



As Pastor Stephany says, "We're bringing in the fall with a Legacy Ball!" We are honoring our members that are 80 years old and more! We'll have a delicious catered meal, the piano stylings of Mr. Michael Hunter, and dancing! There will also be a photo opportunity and some special words of appreciation from the Presbytery. We're looking forward to a wonderful time together. Call the church office to make your reservations as soon as possible!

News from the Vision Action Team

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 the 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. The 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, Leah Saxberg-Turner, and Pastor Stephany. Please reach out to any of us if you have questions or want to help.

We look forward to connecting with you in August!

~ Ellen Casson



Food Pantry - Every Thursday morning our volunteers are met with a long line of clients. Some have been there since 5AM! We get there at 7:40AM as our new normal. Thanks to all who make donations of food and money so that we can keep up the pace. Some items we are always in need of are: toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant,

JB's Cafe - July has been an on again off again month for us. Vacations have made it necessary to close for a couple of weeks. August will find us back in business as usual. Hope to see you all on our corner. Wouldn't some water ice taste good in the dog days of summer?

~ Becky Arnold



Vacation Bible School: Life Lessons from a Donkey

Monday, August 10 – Thursday, August 13
5:30PM to 8:30PM

Intergenerational – All Ages Welcome!

Potluck Dinner, Bible Study, Activities

At the Home of Becky and Tim Arnold
2105 N. Van Buren St., Wilmington DE
For more information, contact Nancy Long at:
NLong@covenantide.org



Vacation Bible School



One more week before Vacation Bible School! And you know that Miss Nancy is getting all of her donkeys in a row for this week of fun and learning!

Donkeys are mentioned over 150 times in the Bible and offer powerful spiritual lessons. Far from being just simple beasts of burden, they are used throughout scripture to teach believers about humility, spiritual awareness, obedience, and redemption. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us as we learn many life lessons from our friends, the donkeys.



Young Adult

"Let's Gather" Kick-off Event!

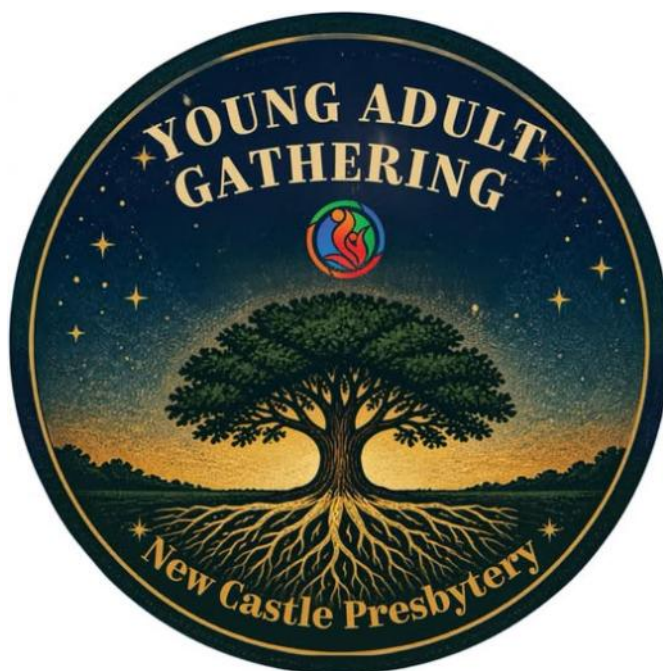
Saturday, August 15, 2026—9-11AM

Scout Cafe

2316 Baynard Blvd, Wilmington, DE 19802

Are you a young adult? Have you been looking for like-minded community? New Castle Presbytery is getting Young Adults Together! Invite your friends!

Meet by the big tree in front of Scout Cafe. Street parking available. Kids and friendly dogs are welcome! 2.5 mile chill walk to the riverfront and farmers market. Presbytery will treat for a coffee or tea!



PERSEVERING *toward* WHOLENESS

The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, addressed constitutional governance, racial justice, gender justice, denominational finances and the direction of the church, laying groundwork for work continuing through the next assembly.

Co-moderators elected, GA228 to be held in Puerto Rico

Commissioners elected the **Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero**, border ministry coordinator for the Tres Rios Border Foundation in Tres Rios Presbytery, and the **Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer**, pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa, as co-moderators. They will preside at GA228, June 14-22, 2028, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Commissioners also approved full, in-person assemblies, including an exhibit hall, beginning in 2030.

Budget and per capita

Commissioners approved a **balanced \$188.4 million unified budget** for Presbyterian Life & Witness (PL&W) and the A Corporation for the 2027-2028 biennium, about \$5.8 million more than the previous budget: \$90.45 million for 2027 and \$97.92 million for 2028. Per capita rates were set at \$13.04 in 2027 and \$12.72 in 2028.

General Assembly Relationships

The GAR Committee approved the new Organization for Mission, the structure for the General Assembly as the denomination's highest council, and **established PL&W** and its governing board.

Israel/Palestine

Commissioners approved RIW-04, declaring that the **Israeli government has violated international law** prohibiting genocide in its war in Gaza. As amended, RIW-04 directs the denomination's Office of Public

Witness to advocate against U.S. military sales to Israel and purchases from Israel. It also encourages members to avoid products from Israeli companies linked to violations of international law.

Constitutional interpretation, missiology, and mission co-worker dismissals

Following testimony on staff dismissals during **World Mission's closure**, the assembly approved CON-02, directing PL&W and the A Corporation to revise employment policies to prohibit nondisclosure covenants for employees, with a report due to the 2028 assembly. RIW-01 calls for review of the processes that terminated mission co-worker positions and World Mission. RIW-02 directs the development of a new missiological statement for global engagement.

Pastors will now be required to complete **boundary and abuse-prevention training** at least every three years. An overture to remove the Board of Pensions' medical coverage requirements was rejected.

Commissioners referred CON-10, which seeks an authoritative interpretation of monogamy, for discussion within the theological framework proposed in GEN-09, "Beyond Changing Families."

Gender and Sexuality Justice

The Constitutional Interpretation Committee **rejected a call for a special study of the Olympia Overture amendments**, citing related proposals GEN-06 and GEN-09. GEN-06 directs the development



of a mechanism that would allow congregations to indicate their openness and readiness to call an LGBTQIA+ candidate on their Ministry Discernment Profiles. Candidates would be allowed to view congregational responses. GEN-09, “Beyond Changing Families: Flourishing Relationships and Belonging,” seeks a theological framework and a study guide on human sexuality and gender that reflect the PC(USA)’s commitment to full inclusion.

The assembly reaffirmed support for **access to medically necessary gender-affirming healthcare** and approved development of a survey collecting non-identifying information about sexual misconduct in church settings.

Climate and Environmental Justice

The Climate Justice Committee approved CLJ-02, “Changing Course for a Green Future,” **directing divestment from more than 50 companies** by 2030 and barring new investments in them. All CLJ items were placed on the consent agenda, including a call for education on regenerative farming and prioritizing responses to the climate crisis.

White Christian Nationalism

Commissioners voted overwhelmingly to declare White Christian nationalism and similar ideologies “**a theological error**” incompatible with the teachings of Jesus Christ; language changes in the *Book of Order* require presbytery ratification. Commissioners rejected an amendment that would have removed references to White Christian nationalism from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Race report.

Racial justice

The Racial Justice Committee advanced several recommendations **strengthening the denomination’s**

anti-racism work, including RAC-04, “The Report from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on Race,” directing “PL&W to create a tracking system that displays the progress/ completion of all GA business... related to race, racism, and White supremacy ...”

RAC-01 calls for PC(USA) entities to report to the 228th GA on implementation of RGJ-13, the 2022 Report from the Disparities Experienced by Black Women and Girls Task Force. RAC-03, the “Resolution on Liberia Project 180,” explores establishing theological learning and repair, and developing **acknowledgment and apology for Presbyterian involvement** in and support of the American Colonization Society and its lasting effects on Indigenous Liberians.

Ordered ministry

The Theological Education and Ordination Committee approved changes **modernizing preparation for ministry** while preserving Presbyterian ordination standards. ORD-02 clarifies that ministry preparation in G-2.06 and G-2.07 of the *Book of Order* applies to those training for the ministry of Word and Sacrament; it requires a two-thirds presbytery vote. ORD-03, addressing collaborative ministry teams, was approved; ORD-04, seeking removal of the time-of-service requirement for ruling elders in mid council roles, was not.

A new confession

A newly appointed special committee will continue **considering a new confession**. The draft seeks to articulate Christian faith in response to contemporary challenges including racism, economic inequality, environmental degradation, violence and political polarization.

For full stories about General Assembly or other news from the PC(USA):

Visit our website: pres-outlook.org

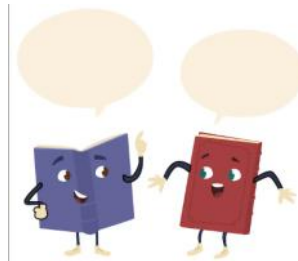
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A “Book to Book” Drama



Book 1: Sigh . . .

Book 2: What's the matter?

Book 1: I'm tired of sitting on this shelf. No one's picked me up in ages, and now I'm covered in dust. Achoo! Achoo! I don't know why that woman keeps me if she's never going to read me again.

Book 2: I heard her say she was thinking about donating you to the Little Free Library, but then the man said, "Don't get rid of it. I might want to read it someday."

Book 1: Someday! Fat chance! I'd love to go to the Little Free Library. Imagine all the adventures I could have – new home, new readers, and shelves full of new friends.

Book 2: I'd go in a heartbeat. Last week I even tried jumping off the shelf. I thought she'd get the hint that I wanted a new home. Instead, she just dusted me off and put me right back where I was.

Book 1: I have an idea! Let's put a note inside one of the children's books. They get read all the time. Maybe they'll find it . . .

Child: Hey, Mom! There's a note inside this book!

Dear Reader: Books aren't meant to spend their lives collecting dust on a shelf. They're supposed to be opened, read, and shared. Please send some of us to the Little Free Library so others can enjoy us, too.

Hanover Readers: If you have books you've already enjoyed, but no longer read, please consider donating them to our Little Free Library. We are looking for books which would be of interest to the general public – mysteries, fiction, general non-fiction, as well as books for children and young adults. Books can be left in the church office. Thank you.

~ Maggie Alexander



CONTINUING TO GIVE . . .

The work of Christ is going strong at Hanover, and we rely on your pledges to keep us running smoothly. Here are the ways that you can continue to give your pledge and other offerings:

Sunday morning Worship: The offering plates are ready!

Mail: Please send your check to:

Hanover Presbyterian Church, 1801 North Jefferson Street, Wilmington, DE 19802

Drop-off: You can go to the Jefferson Street Open Arms Academy/Church Office entrance and put your envelope inside the gray mailbox on the left door. It is safe and secure there, and Herman and/or Twyla will pick them up.

Drop-off in person: If you want to hand your check to the office in person, the office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am—5pm.

On line: Go to our website: www.hanoverchurch.org - scroll down to the bottom of the screen and you will see Online Giving. Click on the yellow highlighted word Donate - the next screen will be ready for you.

Thank you so much for supporting Hanover all year long.

~ The Finance and Stewardship Committees



HEALTH for All Mobile Services

Health & Wellness Initiatives:

- Blood Sugar Screenings
- Health Education Materials
- Visits with a nurse practitioner



Thursday, August 6th



9:00 AM to 11:00 AM



Hanover Presbyterian Church

1801 N Jefferson St.

Wilmington DE, 19802

Scan the QR code to
visit our website



Partnership for
Healthy Communities
A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE



"August is that last flicker of fun and heat before everything fades and dies. The final moments of fun before the freeze."

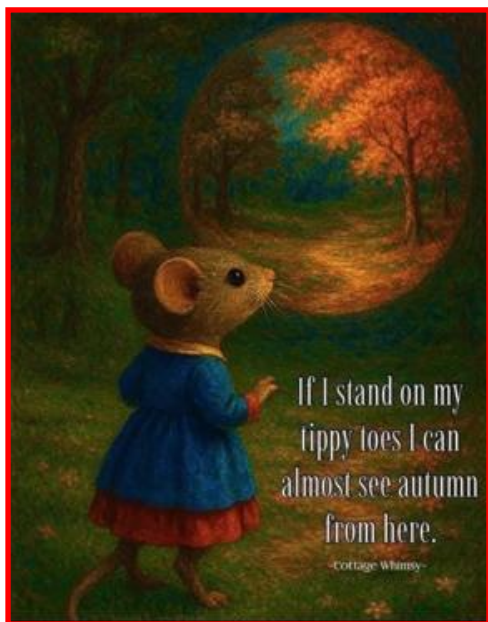
– Rasmenia Massoud

Weekly/Monthly Happenings

- ◇ Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9:30am
- ◇ JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am - 1pm
- ◇ Zumba—Tuesdays, 6pm—7pm
- ◇ Pickleball—Wednesdays, 10am - 12pm
- ◇ Clothing Closet—Wednesdays, 10am—12pm
- ◇ Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am
- ◇ Zumba—Thursdays, 6pm—7pm
- ◇ Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm - 7:30pm
- ◇ September newsletter article deadline—Friday, August 28

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 7 | Frances McFarland |
| 11 | Marshae Pulliam-Bibbs |
| 15 | Brittany Peterson |
| 15 | Karin Wilson |
| 16 | Susan Anderson |
| 18 | Libby Williams |
| 22 | George Turner |
| 29 | Leon Wilson |
| 29 | Michele Zistl |
| 30 | John Heiks |



Looking at September . . .

Tuesday, September 8—DelShakes performance
 Thursday, September 12—Legacy Ball
 Wednesday, September 16— Community Dinner
 A new Bible Study with Pastor Stephany
 Sunday, September 27—4th Sunday Town Talk

Hanover Presbyterian Church

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 Wilmington, DE 19802

Phone: (302) 658-5114

Email: office@hanoverchurch.org

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

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

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MORE LIGHT
 PRESBYTERIANS

