

THE HANOVER HERALD

A newsletter for the people
of Hanover Presbyterian Church,
Wilmington, Delaware
March 2017



The Twin Poets Laureate of Delaware were among the talented artists and musicians who drew a crowd to the annual Gospel Vespers at Hanover.

'Lent in a Bag' and Suppers Enrich the Season

This Lent, the Discipleship Team will be providing "Lent in a Bag" story bags with symbols of the season to enrich our Lenten activities and meditations at home during the season of Lent. Through the course of our Lenten journey we will be encouraged to add things that symbolize our personal journey through Lent, the things that tell our story and sing our song about our encounters with Jesus. You are invited to choose, daily or weekly, one of the symbols for reflection as you make your way through the season of Lent. Some of the symbols may be used as conversation starters

during our weekly Lenten suppers. We hope you will continue telling stories and singing songs on Wednesdays in Lent (March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5) as we gather for our traditional soup and bread suppers beginning at 5:30 (with plenty of food if you need to arrive at 6!) to 7 p.m. Soup, bread and dessert (even during Lent) are an integral part of making our Lenten series a satisfying time of sustenance for our bodies as well as our spirits. To volunteer to help with a part of one of these meals, please contact Nancy Long at j2nlong@comcast.net or 764-8095.

Giving for Today: 2017 Per Capita Update

Thank you to all who have paid your portion of the 2017 per capita of \$31.65. By contributing you have freed up dollars in our Hanover budget for the work of the congregation in our community. If you have not contributed, please consider doing so. What follows is a brief view of how our per capita is used

to help us work together as the PC(USA).

Why is per capita important? Presbyterians are connected in many ways, including our church government. We believe we discern best what God is calling us to do when we gather together, seeking to

Continued on Page 3

Super Sale '16: The Fun Begins

Planning is underway for the 2017 Super Sale, Saturday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. All hands on deck! There will be something for everyone on the day of the sale. Don't miss it. Come out and enjoy the fun and invite all your friends and neighbors.

There are also many, many ways to help. You can help the day of the sale and/or you can help before the sale. We will have our usual exceptional assortment of "stuff:" Baked goods and Peg's famous relish and pickles, plus meals to go; nearly new/never used and collectibles; jewelry and clothing; books, CDs and DVDs; frames and pictures; kitchen and dining; toys; linens; furniture/ household goods; and, the always necessary miscellaneous and seasonal categories.

Please save your donations of "stuff" and you can start bringing them to the church on the Wednesday before the sale – May 3. If you can't bring your things to the

Continued on Page 3

Food Pantry Visitors

It was a pleasure to welcome a group of young people from Concord Presbyterian Church to our Food Pantry. They held a food drive and delivered three huge baskets of food they had collected.

Norris Cramer and James Brewer were on hand to explain how our Food Pantry works and to supervise the stocking of our shelves by the group. It was an opportunity for them to see firsthand where the food goes, how it gets to others and who it goes to. If you would like to know what we do in the Food Pantry, feel free to stop in and visit any Thursday.

A Lenten Primer

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.—Luke 4:1-2

It all begins again on March 1. The annual spiritual adventure called Lent (“spring season” in Old English, and “fortieth” in Latin); our purple (for royalty and repentance) season that begins with ashes on a Wednesday and ends at the mouth of an empty tomb on Easter, 40 days (minus Sundays) later. It is the period in the liturgical year when, as followers of Christ, we are called to focus solemnly on the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus, to acknowledge our sinfulness, and to prepare ourselves to receive more fully the glorious gift of the Resurrection.

In preparation for the season, I offer this primer of some of the key steps in our adventure to serve as a guide for our journey, study, and faith.

Wilderness. The Biblical basis for Lent is the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan to turn away from God (Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13). While in that “desert” Jesus experienced the depths of deprivation: hunger, isolation, fear, and a terrifying uncertainty about his future. We model our journey on his so that we might more deeply understand the sacrifice he made for us; even more, so that we would receive the assurance that Jesus not only understands our wilderness experiences, but he walks with us through them.

Sin. The apostle Paul writes: “For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me” (Romans 7:19-20). As Protestant, Reformed Christians we admit, acknowledge and confess our sinfulness as a part of our human nature. This distinction, however, between who we are and what we do is crucial: although sinful by nature and action, we are not, nor

are we ever, our sins.

Temptation. It is unfortunately all too easy to compromise our spirits and sell our souls. In the wilderness, Satan offers Jesus unlimited power and authority over all of creation, if only he will turn his back on God. The good news—“gospel”—is that when Jesus says “no” to Satan he says “yes” to us. God desires no less from us: for our “no” to Satan is our “yes” to God.

Reflection. In Lent, we are called to reflect deeply on our relationships with God and neighbor. It is a season of introspection and honest assessment: to faithfully engage Lent is to look squarely into our spiritual mirrors. We do this with the goal, hope, and prayer that we would then better reflect the love and grace of God for all of God’s children.

Repentance. Perhaps the most important spiritual discipline, to repent is to openly and freely acknowledge the ways in which we have not been faithful to God. But it’s more. In Hebrew, to repent means “to turn.” True repentance takes place when our spoken desires to change are transformed into the actions that fulfill them.

Forgiveness. Perhaps God’s greatest gift and promise, in Lent we are called to more deeply appreciate the unconditional love implicit in being forgiven. We are never closer to God than when we exchange our repentance for God’s forgiveness. Likewise, we are never closer to one another than when we mutually exchange forgiveness and repentance with one another.

Sacrifice. On the last Friday in Lent we witness the single greatest moment in salvation history. The cross is God’s everlasting statement of love and commitment. On that brutal and unbearable day, we receive the fulfillment of Jesus’ words: “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (John 15:13).

May your Lent be blessed; that your journey through the wilderness this year would bring you closer to God. And may our community, nation, and world be blessed with . . . Peace.

Andy

What a month of celebrating! February was filled with tons of great music—we thank everyone who joined in to “make a joyful noise” for Black History Month, Gospel Vespers, and Mardi Gras Sunday. Our thanks go to:

The Hanover Drum Circle, Tara-lynn Dillard, Brian Gray, Melodic Movement Dance Troupe, CRAMER, Dr. Amanda Kemp, Michael Jamanis, The Twin Poets of Delaware, and the Dixie Ramblers.

A very special thank-you to the Hanover Choir—their hard work and dedication to the music program at Hanover is obvious; they are such a joy to work and worship with. Thank you all!

We have a new musical program beginning on Sunday, March 5. The Hanover Drum Circle will meet for a half hour following the worship service from 12:30 to 1 p.m. on Sundays. You don’t need to have any experience to participate; come as you are. We will meet in the sanctuary for a time of “rhythmic reflection and community.” Grab a cookie, say hi to a friend, and then join us!

Soli deo Gloria (To God alone the glory),

—*Twyla*

Female Harmony News

The review committee for the Marybelle Enslin Memorial Scholarship reviewed the applications of two outstanding candidates. The person selected this year is Cimone Philpotts. She is a graduate of Spelman College. She received her masters in public administration at the University of Delaware, and is currently enrolled in the doctoral program in urban affairs and public policy at the University of Delaware.

She has attended meetings at Hanover around the Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow and she is well known to some of our Hanover members. She is active in the Metropolitan Urban League of Wilmington.

We wish both of our applicants every success going forward. —
Becky Arnold

Stewardship Update

Continued from Page 1

find and represent the will of Christ. Towards this end, per capita pays for the costs of a General Assembly, including paying for the travel, room and board of commissioners and advisory delegates, some of whom would not be able to afford these expenses on their own.

Per capita makes it possible for Presbyterians to govern ourselves the way we do. We have a form of government built upon shared power and mutual accountability. By providing this primary means we help to undergird our governance system. Our Constitution provides a moral and theological compass that builds community and calls us to Christian faithfulness in gratitude to God. Per capita makes possible our effort for visible unity of the church of Jesus Christ.

Per capita makes it possible for us to maintain our historical awareness. Our historical heritage helps us make informed decisions for the future. The Presbyterian Historical Society is our archives and research center. It collects, preserves, and shares the history of American Presbyterian and Reformed tradition, including Hanover's history.

As our mission work is throughout the world, per capita helps us "do mission" as we work ecumenically with other partners allowing us to maintain those ties for mission. This includes publishing our resources in many languages.

Well-trained leaders are a key part of our heritage and our future. Our per capita supports educational materials and many presbytery training events for the leaders, staff and members within our presbytery. As we benefit from the gifts, skills, vision, and ministry of each other in this place, we also benefit from the wider array of gifts and ministry of our Presbyterian brothers and sisters across the church.

Coming Attraction: Look for a future worship bulletin on the "Sharing Resources for Mission and Ministry: New Castle Presbytery's 2017 Narrative Budget." Learn how they utilize their per capita share and other funds we contribute.

Hanover Presbyterian Church • Wilmington, Delaware

HANOVER NEWS & NOTES

Creation Care Sunday

Creation Care continues to be a key mission for Hanover. On Sunday, April 30, the Faith in Action Committee will offer a special worship service honoring our stewardship of God's creation. This year's theme is the sacredness of trees. So, mark your calendars and please join us then!

From Soup to Hot Dogs

In March the winds of change start blowing and one of those changes is that Souper Tuesday will soon be giving way to the Hanover Sidewalk Café! We will have soup through March and then along with April showers, we will set up shop on 18th Street once again. Tuesday, April 4, weather permitting, we will have our "Grand Opening." Hope to see the return of our regular customers and some new faces as well.

Getting to Know You

The Church Life Committee will be working on two endeavors to allow the Hanover Church family to become better acquainted. One project will be a pictorial directory that

Super Sale: Get Ready

Continued from Page 1

church, please talk to Becky Arnold or Ellen Casson.

Don't forget to separate your houseplants and your outdoor plants for our plant and garden area. Do you need extra pots? Call Becky or Ellen. If you love to cook, think about our bake table and especially the "meals to go." They were a big hit last year. The volunteers will be too tired to cook after the sale. Some soup or a casserole will hit the spot.

We will have the famous hotdog cart out with more than just hotdogs. There will be face painting and crafts for the younger set. You can meet some folks from Open Arms and Project LAUNCH and tour the childcare center if you have never seen it. Our Super Sale is a community event with fun and fellowship, great food, and great "stuff" to buy!

will help to associate faces to names. The other project will be a collection of stories from the Hanover Church family that will help us to get to know one another better. These stories can include such things as humorous events, special times or special people in your life, life-changing or meaningful events, places, or objects, and any other thing which may be interesting or important to you. The Church Life Committee welcomes anyone who wishes to help us with this project.

2016 UnGifts Giving

The Faith in Action committee has been doing the Christmas Un-Gifts project since 2006. A total of \$2,530 was donated through Un-Gifts this year. The selections were: Kiva loans to enable people around the world to support themselves, \$100; Windows for Hope, a project of Interfaith Power & Light, \$400; Read-In Read Out gives parents who are incarcerated the resources to stay connected with their young children through recordings of books, \$475; Hanover's Food Pantry, \$585; and Jewish Family Service Refugee Resettlement program, \$970.

JFS informed us that the funds we sent were extremely helpful in assisting a family who arrived after the President's ban was overruled, as the preliminary planning JFS would normally do was not possible under the circumstances.

Easter Egg Orders

Easter is coming and so are Easter Eggs from First Presbyterian Church of Port Penn! This is a big fundraiser for this small church, and they sure know how to make a great egg! There are three choices – buttercream, peanut butter or coconut. The cost is \$5 per egg. If you would like to order eggs, there is a sign-up sheet in the Church School Hall or just let Becky Arnold or Ruth Howell know what you would like. The eggs will be ready for pickup after worship on Palm Sunday. Tim Arnold is the CRE at Port Penn and they are supporters of our Food Pantry throughout the year.

The Hanover Herald • March 2017 • Page 3

CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday Service, 6 p.m.,
March 1
Finance Comittee, 7 p.m., March 2
Communion in Worship, 11 a.m.,
March 5
Drum Circle (every Sunday through
May), 12:30 p.m., beginning
March 5
Book Group discusses *The Under-
ground Railroad*, 12:30 p.m.,
March 5
Session, 7 p.m., March 7
Lent Suppers (every Wednesday un-
til Holy Week), 5:30 p.m., begin-
ning March 8
Faith in Action, 5 p.m., March 9
Daylight Savings Time begins,
March 12
Invitational Team, 5:30 p.m.,
March 13
Washington Heights Neighborhood
Association, 7 p.m., March 14
Staff meeting, noon, March 15
UD Pasta Dinner, 5 p.m., March 15
Women's Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.,

March 16
Worship Committee, 5:30 p.m.,
March 16
Food Pantry Collection, 11 a.m.,
March 19
Deacons meet, 5:45 p.m., March 20
Theology on Tap, 7:30 p.m., March
21
Stewardship Committee, 7 p.m.,
March 23

Continuing Events

Bridge Club, Thursdays at 7 p.m.
Clothing Closet, Tuesdays at 9 a.m.
Food Pantry, Thursdays at 8:30
a.m.
Zumba classes, Tuesdays at 6 p.m.
and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.,
Yoga group, Fridays at 6:15 p.m.

*The calendar on hanoverchurch.org
is a good resource for staying up to
date on Hanover happenings.*

March Birthdays

2 Justin Lewis
5 Tara Lynn Dillard
Melissa Heieie
8 Frann Anderson
Martha McFarland
Sirena Turner
9 Sue Baker
11 Christopher Jacob
Susie Watson
12 Ray Kirkpatrick
13 Thelma Meginniss
16 Porshay Matthews
Sharay Matthews
24 Ruthann Headley
26 Joan Ross
27 John Russell
28 Ellen Casson
Andrea McCoy-Carty
30 Anna West

Flower Donors

are needed for three Sundays in
March. Please contact Becky Arnold
if you are interested.

Easter Flowers to Decorate the Sanctuary

If you wish to honor loved ones by donating Easter flowers for the sanctuary, please:

1. Fill out this order form. Donations may be made either in memory of someone who has died or in honor of someone who is living.
2. Enclose a check, payable to Hanover Presbyterian Church (\$10 per plant)
3. Mail form and check to:
Sue Baker
1212 Foulk Road, 3A
Wilmington, DE 19803

In order to be sensitive to those who are affected by allergies, the choices are spring flowers that do not produce pollen.

Please select the flowers that you would like to order:

- Tulips Daffodils

After Easter Worship:

- I will pick up a plant.
 I will not pick up a plant.
Please give plant to a shut-in.

Donor's Name (please print)

In memory of (please print)

OR

In honor of (please print)

*Orders Must Be Re-
ceived by Sunday, April
2*



Hanover Street Presbyterian Church
1801 N. Jefferson Street
Wilmington, DE 19802
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Blueprint Community Training Is Approved

On Feb. 6, the Washington Heights Blueprint Community Team presented its Neighborhood Revitalization Plan at a symposium held in the Chase Center on the Riverfront. Dr. Steven Peuquet, director of the University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service, and David Buches, Community Investment Manager for FHLBank of Pittsburgh, certified that the team completed all of the requirements for the Blueprint Communities training program.

The Washington Heights Blueprint Community is a multi-year community revitalization initiative serving the Triangle, Washington Heights, and Brandywine Village neighborhood association areas. Its mission is to “enhance the economic, social, cultural, and physical condition” of the community.

Jefferson Street Center, Inc. and Hanover Church figure prominently as “anchor” institutions for the community revitalization initiative.

On March 6 at 7 p.m. the Jefferson Street Center board will be meeting and there will be a brief presentation of the revitalization plan. Anyone interested in getting more information is welcome to join us for the presentation. You can also get more information by visiting our Facebook page at [facebook.com/washheightsblueprint](https://www.facebook.com/washheightsblueprint).

A Year of U.D. Community Dinners

This is a note from our partner from the University of Delaware in the Wednesday night pasta suppers. This is in reference to our Thanksgiving meal in November.

Hi! I just wanted offer a celebratory update on the Hanover Community Dinners. Last night there were about 60 people present including Center for Research in Education and Social Policy staff and family members! Becky and Tim Arnold, our co-hosts, were happy with the big turn out and that some neighborhood residents brought food to share.

We began the dinners as a way to continue the good work of Spencer Hoernes, a UD student and Crespi-an in creating and promoting an urban garden at Lutheran Community Services in Wilmington—harvest from the garden was distributed at Hanover. CRESP worked with Spencer and Samantha Marks to offer nutrition education with residents from the local community during the breakfast that accompanied food distributions at Hanover. As a result, CRESP has formed a relationship with both the church and individuals who access the garden plus the nutritional education.

This dinner has been a fruitful opportunity to maintain that relationship and be supportive of the Wilmington community. It combines education, networking and fostering a collaborative relation-

ship with goodwill toward the University of Delaware. Becky and Tim Arnold, members of Hanover, co-host the dinners and appreciate our support for their goals of feeding food insecure residents of the neighborhood surrounding the church.

Since Oct. 21, 2015, we have co-hosted 10 community dinners at Hanover Presbyterian church. We have helped to serve approximately 365 meals to people in the community, many of whom find out about the dinners when they access the church’s food distribution on Thursday mornings. Almost every member of CRESP’s staff and students have participated in preparing, serving and cleaning up at one time or another. We had allowed for about \$100 for each meal and we have spent \$712.55.

I have appreciated your support for this idea and I thank you for this opportunity!—D. Layne Humphrey, MEd., Assistant Center Director, Center for Research in Education and Social Policy

Stewardship Update

Eleven Hanover members have contributed \$493 towards the 2017 per capita of \$31.65 per person. To date, 51 pledging units committed \$146,446 toward our budget to help support Hanover's ministry and mission.

Thank you for your generosity!