

THE HANOVER HERALD

A newsletter for the people
of Hanover Presbyterian Church,
Wilmington, Delaware
September 2018



Hanover's sanctuary got a new look on Sunday, Aug. 26, when the K'nittee group presented the morning worship service. The chancel and cross were "yarn-bombed," a form of street art where yarn in any form (knit, crochet, etc) is attached to an object in the public environment.

One Last Chance to Enjoy a Summer Cookout!

The hot dog cart has been doing great business on Tuesdays this summer. We have not held any of our Third Wednesday Suppers, however, because it's been so hot. We will have one more cookout on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at 5:30 p.m. The one we held in June was a big success and we are hoping for a happy hungry group again. Feel free to bring a dish to share. We will provide the hotdogs and hamburgers as well as drinks and dessert. We are fortunate to have friends from the University of Delaware as partners for our Wednesday meals. Come and join neighbors and friends of Hanover for this food-filled fun time!

Deacon's Lunch Sept. 9

Sunday, Sept. 9 is a day that's doubly important—not only is it the Sunday we go back to the regular schedule, with worship at 11 a.m., it is also the day of the Deacon's Lunch!

Everyone is invited (visitors too) immediately following worship to wend your way by stairs or elevator to the Gathering Place for a catered luncheon. Please come and join members of your care group for good food, good conversation and maybe some surprises! Please RSVP to your deacon or the church office that you will be coming. We look forward to seeing you for lunch!

Discipleship's Year Opens with Rally Day

Rally Day is a day of re-dedication and re-doubling of our intellectual, spiritual and physical efforts to grow closer to our God and go deeper in our understanding of self and community. It is the day that marks the end of summer rest and the beginning of new programs, events and efforts to inspire and build up!

As you will learn in Pastor Andy's article on Page 2, the adults are dedicating themselves to a 52-week study of the Bible. As Discipleship teachers, Jeff and I are excited to be able to have a time to attend an adult ed. class again on Wednesday evenings!

Hanover youth will be diving into more Bible stories helping us to navigate in a world that is so desperately in need of kindness and seeing each other as children of God.

Our Senior Highs will be embarking on a new series called T.B.D. = think.believe.do. The first topic in the series is prayer. As the authors of the curriculum state, "T.B.D. starts with the belief that students

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FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

This Is My Story, This Is Our Song

*We all belong to an ancient identity.
Stories are the rivers that take us there.*
—Frank Delaney

As people of faith our identity is in the image of God, and the stories in our scriptures are the rivers that remind us and return us to the one to whom we belong. By God's grace and in God's wisdom, we each have a story and at the same time we all share a story, and for followers of Christ our stories meet at the cross.

Believing that it is the stories in our scriptures and tradition that serve as the foundation of our faith, the focus of the adult Bible study group in the 2018-19 church school year will be on stories. Each week we will read one of the formative stories in our scriptures. We will hear information about the who, what, when, where, how and why of the story. We will discuss what that story meant at the time it happened, as well as what it means for us today. Most of all, we will strive to understand how each of the stories—and each of us—fit into the larger, ongoing, and everlasting narrative whose author is God.

The other big news is that we will be holding two gatherings each week. As in previous years, a group will gather from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning, following the continental breakfast (9 a.m.). That group will be led by George Turner and Beatrice Wilson.

With the great goal, hope and prayer that more people will be able to participate, another group will meet each Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The story will be the same one discussed the previous Sunday morning, but the group will be led by Pastor Andy. Light snacks will be available for those who will not have had dinner!

Here is the schedule of the stories we will hear through the end of this year:

Sept. 9 and 12: The First Story:

Genesis 1-2

Sept. 16 and 19: Promise of a Nation: Genesis 12

Sept. 23 and 26: Real Freedom: Exodus 20

Sept. 30 and Oct. 3: A Pagan Widow Gets It Right: The Book of Ruth

Oct. 7 and 10: A Man After God's Own Heart: I Samuel 16 and I Kings 2

Oct. 14 and 17: Passing the Torch: I Kings 19

Oct. 21 and 24: The Fish Story: The Book of Jonah

Oct. 28 and 31: Holy, Holy, Holy: Isaiah 6

Nov. 4 and 7: Tears: The Book of Lamentations

Nov. 11 and 14: Between the Times

Nov. 18: Pack Thanksgiving Baskets

Nov. 21: Thanksgiving

Nov. 25 and 28: Savior Born: Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:26-38

Sundays Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23: Advent Lectionary-Based Study

Wednesdays Dec. 5, 12, 19: Advent Soup and Study

May God bless the stories we share, especially as we come to better understand our part in them.

Peace,
Andy

MUSIC MATTERS

The fall is here, and we are gearing up for a great season! A warm thank you to the musicians who shared their talents over the summer months. We appreciate your dedication to all of our services.

Have you thought about singing with the choir? We begin rehearsing on Wednesday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome—you don't have to be able to read music—all you need is a willingness to sing! Please talk to me or to any choir member if you have any questions. We'd love to have you.

Saturday, Sept. 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. —Jeremiah's Coffee House is an evening of good food, friends, and re-

FINANCE REPORT

At the August 2018 Session meeting, the treasurer's reports for May and June 2018 were reviewed and approved. We continue to be grateful for our combined pledged and unpledged regular income, which totaled \$107,268, which is 55 percent of the budget goal at 50 percent of the year. Regular expenses exceeded regular income by approximately \$4,194. There are some expenses that are captured in full, early in the year, such as the total per-capita assessment of \$5,191. Per-capita is an assessment to support the work of the church nationally and worldwide. It is \$29 per member. If you have not paid your assessment, your payment will help to offset the \$5,191 paid from the church budget.

Our June balance sheet reflects a total equity of \$207,406. Another bit of good news is a growth in our investments of \$7,335 since the first quarter's report. —Ellen Casson

Save the Date!

Gathering Place



October 14th
following worship

laxed artistic fun – it's an open mic event, so if you want to sing, play an instrument, read a poem, tell a story, show a craft—anything goes! Please talk to George Turner or me to get on the roster, or you can just show up and share!

Upcoming highlights: The Choir School of Delaware on Sept. 30, Trumpeter Evan Roberts on Reformation Sunday (Oct. 28), and on Christmas Eve we'll have the pleasure of hearing music from Larry and Jen Stomberg, cellists, and Gus Mercante, countertenor.

This we offer . . . *Soli deo Gloria* (only to the glory of God),

Twyla

Pantry Patron Saints

Here's a Shout Out to two businesses that have been generous supporters of our Food Pantry. First to the Giant supermarket on Concord Pike. Every Saturday and Monday morning we pick up a van full of assorted items for the closet. Anything from bread to meats to general grocery items, etc., is boxed up and ready to go when we get there. We are really fortunate to have this store as a partner in our endeavor to help people in need of food to get quality product for themselves and their families.

The other organization is Boscov's, also on the Concord Pike. This year they chose our pantry for their "Christmas in July" campaign. That month they collected non-perishable items for the pantry and in August we picked up many bags full of much needed items. I'm not sure how we get "discovered" by these organizations, but it is a blessing that we are. —Becky Arnold

Discipleship Rally Day

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are ready not only to own their journey of faith, but to recognize that their faith is constantly in process. Who they are, what they believe, and how they live their lives is never really set. It is always to be determined. T.B.D." This curriculum will help provide the students the "tool to articulate, investigate, and test out their beliefs on a broad range of topics that connect to their daily lives . . . it offers them a process for diving into their questions, assumptions, and doubts that they can use for the rest of their lives."

Discipleship is excited to be presenting intergenerational Community Sundays on the mornings we celebrate communion. Community Sundays will be a morning of coming together, young and old, to experience God's unity, Hanover-style. We will hear stories and enjoy activities that build intergenerational relationships and foster discipleship. Our first Community Sunday will be on Oct. 7 at 9:30 in the Church School Hall. It's about community and unity as we prepare to gather together around God's table during worship. —Nancy Long

DEACON'S CORNER

This year, each Deacon is going to take a turn at highlighting a member of their Care Group. This month, an interview with Dawn Silicki.

How did you hear about Hanover? I was working at Howard High School and one of my teachers, Kevin White, was making a presentation at Hanover for Black History Month. He invited me to attend.



I stayed for the service and felt so welcome that I knew that I had found my church home.

What keeps you coming back? Hanover is a microcosm of our society. I love the cultural and socioeconomic diversity. The supportive environment and the genuine concern that starts with our pastor and permeates through the congregation should be a model for our society.

Is there anything else you want to share about yourself?

I am going through a transitional period in my life, and attending services at Hanover allows me to reflect, be thankful for the positive things in my life, and is helping me find peace. I spent almost 40 years in education, both as a teacher and administrator. Upon retirement, I had the privilege of working for the Math and Science Education Resource Center at the University of Delaware. I then bought a garden center (Leon's Garden World on Concord Pike) which I owned for seven years. I miss the staff, customers and plants, but not the hours and responsibility. I can now travel, enjoy friends and family and volunteer. In my soul, however, I will always be a teacher.

Wanted: You (to Join the Teaching Team)

You've read elsewhere about the exciting things happening in Discipleship, but the Discipleship Team could use some more teachers and substitute teachers to sustain the vitality of our programs. You may be saying that you don't feel equipped to be a mentor of the faith (a/k/a as a Sunday School teacher)—but Rev. Rebecca Ninke, pastor, author, and freelance writer shares some secrets about teaching faith to others:

- You don't have to know everything. You don't have to have a degree in Biblical studies!
- You learn stuff too! Teaching faith to others gives you the opportunity to continue learning and have those light bulb faith moments. Let's never stop learning!
- The children will not remem-

ber everything you say, but they will remember how you made them feel. It's about creating a safe place for exploring faith and an atmosphere where the children feel welcomed and cared about. The rest is icing on the cake!

• Not feeling holy enough? Join the club! God is not waiting for us to get it all right before calling us into service—you are in good company.

• The Christian faith has been passed on to another generation for 2,000 years by people just like you!

To learn more about joining the Discipleship Team, please contact Jeff and Nancy Long or Pastor Andy. We'd love for you to experience the fun and joy of working with our youth.

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**Sunday Worship
 Returns to 11 a.m.
 on Sept. 9**

CALENDAR

Prayer Circle, 8:30 a.m., Mondays
 K'nittee, 5:30 p.m., Mondays
 Sidewalk Café, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
 Tuesdays
 Choir rehearsal, 7 p.m., Wednes-
 days
 Zumba, 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, 6:30
 p.m. on Thursdays
 Yoga, 6:15 p.m., Fridays
 Labor Day, Church Office closed,
 Monday, Sept. 3
 Deacons, 5:45 p.m., Monday, Sept.
 3
 Session, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 4
 Worship meeting, 5:30 p.m.,
 Wednesday, Sept. 5
 From Surviving to Thriving, 7 p.m.,
 Thursday, Sept. 6
 Deacons Luncheon, 12:15 p.m.,
 Sunday, Sept. 9
 Invitation Team, 5:30 p.m., Mon-
 day, Sept. 10
 Bible Study, 5:30 p.m., Wednes-
 days, Sept. 12, 19, 26
 Faith in Action, 5 p.m., Thursday,
 Sept. 13
 Jeremiah's Coffee House, 5:30
 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 15
 Theology on Tap, 7:30 p.m., Tues-
 day, Sept. 18
 Church Cookout, 5:30 p.m.,
 Wednesday, Sept. 19

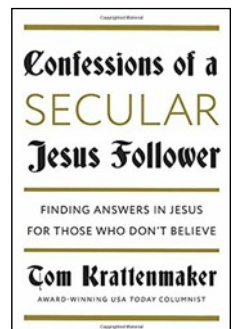
Monday Book Group Resumes Studies Sept. 10

On Monday, Sept. 10, the Monday book club at Hanover will resume. The group has been discussing books that prompt us both to explore our doubts and to deepen our understanding of what we believe. This fall's featured book will be *Confessions of a Secular Jesus Follower: Finding Answers in Jesus for Those Who Don't Believe*, by Tom Krattenmaker, an award-winning author and columnist for USA Today, and the communications director at Yale Divinity School.

The book may be a relevant resource for reaching people who have no faith connections or who have "dropped out" of the church and it may also help us find definitions of God's vision for our world, of God's compassion and justice. John Holden, a retired United Methodist minister with a passion for reaching out to people looking for alternatives to traditional interpretations of religious experience, is leading the discussions.

Newcomers—and people without faith connections who are interested in exploring some of these issues—will enrich the group and are most welcome to join us.

The group meets on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and (when there is one) 5th Mondays of the month, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., on the second floor of the Hanover education wing. (It will not meet on the first Monday of the month.)



September Birthdays

6 Sharron Gregory
 8 Lindsey Harris
 Alice Winchester
 10 Mark Arnold
 Monisha Smith
 17 Heather Fleming
 Peg Green
 20 Joshua Gregory
 22 Cherise Alexander
 Kourtney Bibbs
 Julie Davis
 Doris Loper
 Ava Zistl
 23 Ruth McFarland
 25 Hillary Mohaupt
 Kim Williams

Tea and Harmony

Oct. 20 will be the Annual Female Harmony Society Tea. Our "theme" this year is, oddly enough, Harmony! Please plan to join us at 3 p.m. for an afternoon of delicious delicacies (made by our own members) and lots of fun.

As always, reservations can be made by calling the church office. The price for tickets will be \$10. Tables can be reserved so gather a group of friends together for a pleasant afternoon of visiting and harmonizing!