

Love Without Limits

I have been an ordained pastor for over 25 years and in ministry for more years than I can count. I have served congregations as a Christian educator, youth group leader, Sunday school teacher, women's group leader, and choir member. This year, as I have served as Transitional Pastor at Hanover, I have witnessed acts of unconditional love that has challenged me to the core, renewed my faith in "church folks" and given me hope for the future of organized religion.

I have watched weekly as neighbors come to Hanover to buy food from JB's café, receive food from the food pantry and clothing from the clothing closet. No one is ever turned away, money to buy food or not, they are fed. The budget is stretched to the brim but if the church has it, people who need help paying rent or bills receive it; so, hospitality, which is one of the three words in the church's mission statement, is nothing new.

Hospitality, Diversity, Justice

A member of Hanover was hospitalized for several weeks. His family does not live nearby so members of the congregation visited him, brought his belongings to the hospital and interacted with doctors and nurses to ensure that he received the best care possible.

We were not sure that he would make it home from the hospital as he was very sick. One evening while praying with him, he informed me that he was not afraid to die because he knew exactly where he was going after this life. He told me that Jesus lives in his heart and the members of Hanover are his family.

This member has acute cognitive challenges. He is very kind and volunteers at the church several days a week. He has been a member of the Hanover congregation for 20 years. When it was time for him to be released from the hospital the members of the church contacted his social workers and care responders to inform them that the conditions that he would be returning to would not support his recovery.

Determined not to let him return to unfavorable living conditions, the members got him a hotel room and picked him up every day and brought him to the church until a suitable residence could be found.

I watched the members as they took turns contacting all sorts of organizations to get him the help and housing he needed. I watched as they tirelessly followed up on calls that were not returned, met with doctors, nurses and other professionals on his behalf. They sorted out his medication for each day, bought him lunch, and made sure that someone was at the church spending time with him.

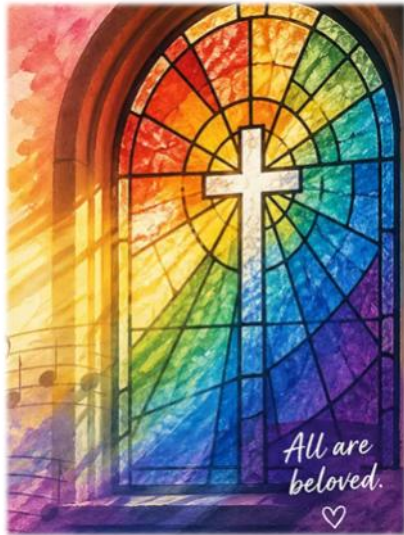
The member recovered from his illness, surrounded by the kind of love that only a family could provide. He will be moving into his new residence on June 1st. When he shared with me that he had been accepted into his new home, I broke into a cheer that could be heard throughout the building. I cheered for him, but I also cheered for those who remained relentless and persistent in demonstrating the kind of unconditional love that heals and restores.

In this world where interpersonal relationships continue to decline and schedules are filled beyond one's capacity to get everything done, the members at Hanover reminded me of what loving one's neighbor looks like, feels like, and sounds like.

I pray that one day, I will be able to display that kind of Christ likeness.

By Faith,
Pastor Stephany





CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH AT HANOVER

Hanover Church honors the beauty of diversity and the strength of authenticity. We are called to open our doors and hearts so that everyone can be seen, respected, and loved.

Join us this coming Sunday morning, June 7, at 11AM, as we uplift and celebrate our community!

From "Draw the Circle Wide" by Gordon Lightfoot and Mark Miller:

*Draw the circle wide, draw the circle wide,
Let this be our song - no one stands alone;
we'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

Join us on Sunday, June 7 to celebrate the gift of sharing God's love and acceptance unconditionally.



We celebrated Stewardship Sunday this past week, and here are a few highlights from Worship and the following Congregational Conversation!!

~ **Pastor Stephany asked the question: "What Shall I Render?"** - it is not a once-a-year thought, but a way of living and giving each day. We are called to give as much as we can in as many ways as we can, with gratitude, joy, and love.

~ **Tom Davis spoke on how as a steward we are more than caretakers of Hanover, but we are caregivers.** His wife's family had been generational caregivers, and their stewardship turned into an amazing gift from Alice that Tom gave to Hanover—if you'd like to add money to this gift through the Presbyterian Foundation, the direct link is: <https://endowments.presbyterianfoundation.org/fund/102240000319/>. If you would like more information, please contact the church office or Ellen Casson at (302) 276-7047.

~ **How much does it cost to run our church each year?** Ellen Casson (Finance Committee) reported that it costs us roughly \$25,000 each month to cover all of our costs: insurances, salaries, utilities, building repairs, missions, etc. This comes to \$300,000 for the year 2026.

~ **Where are we with pledges and keeping up with the bills?** Jeff Long (Stewardship Committee) said that we are right where we need to be, but that we do have people who pay their pledge early. As the year goes on, we will need to maintain our giving.

~ **What is "per capita"?** It is a yearly fee for each member that we are charged by the Presbyterian Church USA to help fund our local New Castle Presbytery and our national Presbytery and other international organizations. Jude Harlan (Stewardship Committee) said that we currently pay \$30 per person each year, which roughly costs us \$3,000 a year. Jeff urged each of us to consider giving an extra \$30 to cover it.

~ **Each and every gift of your time, talents, and money is appreciated.**

Thank you for being caregivers of Hanover!

ANNUAL WORSHIP & PICNIC

at Fox Point Park

14 JUNE | 11AM
WORSHIP • FOOD
COMMUNITY



BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE
DISH OR DESSERT AND JOIN
US FOR A BEAUTIFUL
WORSHIP AND PICNIC
DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE!

HANOVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1801 N. JEFFERSON ST. • (302) 658-5114
WILMINGTON, DE 19802 www.office@hanoverchurch.org



AT A SPECIAL HANOVER

Jeremiah's Coffee House

Saturday, June 27, 2026

5:30 - 7:30PM

Join us as we look at 250 years in America through music and drama.

We'll have true American food fare - hot dogs and hamburgers,
then cherry and apple cobblers and ice cream for dessert!

Free will offering accepted - everyone is welcome!

Hanover Presbyterian Church
1801 N. Jefferson St., Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 658-5114



MEN'S WEEKEND AT HANOVER

Saturday, June 20 - 9AM-11:30 AM

*Men's Breakfast and Conversation
(Men only - love offering accepted)*

Sunday, June 21 - 11AM

Worship Service

with guest speaker

Rev. Andre C. Barnes



*Bring your friends as we celebrate God's
wonderful gift of men in our lives.*

Everyone is welcome!

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1801 N. Jefferson St., Wilmington, DE 19802
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This Father's Day weekend, we are
celebrating the men of God!

Please mark your calendars now for
June 20 and June 21!

On **Saturday, June 20, 9AM - 11:30AM**, the
weekend begins with a "Man's Cave" breakfast.
The menu will feature lots of favorites! After
breakfast, the men will gather for fun, fellowship
and faith stories.
(for men only)

On **Sunday, June 21 at 11AM**, the men will lead
worship with a pop-up all male choir (no
rehearsal!) and worship leadership. Rev. Andre
Barnes will be the guest preacher (*everyone is
welcome*).

By Faith,
Pastor Stephany

What's Happening

Food Pantry - Our shelves are practically emptied every week! When you are shopping, if you could add a can of tuna, pasta, fruit, or tomato sauce to your cart for the Food Pantry, we would appreciate it. We continue to see new faces each week in addition to our clients who come every four weeks. We have received some very generous donations in May, though, which have gone a long way in helping us provide the fresh produce that we like to offer. Thank you for your past support and also in advance for your continued help.

JB'S - Now that the weather is nicer, we are outside for lunch on Tuesdays. We are getting so popular, we are "outgrowing" our spot on the corner of 18th and Jefferson! We may have to spread out around the corner with our tables. There is always room for one more, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

We have one more **Community Dinner** scheduled in June. It will be on Wednesday, June 17 at 5:30PM. Our "cook-in" in May was much better than we expected. Even with the uncertain weather we hosted 30 or more people in the Gathering Place. Feel free to drop by in June for French Bread Pizza and to say hello to our neighbors and friends.

~ *Becky Arnold*



Thank you for all of the cards, prayers, and well wishes.

I very much appreciate them.

~ *Walter Scott*

HANOVER CHURCH
&
JEFFERSON STREET CENTER
ARE HOSTING A

Community Pizza Dinner

Join Us!

**WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 17, 2026
5:30-7PM**

**HANOVER CHURCH
1801 N. JEFFERSON ST.
WILMINGTON, DE
19802**

All are welcome!

Back by popular demand - French Bread Pizza!

The Prayer Corner . . . The world changes, but God's love and protection remains the same. We will gather for prayers and reflection on **Thursday, June 25, at 7PM on Zoom**. We'll send out the Zoom link in The Scoop and by email on that Thursday.



News from the Vision Action Team

The joy of
the Lord is
our
strength!

In the coming weeks, members of Hanover Presbyterian Church will be reaching out by telephone to check in with members and friends of our church community.

The purpose of these calls is simple — we want to connect personally with the people who are part of the life of Hanover. We know that life circumstances, distance, health concerns, and many other factors can sometimes make it difficult to stay connected in person. Our goal is to learn how you're doing, answer any questions you may have about the church, share some of the good things happening at Hanover, and most important – connect on a personal level.

You may be wondering - What is the Vision Action Team? This team was created by the Hanover Session in 2025. The focus is two-pronged. One is to reach out to the community (close by and beyond the city limits), to be intentionally invitational, and to grow Hanover's membership.

The second focus is to strengthen the collaboration between Hanover Church and Jefferson Street Center, and to look at opportunities to strengthen existing partnerships and explore new ones.

There is no obligation attached to this telephone outreach. We simply want you to know that you are remembered and valued. These calls will be coming from team members and other church members. You may not recognize the phone number, so we want to give you a friendly heads-up that a call will be coming from someone at HPC.

Current team members are Becky Arnold, Michael Corbin, Karen Wilson, Bea Wilson, Nancy Long, Katie Leep, Ellen Casson, and Pastor Stephany. JSC representatives are Amanda August and Leah Saxberg-Turner. Please reach out to any of us, if you have questions or want to help.

We look forward to connecting with you soon!

~ *Ellen Casson*



COMMUNITY COMPOSTING . . . The Delaware Community Composting Initiative is working to bring composting to Wilmington. DCCI, in collaboration with the DSWA and the Red Clay School District, has applied for permits to place a composting site next to Warner Elementary School's student garden.

Community Composting is a great way that we as individuals can take climate change action with students, our friends and neighbors. Keeping green waste out of the city waste stream reduces GHG emissions, sequesters carbon, and produces nutrient rich reusable compost.

The initiative will be seeking 30–40 households to sign up. The acceptable waste will be green (fruits, vegetables, and yard waste), and each household will be asked to volunteer one hour per month to manually turn and screen the compost.

There is a DCCI site already up and running at Talley Day Park. Warner will be the first one within the city limits. It will become a model for community composting and will be the blueprint for additional sites throughout the city.

For more information, please visit PlasticFreeDelaware.org or email the Program Director: [Elisa King \(EKing@PlasticFreeDelaware.org\)](mailto:EKing@PlasticFreeDelaware.org).

~ *Peter Anto*



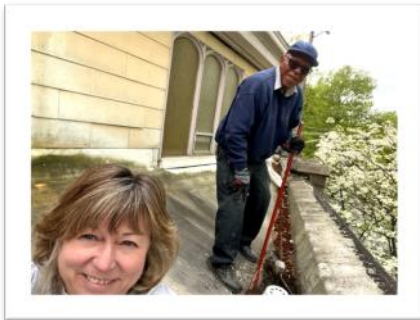
First Friday Walks for Justice and Peace

Friday, June 5 from
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 Street) 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



Up on the roof!



Still up there!

There is a lot of work that gets done weekly that no one ever sees—here is Karen Hudson and our Sexton Herman Pulliam as they are cleaning on the roof and looking for leaks!

Thanks for all of our volunteers and staff as they take care of our building!

Dreamers Academy Summer Camp

June 22 - August 14

Accepting school-age children (5-12)

Contact Information: Phone 302-267-2039

Email: Admin@dreamersacademyinc.com

Website to register: [Dreamers Academy – Summer Camp 2026 Registration](https://www.dreamersacademy.com/summer-camp-2026-registration)

DREAMERS ACADEMY
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

KIDS SUMMER Camp

LEARN • EXPLORE • GROW

WE'RE STILL ACCEPTING FAMILIES!
Spots are filling up fast – don't miss out on an unforgettable summer experience!

 LOCATION Dreamers Academy 1801 N Jefferson St Wilmington, DE 19802	 HOURS Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	 MEALS Breakfast & lunch provided daily at no extra cost! Bring a reusable water bottle.	 AGES 5 – 12
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 WEEKLY THEMES WEEK 1 – Dream Big: Who Am I? WEEK 2 – Science Explorers WEEK 3 – Nutrition and Fitness WEEK 4 – Art & Creativity	 FIELD TRIPS Exciting field trips will be announced as we get closer to opening day! 	 PRICING \$150/week – Standard Rate \$100/week – Need-Based Rate (limited spots) \$25 Registration Fee REGISTER TODAY! LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!
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admin@dreamersacademyinc.com | @dreamersacademyde | [dreamerssummercamp.netlify.app](https://www.dreamerssummercamp.netlify.app)



"In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different."

— John Steinbeck

Weekly/Monthly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- ◇ 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
- ◇ June Zoom Prayer Call—Thursday, June 25, 7pm
- ◇ July newsletter article deadline—Friday, June 26
- ◇ Alzheimer's Support Group—June 27, 11am

June Birthdays

- 3 Natalie Jobs
- 3 Susan Woodbury
- 6 Susan Balascio
- 7 Stephen Willis
- 17 Holly Alexander
- 17 Cindy Tomevi
- 19 Amy Harris
- 20 Cheryl Heiks
- 22 Brian Gray
- 27 David Harris
- 27 Walter Scott

July Events . . .

- ◇ **No Clothing Closet in July.**
- ◇ **Saturday, July 18— 10AM**
Female Harmony Society Annual Meeting



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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.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

