

THE HANOVER HERALD

A newsletter for the people
of Hanover Presbyterian Church,
Wilmington, Delaware
January 2020

This Is Our Time! As A/C Work Begins

In November 2018, we watched Pastor Andy Jacob climb onto a platform on the top of some pretty high scaffolding in Hanover's sanctuary. Covering the scaffolding were signs noting various years of Hanover's history, beginning with 1772, to illustrate the foundation of decades of dedicated service from Hanover members. Near the top of the platform was the sign This Is Our Time—the time for Hanover members and friends to build on the foundation laid by others through the capital campaign.

The response to the campaign has been extraordinary! In January 2019, we had pledges to the capital campaign totaling \$127,440. That number grew to \$152,739. We now have over \$142,000 in hand, with the expectation that the remaining \$10,739 will be received in 2020. In addition, Jefferson Street Center, Inc. asked the Laffey-McHugh Foundation for \$10,000 to cover the air conditioning installation for the gym, and received that grant in December.

It is now January 2020, and work has begun on the air conditioning installation. There are many moving parts, as we address the complicated plans necessary to bring air conditioning to all areas of our church building.

Our air conditioning contractor has ordered the units and building ducts and permits from the city are in hand. We have a carpenter installing a ladder to access the attic above the Church School Hall. A roofer will be building platforms for units to be installed on the flat roofs outside the sanctuary, which also need to be out of sight to comply with the city's historic preservation commission. The electrician is on-site to install a new electrical panel

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Sign Up for African-American Museum Trip

Black History Month at Hanover on Saturday, Feb. 8, will feature a trip to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington. Everyone who went last year was impressed and moved by the stories the many exhibits tell.

We are taking reservations for the first 40 people who contact the church office (658-5114).

Last year's trip filled up quickly, so there will be preference for Hanover members who didn't go last year—their deadline is Jan. 12.

For all other members, the deadline is Jan. 24.

For everyone else, the deadline is Feb. 7.

All who will be going must be at the church at 8 that morning. We will caravan to Washington in three rented passenger vans. The museum opens at 10 a.m. and closes at

5:30 p.m., and we will return by early evening. As the Smithsonian is a national museum there is no charge



for the tickets, and the church will be covering the cost for the vans. You need only bring either money for your meals, or a brown bag lunch and snacks for the ride.

Other Black History Month events include the Soul Food Luncheon, following worship on Sunday, Feb. 16, and the Gospel Vespers service at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23.

Got Milk? The Food Pantry Does!

Food Pantry receives a "gift" from the Nestle Company. At 4 p.m. on the night before Christmas Eve, we received a call from a transport company with a truck in North East, Md. They had loaded too much chocolate milk on the truck and needed to find someplace to donate it to. When they called the church they said it would be 80 containers of milk, could we use it? We said, sure thing.

Next thing we know, there is an 18-wheeler parked across the street from the church on Baynard Blvd. By the way, the 80 containers turned out to be 80 cases of 12 bottles each (quick calculation – 960 bottles of chocolate milk!) We quickly ascertained that the product did not have to be refrigerated and that we could accept it. We just needed to get some volunteers to carry it from the front of the truck (about half a football field) to the church. A huge thank you to Norris Cramer, Bill Tudor, Fred McFarland, Art Werner, Tim Arnold and Marion for being home and coming when called to help Andy and me with the unloading. Needless to say, we had some very happy clients the day after Christmas, and there is still plenty more milk to give out in January. This is just one instance in the life of the Food Pantry that shows good things come from unexpected places all the time!

Speaking of the Food Pantry, I can't thank those of you enough who have donated to this ministry in the past year. Thanks to your generosity, we are in the black once more and our clients are able to leave each week with bags full of produce, canned items, meat and eggs, as well as bread and a dessert. —Becky Arnold

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY



Dear Hanover Saints,

Happy New Year! Remember me? It may feel like forever, but it was only two months ago that we first met. If your holidays and resolutions bumped me out of your database, let me re-introduce myself. I am Carrier Performance Ductless 24000 Btu Heat Pump; but you can call me the Deacon of Cool, Disciple of Comfort, Apostle of the Atmosphere, or even Angel of Relief. Along with my seven sisters, I am on the verge of making my home with you.

Since we met two months ago, all the remaining steps to install us were completed. And work has even started! It began with cutting a large hole in the ceiling! The next time you are in the Church School Hall, check it out! A folding staircase will be installed, and it is up those steps and through that hole that the massive condensers will be carried to their home in the attic.

Soon the electricians will come and run new high voltage wires, install new boxes and panels, and connect our currents to one another. Working together, it won't be long before my whole family will be working to keep you cool throughout your building. We are so anxious and feeling so blessed to be making our home with you.

Knowing what an ordeal it was to make all the plans, find the right people, fulfill all the requirements, and then raise all the funds, I can only imagine how anxious and excited you must be. If the goal of your This Is Our Time campaign was to make a long-term and meaningful enhancement to the place from which you do your ministry, you have not only met, but exceeded your goal. Congratulations!

And there is still so much more to come. Even though I'm still in my box, I've overheard conversations about the other projects. (They don't

call me ductless for nothing!) The architectural plans for The Gathering Place are in hand, as they are for the kitchen. The fire system (putting sprinklers in the gym) is a very expensive project, yet you are more than halfway there! Even as there is more money to be raised, the voices I've heard are filled with excitement and optimism. I even heard that between your capital campaign and the Jefferson Street Center's grant writing that you have received nearly \$400,000! Way to go!

Before I shut down, I want to pump out two quick thoughts. The reason I'm so excited to become a part of your home is I believe we have so much in common. When I move in, I will be doing what I was created and designed to do – change how the air feels. But I couldn't do it without the wires, pumps, evaporators, and condensers. Only by working together can we keep you cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. We are just like you: each of you respond to the call to use your individual gifts so that, together, you fulfill your call as the body of Christ in the world.

Finally, we also share in the conviction that we are blessed with gifts to be used in the service of others. We are all called to be Disciples of Comfort and Angels of Relief in a hot and sweaty world; all the while giving God the glory. It is not about any one of us – it is about all of us – and what we are able to accomplish when we serve faithfully, all connected by the power of the Holy Spirit. The model for us is one and the same: Jesus, the One who came “not to be served but to serve”; the One who always, only and ever gave the glory to God.

I can't wait to be with you, and may God bless the service we offer, the comfort it produces, and the glory it inspires. And may we offer . . .

Peace, *Andy*

MUSIC MATTERS

Our Christmas Eve service was truly beautiful, and I especially thank our devoted choir members: Sue Baker, Heather Brown, Russ Buckley, Julie Davis, Alexandra Evitts, Chris Garrett, Amy Harris, Dave Harris, Karen Ingram, Jeff Long, Katie Leep, Doris Loper, Jane Putscher, Gloria Rivers, Peg Showalter, Bill Tudor, Lorie Tudor. We also thank our guest musician, Gus Mercante, countertenor, as he shares his gift with us traditionally on Christmas Eve.

A special Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration service is being held on Monday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. at Peninsula-McCabe United Methodist Church. Please join us for a wonderful evening of true community as the youth of the 9th Ward Interfaith Coalition speak about what “freedom” means to them.

And, coming up in February is our annual Black History Month celebration – this year's Gospel Vespers will be featuring The Delaware State Gospel Choir—more info to come!

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

2020 Pledge Update

The Stewardship Committee is thrilled to provide an update on the 2020 pledge campaign. As of this writing we have received 43 pledges totaling \$137,841. If you have not pledged yet, it is not (nor ever) too late! For both the Finance and Stewardship committees, knowing what we can expect is so helpful in planning and budgeting throughout the year. No pledge is too small – every one counts! Thank you and praise God for the generosity of the saints!

New Church Directories

We are in the process of printing 2020 directories and would like to include any updates. There is a master directory on the bulletin board table in the Church School Hall. Please make any additions (cell phone, etc.) and corrections—we will have new directories available for the first Sunday of February.

UnGifts Results for 2019

The Hanover Christmas UnGifts project, sponsored by Faith in Action, raised \$2,845 in 2019. Through UnGifts, donations are made to worthy projects in honor of the “recipients,” making a difference in the wider world. The UnGifts totals were:

- Earth Day Network’s Canopy Project, working to strengthen the environment and communities around the world by planting trees—\$650

- Read-In Read Out, sponsored by the Delaware Center for Justice, giving parents who are incarcerated the resources to stay connected with their young children by providing books for the children and recordings of the parents reading the book to their child—\$570

- Hanover’s Food Pantry, working to prevent hunger in our own community—\$890

- Presbyterian Disaster Relief aiding communities affected by crisis and catastrophic events, thereby witnessing to the healing love of Christ—\$425

- Hanover’s Zumba program, forging friendships across cultural and age boundaries, and helping people with weight loss and with arthritis and other conditions—\$310

Over half of the 25 people who gave donated to more than one project. The amounts of the gifts for a project ranged from \$5 to \$200.

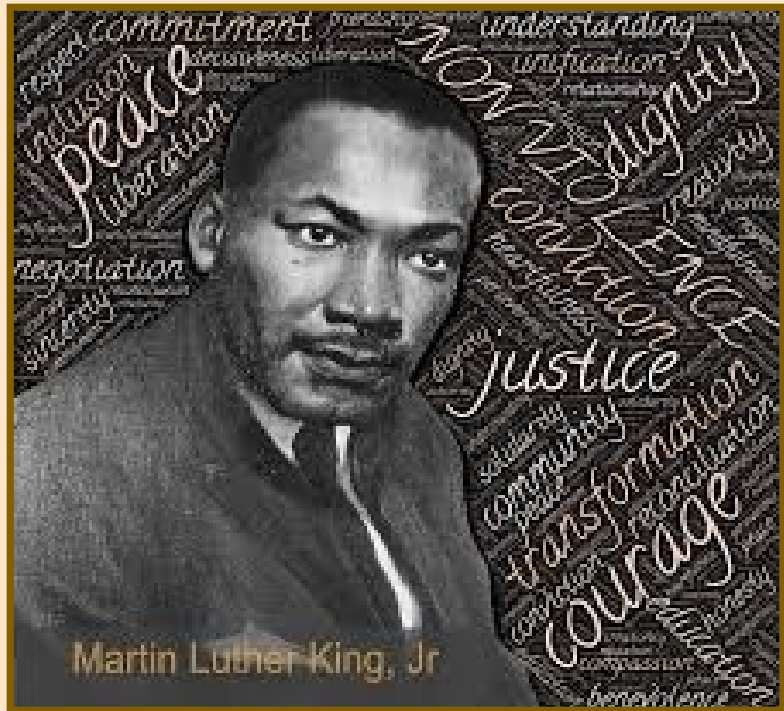
The average total donation of those who purchased UnGifts was more than \$114; the average gift per project was \$48. Thanks to all who participated!

Third Wednesday Pasta

This monthly dinner will be back in action on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 5 p.m. This month baked rigatoni will be on the menu. This is getting to be a popular event in the Gathering Place, so come early if you can. We’ll save you a place at the table!

Annual Reports Due

It’s that time of year again – we are collecting articles for our 2019 Annual Report. Please submit your articles to the church office at: churchadmin@hanoverchurch.org by Thursday, Jan. 31.



9th Ward Interfaith Coalition

MLK Celebration

Monday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m.

Peninsula-McCabe

United Methodist Church

2200 Baynard Blvd.

A free will offering will be taken to support the food ministries of the houses of worship in the 9th Ward.

Please join us for an interfaith celebration with music, readings, and inspirational thoughts from our youth on what freedom means to them.

January Birthdays

1 Gregory Harris
7 Christina Poirier
7 David Simpson
8 Stephanie Cornell
8 Bernice Van Rooyen
14 Kylie Frazer
15 Aysha Gregory
16 Joshua Showalter

18 Marjorie Pulliam
18 Linda Zankowsky
21 Alice Cornelius
23 Rochelle Ransom
25 Chase Williams
26 Sebastian Gross
27 Christine Garrett
27 Jeff Long
31 Patrick Evans

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CALENDAR

Weekly

Prayer Circle, 8:30 a.m., Mondays
K'nittee, 5:30 p.m., Mondays beginning Jan. 13
Coffee Café, 8 a.m., Tuesdays
Souper Tuesday, 11 a.m., Tuesdays
Zumba, 6 p.m. Tuesdays; 6:30 p.m., Thursdays
Clothing Closet, 9 a.m., Wednesdays
Bible Study, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays
Choir rehearsal, 7 p.m., Wednesdays
Food Pantry, 8 a.m., Thursdays
Yoga, 6:15 p.m., Fridays

Events and Meetings

From Surviving to Thriving, 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 2
Black History Month meeting, 12 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 7
New Elders Training, 2 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 7
JSC Board meeting, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 7
Faith in Action, 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 9
De-Greening of the Church, 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 11
Invitational Team, 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 13
Worship Committee meeting, 1:15 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 14
Staff meeting, 12 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 15
Pasta dinner, 5 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 15
Women's Bible Study, 12:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 16
Leadership Retreat, 9 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 18
NonViolent Wilmington, 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 18
Interfaith MLK Service, 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 20

Congregation Elects New Elders and Deacons

New church officers were elected at the annual congregational meeting in December and installed later that month. A bit about them:

Elders

Maggie Alexander joined Hanover in 2010 and has served as a Deacon. She's a member of the Faith in Action committee and the Female Harmony Society. She volunteers at the Super Sale and serves as a Sunday worship greeter and usher.

Becky Arnold, a life-long Hanover member, has served as a Deacon. She's a member of the Church Life and Building Use Committees, Female Harmony Society, and Women's Bible Study. She's a Super Sale co-chair and coordinates the Food Pantry (Souper Tuesday, Hot Dog Cart, Thanksgiving baskets.)

Bill Balascio joined Hanover in 1991 and has been a Deacon and Elder, on the Finance and Property Committees, and is the treasurer.

Deacons

Patricia Hall joined Hanover in 2013. Currently, she volunteers as a Sunday worship greeter and usher.

Carolyn Klawitter joined Hanover in 2007 and is a member of the K'nittee and the Faith in Action committee. She has volunteered at the Super Sale and participates in

book club discussions.

John Russell joined Hanover in 2010 and has served as a Deacon.

Isheta Smith has been a Hanover member since 1983. She has served as a Deacon, an Elder and Clerk of Session. Hanover is an important and enjoyable part of her life and she looks forward to serving again.

Nominating Committee

Alice Davis, a Hanover member since 1999, has served as Elder and Deacon. She is a member of the Faith in Action and Personnel Committees.

Air Conditioning Work

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and run lots of wire.

The full cost will be \$164,025, if all goes as planned. When we receive all of the capital campaign pledges and we add the \$10,000 grant for the cost of the gym air conditioning, we are very close to covering the full cost of the installation. We are moving forward and we continue to need everyone's support. As Andy said in his sermon on Nov. 18, 2018, the Hanover "temple" glorifies God, but it does so "... by opening its doors and offering the radical hospitality and love of our Christ to all of God's children." — *The Gathering Place Group*