

THE HANOVER HERALD

A newsletter for the people of Hanover Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Delaware
April 2019

Investing in Our Youth

Starting Sunday, March 31, the Discipleship Team will be offering stock certificates that you can purchase to Invest in Our Youth as they raise funds to attend the Youth Triennium at Purdue (\$555/youth) and the Middle School Conference at Massanetta (\$375/youth and chaperones). Each certificate costs \$10, and is guaranteed to increase in value for the life of our youth.

After the conferences, the youth will offer a Shareholders event to pay a dividend for your investment, sharing some of their experiences in word and pictures. Following the opening day of the sale of stock options, our high schoolers will go to Concord Presbyterian Church to meet with other New Castle Presbyterian youth and chaperones who are heading to the 2019 Youth Triennium—*Here's My Heart*. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a gathering for high school age youth from the

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Hanover's Invitational Team has a new look—a T-shirt with a new Justice/Diversity/Hospitality logo. On the back of this dark blue shirt is the message "Ask Me About Hanover." You don't have to be a member of the Invitational Team to wear one; order one in your size from Jane Putscher for \$15.

Palm Sunday service, 11 a.m., Sunday, April 14
Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 18
Good Friday service, 7 p.m., Friday April 19
Easter Sunrise service, 7 a.m., Sunday, April 21
Easter Worship service, 11 a.m., Sunday, April 21

Counting Down the Days to Super Sale 2019

The Super Sale is only one month away! The date for the 2019 Super Sale is Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to 1. There will be something for everyone on the day of the sale. Come out and enjoy the fun and invite all your friends and neighbors.

If you volunteered last year and had a good time, perhaps you would like to help out again this year, or if you are new to the Super Sale, and want to volunteer, give Twyla a call in the church office. It is a great way to get to know people and there are many ways to help. You can help the day of the sale and/or you can help before the sale. If you can't come out to help, consider baking something for the bake table. "Meals to Go" were a big hit the last couple of years, especially for volunteers too tired to cook something when they get home.

We will have our usual exceptional assortment of "stuff." In addition to Baked Goods and Meals to Go,

we have Nearly New/Never Used and Collectibles; Jewelry and Clothing; Books and CDs; Frames and Pictures; Kitchen and Dining; Linens; Furniture/Household goods; Toys; and, the always necessary Miscellaneous and Seasonal categories. You gardeners out there, we always welcome plants that you have an abundance of for our garden table on the Boulevard.

You can start bringing your "stuff" to the church on the Wednesday before the sale – May 1. There will be volunteers there to help unload your vehicle from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Friday will be for sorting and pricing.

If you have any questions about volunteering or getting things to the church, talk to Becky Arnold, Ruth Howell, or Ellen Casson, or Twyla in the office. Super Sale is a community event with fun and fellowship, great food, and great "stuff" to buy!

Third Wednesday: Pre-Easter Potluck, April 17, 5:30 p.m.

We'll provide ham and turkey and hope to get some really good Easter favorites from our guests. Come join us!

The Paschal Mystery

When I was a young boy there was very little that captured my mind more than an Agatha Christie mystery novel. Like billions of others I would tear through the pages for the mystery to be revealed – to find out who dunnit. The meaning of a mystery novel is captured in its resolution.

As you read this, we will be at the midpoint in the forty-day season of Lent. At the end of the journey we will emerge from the wilderness to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. We call that day Easter; the word that was used in the first English translations of the Bible for the Greek word *pascha*. Now, bear with me, *pascha* is also the word that means *passover* in Hebrew. For our Jewish sisters and brothers the Passover meal celebrated in the season by the same name is the sacred ritual that remembers God's passing over the Israelites so they could escape captivity in Egypt.

Before there was Easter, the sacred celebration of the Resurrection was known as the Paschal Mystery. After being captured, crucified, and buried, Jesus *passed over* death – paving the way for us. It is the signature act by a God who loves eternally and unconditionally – and it is the most mysterious. The Resurrection defies all human understanding and logic; its gift lies in its grace, and it is received when we suspend logic, and surrender to the mystery that is God's love.

Somewhere around 160 C.E., Melito of Sardis preached a sermon called "On the Pascha," in which he described the mystery:

Understand, therefore, beloved,
how it is new and old,
eternal and temporary,
perishable and imperishable,
mortal and immortal, this mystery of the Pascha:
old as regards the force
but new as regards the Word;
temporary as regards the model,
eternal because of grace
perishable because of the slaughter of the sheep,
imperishable because of the life of the Lord;
mortal because of the burial in earth,
immortal because of the rising from the dead.

The meaning of the Paschal Mystery is the opposite of my beloved Christie novels. Because we do not – and cannot – know the answer to the Paschal Mystery its meaning has no end; its resolution unfolds each and every day. By the grace of God this mystery continues – even though we know who dunnit.

As we move ever-forward toward the day of our liberation, let not the mysterious nature of God's greatest gift deter us from receiving it with open hearts and joyous spirits. May it be for us old and new; temporary and eternal; perishable and imperishable; mortal and immortal. And may it bring . . . Peace, *Andy*

This month we will continue on our Lenten journey, and Holy Week is filled with special choral music at our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. On Easter Sunday we will have a guest trumpeter, Evan Roberts, and we will joyously sing the "Hallelujah" Chorus from Handel's *Messiah* as a triumphant postlude.

Then on the last Sunday of the month, we will be celebrating Creation Care Sunday, and our youth will be leading us with special music – how wonderful to see and hear what they have to say about taking care of the world God gave us all.

If you would like to sing with the choir for Lent and Easter, please feel free to talk to me and/or any choir member. We'd be happy to have you join us.

Soli deo Gloria (only for the glory of God) – *Twyla*

Investing in Our Youth

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Presbyterian Church (USA) that occurs every three years.

Our Middle Schoolers will be heading to Massanetta to attend *At the Door—Will You Knock?* By digging into Matthew 7:7-12, our middle schoolers will be encouraged to seek out what it means to be in relationship with God. Their and our personal faith journeys are full of many types of doors: surprise doors, open doors, closed doors, big doors, small doors, even revolving doors. They will knock on these doors together, discover some of God's good gifts, and support one another in loving community at 'Netta.

One Great Hour of Sharing

During Lent we pray, study and take action in order to become closer to Jesus. Hanover has available a resource that combines all three approaches. The focus is on the One Great Hour of Sharing offering that we will collect on Palm Sunday. Copies are available on the tables at the rear of the sanctuary and on a table in the Church School Hall.

Communion Service Adding Prayer Stations

As Pastor Andy outlined in his March Herald article, Hanover will offer the option of a brief, personal prayer time on Communion Sundays, beginning April 7. Prayer stations will be on both side aisles, about half-way down the aisle. The pastor will be at one prayer station; a church officer at the other. To accommodate this, we will approach Communion using the middle aisle, and return to our pews by the side aisles. (Bread will be in the middle aisle and juice will be at the side aisles.) If you wish time for a brief personal prayer on your way back from Communion, you may stop at a prayer station in the side aisles.

FINANCE REPORT

At the March 2019 Session meeting, the treasurer's reports for January and February 2019 were reviewed and approved. Good news is combined pledged and unpledged regular income totaled \$53,664, which is 26 percent of the budget goal at 17 percent of the year. This figure may include some giving and pledges that are paid in full at the beginning of the year. Regular income exceeded regular expenses by \$23,847.

We have received \$508 in per capita giving so far this year. The per capita for 2019 is \$29.80 for every person who is carried on the rolls as a member. Hanover's total assessment in 2019 is \$5,453, which goes to the national Presbyterian Church (USA). We value being part of the PC(USA) connectional church and being part of something larger than our own community. If you have not paid your per capita you can pay it at any time during the year.

In other good news, we have in hand \$108,194 toward the This Is Our Time campaign! That includes the \$25,000 promised from Hanover's reserves. Pledges for the campaign total \$152,740!

One additional important piece of action taken by Session in the area of finance was to appoint Bill Balascio as Hanover's new treasurer. Congratulations, Bill! — *Ellen Casson*

April Birthdays

- 1 Levi Moore
Tom Baker
- 3 Christina Howard
Judy Werner
- 4 April Lewis Simpson
- 5 Romain Alexander
Heather Brown
- 6 Richard Bayard
- 8 Alexandra Evitts
- 10 Alice Davis
Nona Holy
- 12 Carolyn Klawitter
- 14 Norris Cramer
- 19 Karen Ingram
- 22 Dawn Silicki
- 23 James Rosa
- 26 Kevin Davenport
Elizabeth Ann Undercuffler
- 30 Karen Melvin

Bible Study: 'This Is My Story, This Is Our Song'

The focus of our Bible Study gatherings is stories from the Bible that are the foundation of our faith. We are using both the Bible and a secondary book, *The 52 Greatest Stories of the Bible* by Kenneth Boa and John Alan Turner.

Our weekly study focuses on one story, and there are two opportunities to participate: Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30 a.m. led by George Turner and Bea Wilson and Wednesday evenings, 5:30-6:30 p.m. led by Pastor Andy.

Please join us to hear another way of "telling the story" of God's ongoing salvation.

Scripture Reading Schedule:

April 3-24: Lent: Lectionary Study on Sundays; Soup Suppers and Study on Wednesdays

April 28 and May 1: The Sequel: Acts 1:1-11

May 5 and 8: The Ends of the Earth: Acts 4-8

May 12 and 15: A Man Named Saul: Acts 9:1-31

May 19 and 22: Conflict Resolu-

tion: Acts 15:1-35

May 26 and 29: Matter: The Book of 1 John

June 2 and 5: The Last Story: Revelation 21-22

On Communion Sundays (April 7 and May 5) all the Discipleship classes will gather for asharing of a story and activities related to communion, community, and unity.

Food Pantry Donations

There is now a box in the Church School Hall for food donations to the Food Pantry. This will take the place of our third Sunday wagon collection. No need to wait for the third Sunday, we will gladly accept any and all donations any time.

Your food donations are more important than ever since our numbers of clients has been increasing this month. Where we used to serve 35-40 families, we now see 45-50 each week. Thanks for your support!

CALENDAR

Weekly

Prayer Circle, 8:30 a.m., Mondays

K'nittee, 5:30 p.m., Mondays

P-R Study Group, 7:30 p.m., Mondays except April 1

Coffee Café, 8 a.m., Tuesdays

Souper Tuesday, 11 a.m., Tuesdays

Zumba, 6 p.m. Tuesdays

Clothing Closet, 9 a.m., Wednesdays

Bible Study, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays

Choir, 7 p.m., Wednesdays

Food Pantry, 8 a.m., Thursdays

Zumba, 6:30 p.m., Thursdays

Bridge Club, 7 p.m., Thursdays

Yoga, 6:15 p.m., Fridays

Events and Meetings

Deacons' meeting, 5:45 p.m., Monday, April 1

Dismantling the New Jim Crow, 6 p.m., Monday, April 1

JSC Board meeting, 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 2

From Striving to Thriving, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 4

Community Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday, April 7

Girl Scouts, 12:30 p.m., Sunday, April 7

Invitational team, 4 p.m., Monday, April 8

Worship meeting, 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 9

Faith in Action, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 11

Theology on Tap, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 11

Pro-Series Concert, 7 p.m., Friday, April 12

New Members class, 12:30 p.m., Sunday, April 14

Session meeting, 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 16

Staff meeting, noon, Wednesday, April 17

Pre-Easter Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 17

Women's Bible Study, 12:30 p.m., Thursday, April 18

Maudy Thursday Service, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 18

Good Friday Service, 7 p.m., Friday, April 19

Easter Sunrise service, 7 a.m., Sunday, April 21

Easter Worship service, 11 a.m., Sunday, April 21

Herald deadline, Friday, April 26

Hanover Street Presbyterian Church
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Wilmington, DE 19802
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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 (\$11 per plant)
3. Mail form and check to:
Sue Baker
110 Southwick Drive
Wilmington, DE 19810

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 Received
by April 9*

