Good Friday Tenebrae Service – 7PM
Sunday, April 5	RESURRECTION SUNDAY Adult Discipleship Class—9:30AM Worship w/Communion —11AM
Monday, April 6	Church Office closed
Tuesday, April 7	JB's Cafe – 8AM – 1PM
Wednesday, April 8	Clothing Closet – 10AM – 12PM Pickleball - 10AM – 12PM Choir rehearsal – 7PM – 8:30PM
Thursday, April 9	Food Pantry – 8AM – 10AM
Friday, April 10	Yoga – 6:15PM
Sunday, April 12	Discipleship Classes—9:30AM Worship—11AM
Monday, April 13	Prayer Circle - 9:30AM
Tuesday, April 14	JB's Cafe – 8AM – 1PM Worship Committee – 1:15PM
Wednesday, April 15	Faith in Action – 5PM - Zoom Clothing Closet – 10AM – 12PM Pickleball - 10AM – 12PM Community Pizza Dinner – 5:30 – 7PM
Thursday, April 16	Choir rehearsal – 7PM – 8:30PM
Friday, April 17	Food Pantry – 8AM – 10AM
Saturday, April 18	Yoga - 6:15PM
Sunday, April 19	FHS Annual Tea – 3 – 5PM Discipleship Classes – 9:30AM YD Worship – 11AM
Monday, April 20	Prayer Circle – 9:30AM
Tuesday, April 21	JB's Café—8AM—1PM Session – 6:30PM – Church School Hall
Wednesday, April 22	Clothing Closet—10AM—12PM Pickleball—10AM—12PM Staff meeting—12PM Choir rehearsal—7PM—8:30PM
Thursday, April 23	Food Pantry—8AM—10AM
Friday, April 24	Yoga—6:15PM May newsletter article deadline
Saturday, April 25	Alzheimer's Support Group – 11AM
Sunday, April 26	Pickleball – 1PM – 3PM Discipleship Classes—9:30AM Worship —11AM Congregational Conversation—12PM
Monday, April 27	Prayer Circle – 9:30AM
Tuesday, April 28	JB's Café—8AM—1PM
Wednesday, April 29	Clothing Closet—10AM—12PM Pickleball—10AM—12PM Choir rehearsal—7PM—8:30PM
Thursday, April 30	Food Pantry—8AM—10AM Prayer Zoom – 7PM



HANOVER CHURCH
&
JEFFERSON STREET CENTER
ARE HOSTING A

Community Pizza Dinner

Join
Us!



All are
welcome!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026

5:30PM - 7PM

AT

HANOVER CHURCH

1801 N. JEFFERSON ST.

WILMINGTON, DE 19802

First Friday Walks for Justice and Peace

Friday, April 3—5:30PM—6PM



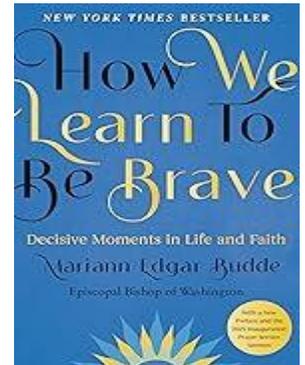
Join us for this peaceful, prayerful walk through the center of Wilmington to promote an end to racial and social injustice. We gather in the SsAM parking lot (719 Shipley St) with people from various faith communities to share in this active, visible commitment to justice and peace in our community. 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



FIA Book Discussion

Join us after church on **Sunday, May 3** for a discussion of ***How We Learn to Be Brave*** by **Mariann Edgar Budde**. The author is the bishop and spiritual leader of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and the Washington National Cathedral. In the inaugural prayer service at the National Cathedral in January 2025, she asked Donald Trump to protect those afraid of deportation, children fearing parental separation, and those fleeing persecution, emphasizing, "our God teaches us that we are to be merciful to the stranger".



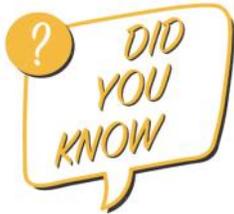
How We Learn to Be Brave is part memoir, part history, and part theology. It centers on courage as a deliberate choice. Bishop Budde examines the many kinds of decisions that call for courage, highlighting the pivotal moments when we consciously choose a path—often with uncertain or difficult consequences.

Through chapters such as *Deciding to Go*, *Deciding to Stay*, *Deciding to Start*, *Accepting What You Do Not Choose*, *Stepping Up to the Plate*, *The Inevitable Letdown*, and *The Hidden Virtue of Perseverance*, she offers a thoughtful framework for understanding how courage shapes our lives.

Bishop Budde also reflects on how to act with integrity in the face of fear, injustice, and circumstances beyond our control. Instead of being passive, she shows us that individuals can act as co-creators of their lives, even in challenging situations.

This is a timely book, as we are in a time when we all need to be brave and stand up for what is right.

~ Maggie Alexander



Did you know - The **Female Harmony Society** was established in July 1814 by a group of women in Wilmington, Delaware? Originally called the **Female Praying Society**, the organization was founded “for the purpose of prayer, mutual instruction, and Christian labor,” with a strong commitment to serving those in need.

From its earliest days, the Society recognized that **education was one of the most powerful ways to strengthen a community**. In October 1814, members established a **Sabbath School at Hanover Presbyterian Church**, the first in Wilmington. Just one year later, they opened a **free day school for children**, ensuring that education would be available to those who otherwise might not have had the opportunity to learn.

The Society’s advocacy for accessible education soon extended beyond the church. In 1817, members petitioned the Delaware legislature to support the education of poor children. Their efforts helped lay the groundwork for broader public support of education, and the **free day school founded by the Female Harmony Society is widely recognized as a forerunner of Delaware’s public school system**.

Inspired by more than **200 years of service to Delaware’s underserved communities**, the Female Harmony Society continues its mission today by supporting families through community partnerships, charitable grants, and educational initiatives.

By building on a legacy that helped shape education in Delaware, the Society continues to invest in organizations and programs that strengthen the Wilmington community and create opportunities for those in need.

The **Female Harmony Annual Tea** is coming up! It will be on **Saturday, April 18, 3-5pm**.

We will be honoring Hanover's own George Turner and his late brother Alfred Turner for their contributions to starting the scholarship program, which is now managed by the Female Harmony Society as the Continuing Education Fund. The effort to support Hanover youth interested in continuing their education was led by the Christian Education/Discipleship committee. Alfred Turner, as a member of that committee, was a devoted proponent of developing a scholarship fund. Proceeds from various fundraising efforts went into a scholarship fund, including money raised through Black History Month events, led by George Turner. Come and join us in honoring their efforts.



We also have a new musical group called “HarmoniUS” who will provide us with a short, entertaining program. There will also be a silent auction for a beautiful king-size quilt, themed baskets to be raffled and tickets for a 50/50 on sale. Of course, there will be delicious tea sandwiches and desserts as well! Tickets are \$20, and reservations can be made by calling the church office (302) 658-5114 or on our website at www.femaleharmonysociety.org. Friends and neighbors are welcome!

Membership in FHS is open to all (women and men) who support our mission of giving a hand up to those who are in need and fostering educational efforts in our community.

~ Becky Arnold, FHS President



What's Happening



Food Pantry - March figures - We served 137 families totaling 302 individuals. Any and all donations are appreciated. Feel free to visit us on a Thursday morning from 8-10AM and see what goes on. It will be a foot-tapping, feel-good experience for sure!

JB'S Cafe- Finally it is beginning to look like warmer weather is on the way. We will be moving our operation to the sidewalk whenever the temperature is above 60 degrees. Water ice will be back on the menu, and we may even have some musical entertainment once in a while. Come on down!

Church Life—Operation Easter Eggs - As you can see, once again, we managed to attract a few "new" volunteers this year. It was good fun to reconnect with them. When the powdered sugar dust cleared, we had a total of 200 eggs ready to go. Thanks to all who placed orders and we hope you enjoyed them!!



The world is changing, but God's love and protection remains the same. Let us gather for prayers and reflection on **Thursday, April 30, at 7PM on Zoom.**

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

*The
Hanover
Prayer Corner*





HANOVER CHURCH
IS HOSTING AN

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Saturday, April 25, 2026
11AM

JOIN US AT OUR MONTHLY MEETING FOR A TIME
OF SUPPORT AND CARE - EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

HANOVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1801 N. JEFFERSON ST.
WILMINGTON, DE 19802
(302) 658-5114

April

“ APRIL IS A REMINDER
THAT LIFE IS A BEAUTIFUL,
EVER-RENEWING CYCLE.

- E.E. CUMMINGS

Weekly/Monthly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- ◇ Tai Chi Chih—Mondays, 12pm
- ◇ 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
- ◇ May newsletter article deadline—Friday, April 24
- ◇ Alzheimer's Support Group—April 25, 11am
- ◇ April Zoom Prayer Call—Thursday, April 30, 7PM

April Birthdays

- 2 Tom Baker
- 3 Judy Werner
- 5 Romain Alexander
- 5 Heather Brown
- 6 Richard Bayard
- 8 Alexandra Evitts
- 12 Carolyn Klawitter
- 19 Karen Ingram
- 24 Clinton Hamilton
- 26 Beth Undercuffler



Here is what's coming in
May . . . beautiful flowers
and monarchs in our
garden up on the corner
of 19th and Jefferson!
Keep an eye out for them!

Hanover Presbyterian Church

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

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/
HanoverPresbyterian/](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.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



We're a
Matthew 25
church
pcusa.org/matthew25