

THE HANOVER HERALD

A newsletter for the people
of Hanover Presbyterian Church,
Wilmington, Delaware
July and August 2018

PROFILES IN STEWARDSHIP

This is another in the Stewardship Committee's series that profiles the gift of service that is offered by a Hanover Saint.

On Sunday morning, you enter the church through the door on Baynard Boulevard and he is the first person you will see. Once the service begins he makes his way to the same seat in the same pew, and at exactly the same time in every service, he leaves his pew and heads for the kitchen. I'm describing the actions of Tommy Tucker as he warmly greets church members, and prepares to serve Hanover members and guests with coffee and tea for Bible Study and fellowship time following Sunday service.



It's a role that Tommy takes seriously and with pride, so much so that he arrives at church every Sunday promptly at 8. He prepares tea and coffee, cleans up the after-effects of continental breakfast, and loads and empties the dishwasher. Then he's ready to welcome you to Hanover with a warm handshake and friendly smile. He returns to the kitchen to repeat the early morning ritual once again.

It's not simply a greeting. It's an expectation, an anticipation that is missed on the rare occasion when Tommy is not there. And it's more than a cup of coffee or tea. It's coffee or tea that is enjoyed during conversation and sharing that brings us closer together as members of a congregation that just experienced the power of the word of God.

Tommy hails from Delaware and he is the youngest of three children. His sister Evelyn lives in Delaware and his oldest sister Sandra lives in Virginia. Tommy had a Chihuahua named Brownie growing up and he spent many of his days with his good friend John, fishing for catfish and carp from the Christina River at Banning Park. Tommy attended Richardson Park Elementary School from kindergarten through eighth grade and Conrad Junior High School in ninth grade. Tommy moved to Virginia to live with his sister Sandra where he attended and graduated from high school and spent one year at Southwest Virginia Community College to learn welding skills. He was the only student from Delaware "among all those hillbillies" and the boys were jealous of all of his girlfriends.

Tommy subsequently moved back to Delaware to live with his parents and attended Calvary Presbyterian Church with his father after his mother passed away. Tommy moved into his current home in 2006 after his father died. In that same year, he began his search for a new church and he selected Hanover due to its close proximity to his home, and he has been a member ever since. At the time he started his membership at Hanover, Bob Undercuffler was the interim pastor. It was typical for Bob to host continental breakfast and Tommy approached him with inquisitiveness, he began helping Bob, and the rest is history!

Tommy spends his days listening to his favorite radio station (93.7 WSTW), and he will occasionally listen to a Phillies

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Gathering Place Gets New Focus

Hanover has been a "gathering place" since its beginning. Hanover has a long history of being engaged with the community and providing needed activities, such as taking leadership in the creation of the public education system in Delaware in the early 1800s. In 2008 a space at Hanover was renovated and named "The Gathering Place" and now we feel the call to undertake another step in that process.

The process will include renovations to building space including the downstairs kitchen, a handicapped accessible bathroom, and upgrades to the gym. Central partners in the process will be the Jeffer-

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You should have been there—June 20, 18th and Jefferson was the place to be. Tables were set up to seat 30 people—not nearly enough—as the third-Wednesday Pasta Supper became the third Wednesday Cook-Out. Volunteers served over 60 people hot dogs and hamburgers; many guests brought dishes to share as well. The next cook-out will be Sept. 19.

Travel Log:

June 26-29, 2018

The Massanetta Springs Middle High Youth Conference
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Having just returned from four days in the mountains of northwestern Virginia with Jacob Arnold, Christopher Jacob and “Ms. Nancy [Long]”, I offer these Cliff Note, snapshot, abbreviated, abridged and edited thoughts on my experience of a Middle School conference.

You haven't lived until you've dined in a cafeteria filled with calorie starved, metabolic super heroes who eat indiscriminate piles of food without pausing to taste it. It's like witnessing the second (frogs), fourth (wild animals), and eighth (locusts) Egyptian plagues—all at the same time!

Nor have you lived until you've stood in a circle of more than 300 hundred people holding candles that punctuate and penetrate the darkness.

Watching 300 people with red hair nets sort, weigh, seal, and pack 10,000 meals in just over an hour—the last stop before being sent to Haiti.

What it feels like to be amid 260 middle high students screaming and stomping until ears ache and floors shake . . . and then experiencing a nearly immediate shift into a prayerful, contemplative space where the longings of young hearts are lifted to God.

The perils of playing Gaga Ball (really, I don't make this stuff up—Google it if you don't believe me!).

The joy of laughing, and the pain of crying, with someone who was a stranger just the day before.

The inspiration offered by adults who devote their lives to walking side by side with young people as they come to discover who they are . . . and who they're called to be.

Watching those same inspiring youth leaders get down in the mud—literally—with their younger companions, submit to funky hair coloring (ask Ms. Nancy to show

you the picture of her with green racing stripes!), and fully participate in the ridiculous ritual called energizers. BTW, in theology we call this incarnation . . .

If I believed in an actual place called hell, it would be I-95 on a Friday in the summer . . .

Watching a young person move from total resistance and disengagement on Day One to full and joyous participation on Day Four.

Praise God for emergency rooms and pain medication when the water slides in life get a little rough . . .

Watching the sun ascend from a mountain peak, and then mysteriously, if not predictably, descend into the top of another one at the other end of the day on the other side of the camp . . . and the world.

And, please, don't even think about high-fiving me for at least six months!

In the last four days, through the eyes, ears, and spirits of young hearts I re-lived the difficulties, challenges, and struggles of “growing up.” At the same time, I received the joy of relationships that support and sustain. I thank God for my much-needed inoculation of the hope.

Finally, to my three travel companions: thank you for putting up with my driving; for eating, playing, praying, and laughing with me; and for showing me what God's grace looks like in real time. Thanks be to God that you are each—and we are all—created, claimed, called by the one who declares: *Y'all Are Mine!*

Peace, Andy



At the June 2018 Session meeting, the treasurer's report for April 2018 was reviewed and approved. It is a pleasure to report our combined pledged and unpledged regular income totaled \$81,966, which is 42 percent of the budget goal at 33 percent of the year. Regular expenses exceeded regular income by approximately \$13,664. There are some expenses that are captured in full, early in the year, such as the total per capita assessment of \$5,191 and workers' compensation of \$1,232 for 2018.

We have also had more than \$5,400 in property expenses related to burner and boiler repairs and repairs to the sanctuary roof, requiring replacement of several missing and broken slates. Additional property expenses in the education wing include freezer and cooking range repairs of approximately \$1,400. We always assume something unplanned will occur in the area of property repair expenses, but it is hard to know when and what it will be. — Ellen Casson

Profiles in Stewardship

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game when the radio reception allows it. Once a week Tommy takes the bus to a home on Maryland Avenue where he has a job cutting the lawn. He admits that he doesn't cook much and he is more of a “nibbler” but sometimes he will splurge and buy fast food. Tommy enjoys reading the Hanover Herald but his biggest source of joy comes from Hanover fellowship and the opportunity to serve. Although Tommy was away from Hanover due to a serious heart condition and surgery in 2017, Hanover's prayers, the wonders of medicine, and an exceptional medical team brought Tommy back stronger than ever.

“Stewardship” is defined as “the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving.” We are all blessed and grateful for Tommy's stewardship, and the dedication and pride with which he serves Hanover.

Gathering Place

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son Street Center and the Washington Heights Blueprint Community Team.

A Gathering Place Group has been formed and was introduced at the forum. The members are Bill Balascio, Ellen Casson, Becky Arnold and Lorie Tudor, along with pastor Andy Jacob and administrator Twyla Evitts.

After worship on Sunday, July 1, around 40 Hanover people responded to the plans that are underway to expand and transform our Gathering Place ministries, with the goal of creating a hub for activities to serve our community. We talked about the Gathering Place as not just the space in the room under the sanctuary, but as the entire space between 18th and 19th Streets and Jefferson and Baynard. Small groups gathered around tables over lunch at the forum and discussed several questions related to the plans that are underway:

- What experiences have you had with the Gathering Place and how has it been meaningful?
- What visions do you have about the future of the GP?
- What would "faithful" uses of our space look like?
- What specific ministries might we carry out in our spaces?
- What have been your most memorable and powerful experiences of the GP?
- What association do you have with the GP?

Stay tuned for further updates!—
Lorie Tudor

Summer Worship Schedule

July 1, Pastor Andy - Communion

July 8, Kathy Pownall, guest minister

July 15, Worship Committee

July 22, Deacons

July 29, Aug. 5 and Aug. 12, Pastor Andy

Aug. 19, Hanover K'nittee, Deb Trevino, guest minister

Aug. 26, Eloise Downing

DEACON'S CORNER

This year, each Deacon is going to take a turn at highlighting a member of their Care Group. This month, Dave Harris talked with Andy Moore.

Andy Moore was born in Bloomington, Ind. He moved around in his younger years and spent his teen years in Buffalo, N.Y. His parents were Robert and Joanna Moore and they had six children.

His father moved to Wilmington in 1970 to become the New Castle Presbytery Executive where he stayed until he retired in 1989. Robert and Joanna became members of West Presbyterian Church. Andy's sister, Alison Moore, is a long-time member of Hanover. Andy and Alison used to sing and play guitar together when they first moved to Wilmington in 1970. Andy grew up in a household where singing (mom) and church (dad) were mandatory!

Andy is married to Marybeth Auld and they are celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary on June 20! They have two sons, Michael, 27 and Jeremy, 30. Andy graduated from Wilmington College and worked as an architect for Studio AJED until he retired this past January.

Since he has retired, Andy has joined as a volunteer for the Hanover food pantry. He sings in the Center City chorale with David Schelat at First and Central Presbyterian Church. He also a member of Hearts and Harmony, which sings once a month for different senior centers in the area.

Andy is also busy with his large garden which he said got him started in the food pantry by bringing excess vegetables in from his garden!

Eight years ago, after West Church closed, Andy came to Hanover when his mother, Joanna, needed a ride to church and to choir practice. It was a no brainer for Andy to stay for choir rehearsal and stay for the church service. He has not left since and is a regular in the choir every Sunday. He is fulfilling his parents wish for him to sing and be in church from his childhood. It has been great getting to know Andy singing tenor in the choir. Hanover's choir was his first singing experience since his high school choir, where he first learned the tenor part to the *Hallelujah* chorus from the *Messiah*! Say hi to him as you see him in coffee hour after worship.

Congratulations! Open Arms Academy Turns 5

After many unexpected and frustrating delays, Open Arms Academy was officially licensed in June of 2013 to care for 78 pre-school children. Despite the many setbacks, Kathy Hughes maintained a "can do" attitude throughout. Five years ago Kathy said, "Although this entire situation has been frustrating, I will not let it stop me from doing what I believe I was put on this earth to do. I will open the Academy; it may not be as soon as I would like, but I will open! We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received, and continue to receive, from members of the church and staff. We already feel like part of your family."

Kathy and her staff did exactly what she said they would; they

opened their child care center and it has been an amazing success. Delaware Stars rates it as one of the best, and you hear only positive comments from parents of children enrolled there.

We must not take their success for granted. Please thank Kathy and her staff, if you see them, or send a note of congratulations. Better than that, tell all your friends, neighbors and relatives what an extraordinary child care center it is. Open Arms is an asset to our community, to Hanover, and most important, it is an asset for families and children. Hanover sends its love and best wishes to Kathy, all her staff, and the children they care for, and prayers for much continued success going forward.

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CALENDAR

Prayer Circle, 8:30 a.m., Mondays
 K'nittee, 5:30 p.m., Mondays
 Zumba, 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays
 Yoga, 6:15 p.m., Fridays
 From Surviving to Thriving, 7 p.m., Thursdays, July 5 and 19 and Aug. 2 and 16
 Theology on Tap, 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 17 and Tuesday, Aug 21
 Church office closed, July 4

July Birthdays

- 2 Sam Arnold
- Peter Arnold
- 3 Theopolis Gregory
- 5 Jerri Harmon
- Darren Undercuffler
- 6 Ruth Howell
- 7 Becky Arnold
- Nia Evans
- 9 Tammy Beamer
- 13 Emma Psomas
- 14 Marybeth Auld
- 15 MaryJo Penna
- Ayinde Truxon Flores
- Tracey Turner
- 18 Diane Murphy
- William Tudor
- 20 Leandra Roselle
- 22 Cheyenne Rosa
- 26 Rick Melvin
- 27 Robert Poirier
- 28 Bill Balascio
- Jude Quinn
- 29 Jacqueline Hamilton
- 31 Barbara Coleman
- Sophia Moore



Hanover's K'nittee made these shawls for [from left] Christopher Jacob, Judy Van Rooyen and Jacob Arnold to celebrate their confirmation process. Members of the K'nittee—Sue Balascio, Carolyn Klawitter, and Lorie Tudor—are behind them. The group makes prayer shawls for people who are struggling with illness or other issues, which the pastor or a deacon can give to them as an expression of Hanover's support. Items have also been donated to express love for babies being baptized and to celebrate other milestones. The K'nittee is a small group of people who knit, crochet, or do other handcrafts, and has been meeting Monday evenings since April 2014. New members are always welcome.

August Birthdays

- 11 Terry Gross
- Brett Pulliam
- Marshae Pulliam-Bibbs
- 13 Quazeem Rosa
- JoAnne Rosa
- Eleanor Warren
- 15 Brittany Peterson
- Karin Wilson
- 16 Susan Anderson
- 18 Norma Reid
- Michael Zankowsky
- Elizabeth Heiks
- 22 George Turner
- 24 Bruce Showalter
- 29 Leon Wilson
- Michele Zistl
- 30 John Heiks