A newsletter for the people of Hanover Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Delaware July/August 2019

## Bible School, Bible Botany

Vacation Bible School – Hanover-Style: July 29-Aug. 1, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the home of Tim and Becky Arnold, 2105 N. Van Buren St., Wilmington.

THE HANOVER

From Genesis to Revelation, trees play a fascinating role in the Bible. During our intergenerational Vacation Bible School, we will take a look at numerous trees cited in the Bible and the role they played in God's story. As a creation care minded congregation, we will also be attentive to how trees are a natural resource worth planting and protecting!

Join us for a potluck dinner from 5:30-6:30 p.m. followed by Bible study and activities for all ages. Don't forget your swimsuit!

Questions? Contact Nancy Long at nlongssg@gmail.com. Looking forward to a tree-mendous time together!

### Harmony Society Meets

The annual meeting of the Female Harmony Society will be Saturday, Aug. 3, at the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 503 Duncan Road. The gathering opens with refreshments at 9 a.m., with the business meeting starting at 9:30.

The Female Harmony Society was organized in July 1814. Originally a pioneer in public education, the FHS continues to advocate for access to quality education and providing support for those in need. The annual meeting of the society is a great time to learn more about what FHS is doing to carry on this legacy of service. If you are not a member of the society, but are interested in attending, please join us. Current president is Cheryl Heiks, and president-elect is Karen Ingram. More information about Female Harmony is available at www.femaleharmonysociety.org.

The good news keeps coming in our efforts to raise money to pay for renovations in the Gathering Place. Jefferson Street Center and Hanover sent a grant request to the Welfare Foundation and we received word June 19 that the Board of Trustees granted our full request for \$50,000! Like the Longwood Foundation grant (also \$50,000), it is contingent upon our raising the rest of the funds for the project. At this time, we have \$130,000 toward the current estimate of \$144,350.

While we continue to work toward raising more money, we are also pursuing various steps in the process that will lead to construction. In an abundance of caution, we are getting an updated cost estimate from EDiS, a well-respected construction management company in the City of Wilmington.

One of the first steps in that process is getting more information about the condition of the floor in the Gathering Place. GPRS, Inc. (Ground Penetrating Radar Systems) will be exploring what is under the floor, in an attempt to give us some answers about uneven sections of the floor. We expect to have a thorough cost estimate, based on completed architectural plans, before the end of July. This will help us with completing our grant requests to foundations.

Necessary preparation work also continues for installation of the air conditioning units for the sanctuary and Gathering Place area below the sanctuary. Photographs have been taken and submitted to the Historical Commission. Connell Roofing has been out to explore the flat roofs on either side of the sanctuary to make any repairs needed to the rubber roofing and install proper drainage for the compressors. A carpenter will be installing the platforms for the units.

There are many moving parts and lots of coordinating is required, but it is all coming together. If you have questions, and want to learn more, we have a bulletin board with photos and plans, thanks to Ray Kirkpatrick. It is in the Church School Hall so check it out at fellowship time following church. You can also seek out any one of a number of people involved in various aspects of the planning: Herman Pulliam, Bill Balascio, Bill Tudor, Becky Arnold, Ellen Casson, Lorie Tudor, and Andy Moore.



This photo montage shows how the air conditioning system planned for the sanctuary will use two small "mini-split" units on each side, mounted on the wall below the clerestory windows. Units for the Gathering Place will be in the ceiling.

# Renovations Get 2nd \$50,000 Grant

# FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

Dear Bernice, Christopher, Eileen, Jacob, Jonathan, and Judy:

Greetings and blessings, especially as you prepare to attend church camps in just a couple of weeks. As you anticipate your adventure, I would offer a few thoughts by way of encouragement.

First, you should know that I never attended a church camp, or any camp for that matter, while I was your age. But since being in ministry I've attended many youth camps and conferences. I confess that I'm a little jealous. I never had the experience of being led, loved, and inspired by total strangers; most of whom I would never see again. I have been blessed to watch it happen as an adult; you will experience it first-hand. Rejoice in this gift and remember that your experience will be just that: yours.

Also, I hope you don't mind that I'm cc'ing the congregation. I know how many people are not only supportive, but excited for you – just look how many stocks you sold! Many of them attended church camps when they were young and will tell you about the things they will never forget, and how it changed them. And for those who have no idea what you will be doing, I thought this might help them better understand. I hope this will also help us as we are praying for you while you're away.

That said, here we go . .

Get a good night's sleep for several nights before you leave. You will be running around from early in the morning until late in the evening every day. And it will be HOT!

Your trips are long ones. Don't worry about occupying your time; you will be filled with great energy and anticipation, and you will be consumed by talking with others. The time will fly, and so will your spirits.

You will be shouting, singing, and screaming throughout each day so if you don't come back with a sore throat you were holding back. Don't hold back.

Don't be late for your meals. Adolescents who are active all day get hungry. No, I mean really hungry. If you are at the back of the line you may only get Cheerios with skim I Page 2 • The Hanover Herald • July/August 2019

milk, salad with no dressing, or the strange unrecognizable crusted thing that no one else wants. And watch your fingers at the dessert table . . .

The good news: eat all you want. You will be burning up so much energy that, given your adolescent metabolism, you need not care about putting on weight. (Oh, to be young again . . .)

Wear your name tag. You will be meeting so many people and you will never remember their names. If you rebel and take yours off, others might follow, and then you'll have no idea what their names are!

Did I mention it will be HOT!

Be prepared: worship services will be very different than what you are used to. You will jump around, sing silly songs, read prayers on a screen, and I guarantee at some point you will be asked to hold someone's hand. You will also hear great speakers and preachers, be deeply moved by the liturgy and communion, and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Energizers . . . let's just say a necessary evil. (That would be a personal note.)

Don't be shy about being goofy; you will be with hundreds of others who are being goofy! That's what it's all about: getting away from the place where people know you so you can be whoever you want to be. Rejoice in that freedom. And remember, we will never know what happens in Harrisonburg, Va., and West Lafayette, Ind.: what happens there stays there. Let go and let God!

In summary: expect nothing and be ready for anything.

Lastly, I promise you this: you will have incredibly powerful moments that make you laugh until it hurts, and deeply personal ones that move you to tears. Breathe deeply and let them fill your heart. They will become your treasures; ones you will carry forever.

Go with God's grace and our blessings. May your travels be safe, and your experience be profound. And may you return with deep and abiding . . .

Peace, Andy

P.S. And don't forget: it will be HOT!

## MUSIC MATTERS

"Summertime ... and the living is easy" – Speaking of easy, that's what doing special music during the summer is! Do you play an instrument or sing? We would love to have you provide special music for a Sunday service. Please talk to me about signing up for a Sunday.

Choir rehearsals begin on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 7 p.m. – if you'd like to give singing with a wonderful group of people a try, please see me or any choir member. Everyone is welcome!

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

Twyla

#### New Food Pantry Summer Hours: 8-10 a.m.

We have seen a definite uptick in numbers of clients coming since the first of the year. More families with children. Your donations are most welcome!

### **Befriend the Earth**

Ecological tips from the Faith in Action Committee:

#### Save water outdoors

Don't use water to clean off your driveway, steps, or deck. Sweep them instead; a broom works better and often takes less time.

#### About that green lawn. . .

Lawns soak up more water than any other plant in your yard, and we often over-water to keep the grass green. An established lawn needs only 1 inch of water per week in the growing season, so pouring on the water can actually harm your turf, as well as your budget.

Let the grass grow longer by raising your lawn mower's cutting height. Longer blades of grass help shade each other, reducing evaporation, so keep your grass between 3 and 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches tall.

Stop fertilizing; it only promotes new growth. When you mow, leave grass clippings on the lawn to retain moisture and add nitrogen. If you use a sprinkler, direct the spray to the grass and garden and not the sidewalk and street.

### July Birthdays

- 2 Sam Arnold Peter Arnold
- 3 Theopolis Gregory Stephanie Hinson
- 5 Jerri Harmon-Matthews Darren Undercuffler
- 6 Ruth Howell7 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

#### **August Birthdays**

- 11 Terry Gross Brett Pulliam Marshae Pulliam-Bibbs
- 13 Quazeem Rosa JoAnne Rosa
- 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

### Hot Dogs & Cool Cones

The hot dog cart is getting to be quite the popular spot on Tuesdays! We actually have a line of customers at times. We have seating on the Boulevard if you have time to sit a spell and chat with friends and neighbors.

And if you're in the neighborhood on a Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday evening, stop by for a refreshing treat. Our new ice cream shop will be open to help you cool off. We have a variety of flavors, so surely one will suit your fancy!

Hanover Presbyterian Church • Wilmington, Delaware



Hanover's friends and neighbors were bouncing and dancing in the street (as well as eating ice cream and hot dogs) at the Block Party on June 1. One of the visitors getting a blood pressure reading was Wilmington Mayor Mike Purzycki. The event also featured a D.J., the Twin Poets, a bicycle giveway, and much more.





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Weekly Prayer Circle, 8:30 a.m., Mondays K'nittee, 5:30 p.m., Mondays Coffee Café, 8 a.m., Tuesdays Sidewalk Cafe, 11 a.m., Tuesdays Zumba, 6 p.m. Tuesdays 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

- Food Pantry, 8 a.m., July 2 (in place of July 4)
- Church Office closed Thursday, July 4
- Theology on Tap, 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 9
- Faith in Action, 5 p.m., Thursday, July 11
- Vacation Bible School: "Bible Botany" Monday, July 29 - Thursday, Aug. 1
- From Surviving to Thriving, 7 pm., Thursday, Aug. 1
- Female Harmony Society Annual Meeting, 9 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 3, Presbyterian Church of the Covenant
- Deacons, 5:45 p.m., Monday, Aug. 5
- Faith in Action, 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 8
- Invitational Team, 4 p.m., Monday, Aug. 12
- Worship Committee, 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13
- Session, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20 Staff meeting, noon, Wednesday,
- Aug. 21
- September Herald article deadline, Friday, Aug. 30







Keeping up-to-date with your giving is vital to meeting Hanover's expenses through the summer.

