

The Herald

Hanover Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, Delaware

September 2026



Come Let us Reason together

Come Let Us Reason Together!

As lifelong learners, we have access to information that arrives daily at break-neck speed. Consequently, It can be difficult to discern sound scholarship from the latest sensational trends. Truth and reliable information are of high value in this world of social media influencers and entertainment news.

What are the scholars who have studied to show themselves approved saying and writing about today, especially when institutions of higher learning are consistently being threatened for taking a stand for the right to dissent.

Books and journalists are being banned, while unregulated artificial intelligence is on a steady rise.

Join me for a 4-week review of what leading scholars are saying about the unparalleled times in which we live. Let's compare what they are saying to how the Bible informs us. We will familiarize ourselves with the works of Cornell West, Chris Hedges, Ta-nehisi Coates, Francis Fukuyama, Martha C. Nussbaum, Regu Aslan, Neil de Grasse Tyson and others.

The study will take place every Thursday in September from 11 am to 12:30 pm in the sanctuary. I hope to see you there.

By Faith,

Pastor Stephany



A Congregational Conversation

On **Sunday, September 13** immediately following Worship we'll meet for a Congregational Conversation—Pastor Stephany will be talking about Session's mission study and the next steps in Hanover's journey. Please mark your calendars and join us.

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians kicks off the new Adult Discipleship Year!



Note before reading this article:

Have "All You Need is Love" by The Beatles playing in your head.

Starting **Sunday, September 13**, the Adult Discipleship class is beginning a new study by Rev. Rhonda Mawhood Lee called *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians*. Paul wrote at a time when Christians expected Jesus' imminent return; he challenged his friends to be ready when that day came. Two thousand years later, the church is still waiting...and while we wait, let us be people who take Jesus's transforming message of love and make a difference in our homes, schools, workplaces, communities, and the world.

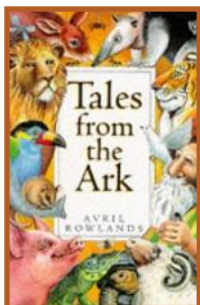
"Love is patient; love is kind . . . It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Most of us have probably heard these words about love. Just wondering, what's your first memory of hearing them? In a Bible study? A wedding? A funeral? In a sermon? Our study author writes, "Regardless of how long you've been acquainted with Paul's hymn to love, I wonder what kind of relationship you have with these words. Do you hear them as hopeful and encouraging? Do they help you live up to your marriage vows? Do they guide you in your friendships? Or do they feel burdensome, as a standard it's impossible to live up to? Are these words so familiar that they seem like a cliché, just another exhortation to "be nice" in a world where new conflicts—interpersonal and international—ignite on a distressingly regular basis?

Whatever your relationship with this Bible passage, whatever your emotional response to it, this year's Horizons Bible study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, will give you a new perspective. Hearing these words in their original context, sharing responses with your study companions, is sure to offer you some insight you haven't experienced before. I can't predict what that insight might be, but I pray it feels like a gift."

And then our study author goes on to ask, "Now, what about the author of the hymn to love, Paul? What's your relationship with him, your response to him?" The discussion around this question should be very lively!

Come join in the wonderings and the rich discussions on Sunday mornings at 9:30AM in the lounge. Study guides are available. Unable to make it in person? The Discipleship Team will provide resources in the Scoop so you may wonder and learn right along with us!



The Wonderers have had so much fun during VBS learning about various animals found in the Bible, the Discipleship Team is continuing the animal theme with *Lessons from the Ark*. Each week will be a lesson based on Tales from the Ark by Avril Rowlands.

Along the way, we will hear funny and thoughtful tales from aboard Noah's Ark, and discover where else some of these animals turn up in the Bible. We'll also incorporate some fun crafts, add animals to our growing Ark display, and take some time to move and play together.

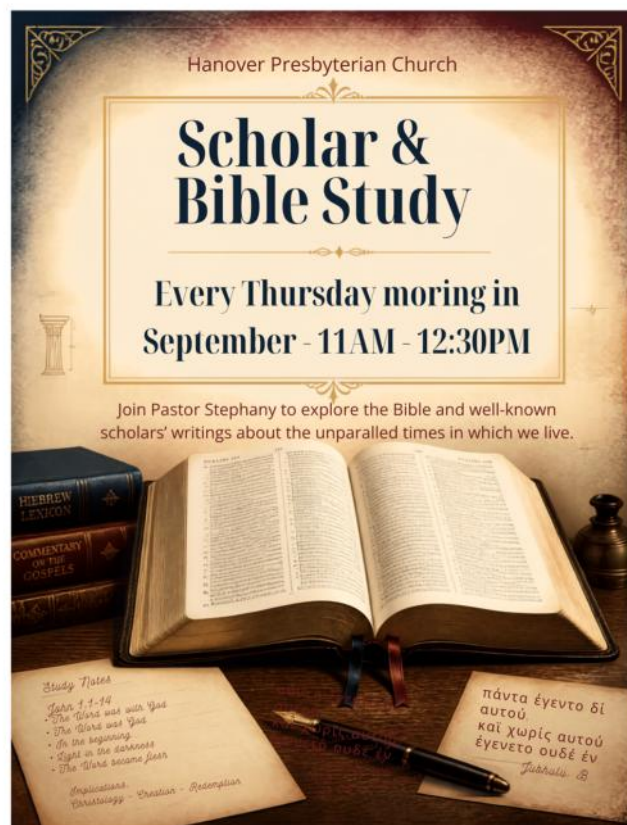
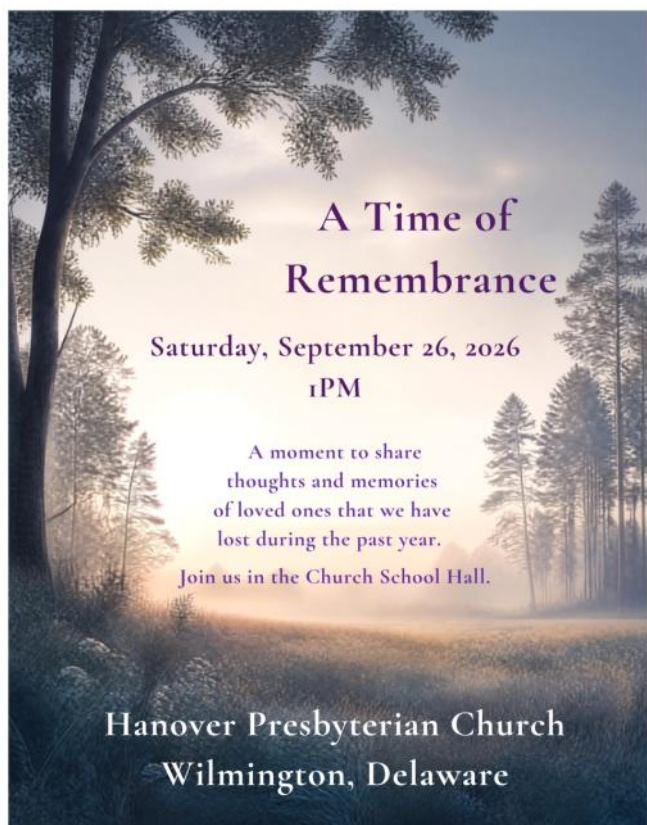
We will also wonder together about what these stories can teach us about God, ourselves, and one another! Watch how the Wonderers design the bulletin board in the Sunday School Hall as we go from Ark to Manger as the Discipleship year progresses through Advent! The Wonderers are an intergenerational group of Hanover friends who wonder and learn together. "Love God and be kind to one another" is how we roll. We'd love to have you join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30AM in the Church School Hall.



Food Pantry - Summer has ended, and Fall is next month. Hard to believe. We have had a busy time this summer and it has been a challenge to keep our shelves stocked. Thank you to all of you who have donated money and food. Without your help, many of our neighbors would miss out on the fresh produce we provide. We appreciate your support!

JB's Cafe - WE WILL BE CLOSED TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, September 15! Hopefully, the weather will remain mild thru October and we will be out on the sidewalk where we like to be!



Arts at Hanover

September is here, and the choir will be back to singing as a group soon! We have enjoyed their solo work all summer, and we're looking forward to being back together. Please talk to any choir member or me if you're interested in singing with us—we'll take you full time, part time, or even for a season. All you need is a joyful heart to make a joyful noise to the Lord!

There's always something artistic going on here at Hanover, whether it's music, dance, or drama—here's an overview of what's happening in the next few months:

Tuesday, September 8 – JSC is hosting the Delaware Shakespeare Community Tour Performance of *"The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) (revised) (again)"*. This is a whirlwind compilation of all 36 of his works in less than 100 minutes! The show begins at 7PM. It's Pay-What-You-Will—you also need a reservation—check the flyer out to get the QR code or link to their website.

Sunday, September 13 – The Hanover Choir returns!

Sunday, October 4 – World Communion Sunday – 11AM—Rev. Casey Carbone is our guest preacher, and we'll have a special anthem: "Baba Yetu" (The Lord's Prayer) from the Hanover choir w/Anthony Condoluci-Smith, soloist and hopefully a drummer.

Sunday, November 1 – All Saints Day w/Communion—we have The Ramblers, musical guests, joining our service.

Sunday, December 13 – Advent 3 with our friend Glenn Davis, guest trumpeter.

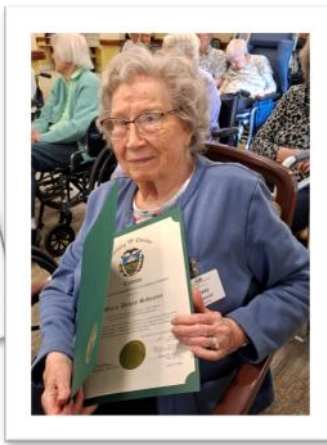
Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve service - 5PM—Christmas Eve is always a special night of music. The Hanover Choir will be joined by Gus Mercante as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

As always, we lift our praises to God in an endless song of praise!

Soli deo gloria, (In God alone is the glory)

~ Twyla





The Board of Commissioners of the County of Chester, Pennsylvania, held an event at Kendal At Longwood to honor residents who turned 100 or more in 2026. Hanover's longtime member, Denny Schreyer, received a citation recognizing her 104th birthday! Denny will be 104 years old on November 6, 2026. **Congratulations to Denny!**



The Baynard Boulevard repaving project moved to 18th Street this week. Crews are rebuilding the Hanover corner with a bump-out to protect the parking lane on Baynard and new pedestrian crossing ramps. Bill Tudor took these photos last week—the work is completed and drying!

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*

Jefferson Street Center presents



DELAWARE SHAKESPEARE COMMUNITY TOUR

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

CREATED BY ADAM LONG, DANIEL SINGER, AND JESS WINIFIELD
NEW REVISIONS BY DANIEL SINGER AND JESS WINIFIELD

SEPT. 8 AT 7PM
JEFFERSON STREET CENTER AT HANOVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PAY-WHAT-YOU-WILL PREVIEW

ABRIDGED REVISED AGAIN

DIRECTED BY MARIAH GHANT

Jefferson Street Center at Hanover Church is honored to host Delaware Shakespear preview performance of their community tour of *The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) (revised) (again)* on September 8th at 7:00 PM

This performance is a pay-what-you-will preview performance in which audience members are able to pay as much as they would like/ able to for a ticket!

The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) (revised) (again) is rapid-fire comedic romp transports you through all 36 of Shakespeare's plays in under 100 minutes. *Complete Works* is an uproarious performance that barrels through the tragedies, comedies, and histories with endless physical comedy, pop-culture references, and audience interaction.

Please visit Delaware Shakespeare website to purchase your tickets here: <https://delshakes.org/community-tour-2026/>

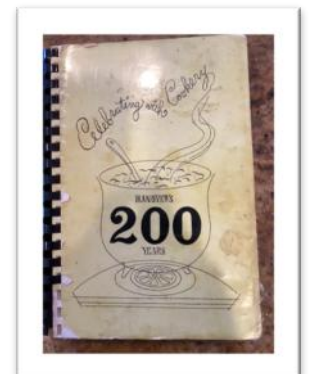


Look what came to the Church Office!

Hi from Marin County, California!

I came across this cookbook that my mother had. We made the banana bread recipe on page 72 from Eleanor Loose. Delicious!

Doug Twitchell - Raised in Wilmington and moved west to California many years ago.



A REFLECTION FROM KATIE LEEP . . .

Thank you for everything. The church has been an important part of my life for the past 14 years (since I've been back in Delaware). And it was before I left Delaware a couple of years before that, as well. It has been a safe place with good people,

Remembering the summer camps I did with neighborhood pre-teens at the church always makes me smile - those kids were really bright and mischievous. (For those of you who remember my "second in command" teenager James Whitely, he is now married with an 11-year-old child of his own!) I have run into a couple of the campers, and it's been fun seeing them grown up.



I moved to the neighborhood primarily because of Hanover, but that turned out to be a blessing for other reasons as well. The parks where I could walk my dogs. The Senior folks from the high-rise apartments sitting on the benches across from their high rise whom I would walk by and exchange friendly greetings with most days. The tight neighborhood associations. Open street events. Neighborhood and church Christmas events. Lots of good people. Beautiful parks. Proximity to lots of things without long drives. I have not regretted moving here once, even though I did learn a lot about neighborhood violence.

The first year I was back, a woman was shot and killed right across the street from my house; she was a young mother. The Wilmington Peacekeepers came to keep the peace, along with the Thunderbird motorcycle gang. The street was absolutely packed with people. Many of us - including me - cried for her loss. But the street event helped start the healing. That didn't stop the violence, but it did help us start to heal from that incident. We had no such neighborhood healing the second time around, when a man next door to me was shot and killed. It was an abusive husband and his vengeful mate, who called on a friend to "help" her get out of the situation. The friend shot and killed the husband. I shared a wall with this family! But that was several years ago now, thank goodness. The streets have been pretty calm in recent years.

And now there is a History Center down the street from us, by the condos on the river. I have been involved with that along with some friends, although my role has been small. (If you have not visited the Center, you should go; you might enjoy learning about Brandywine Village in the old days! And be sure to look at my friend Bob Holliday's installation about the spirit of the Brandywine River.)

But all these things, to me, come back to Hanover. Hanover brought me to this neighborhood which is good AND bad, and a totally new thing for this white suburban woman! I have had experiences I never would have dreamed of. I think I learned a lot and I know I grew. Hanover, for me, is at the heart of this neighborhood. The committees, choir (Twyla is the best choir director!), people helping others. And Hanover will be in my heart forever.

I will miss you all. I wish you all the best, and I hope Hanover survives a long time as a beacon in this neighborhood.

~ Katie Leep

The Prayer Corner . . .

The world changes, but God's love and protection remains the same.

We will gather for prayers and reflection on **Thursday, September 24, at 7PM on Zoom.**

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





"September teaches us how to change without losing warmth." – The Quote Hive

Weekly/Monthly Happenings

- ◇ 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
- ◇ October newsletter article deadline—Friday, September 25
- ◇ Alzheimer's Support Group—September 26, 11am

September Birthdays

- 10 Monisha Smith
- 22 Cherise Alexander
- 22 Kourtney Bibbs
- 22 Julie Davis
- 22 Ava Zistl
- 23 Ruthie McFarland
- 25 Hillary Mohaupt
- 26 Pastor Silas Sheffer-O'Neill
- 29 Django Rosario

Looking ahead to October . . .

World Communion Sunday—October 4
Guest preacher, Rev. Casey Carbone

Peace Week Delaware—October 10-18

Community Dinner—October 21



Hanover Presbyterian Church

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

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