

THE HANOVER HERALD

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

Soup and Study: Find the Holy in the Ordinary

*Where, O Holy One, can we find You
in this unholy mess?*

*How, O God, can we find the holy in the
ordinary?*

—From Ann Weems,
Kneeling in Jerusalem

During Lent, we will continue the Advent energy and inspiration we received reading and reflecting on the poetry of Ann Weems. *In Kneeling in Jerusalem*, she brings new insights into the Lenten season. We will once again channel our inner poet as she invites us to open our eyes and see God in the ordinary, to spend time with God in the routine of our daily lives.

Join us for Lenten Soup and Study on Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1 at 5:30 p.m.

Interested in preparing a soup or dessert for one of the suppers? Please let Nancy Long know at j2nlong@comcast.net or 893-3682. We typically have two soup offerings, one of which is a vegetarian option.

May God bless our fellowship, study, and conversation with one another.

Family Promise Needs You

Hanover participates in the Ninth Ward congregation rotational network providing temporary housing for families in partnership with Family Promise of Northern New Castle County.

Through this network such families can stay together while getting assistance in obtaining more permanent housing. Hanover will sponsor a training session for anyone who would like to volunteer for this program on Sunday, March 8 at 1 p.m. The next hosting week at Peninsula McCabe is Sunday, March 29 through Sunday, April 5.

The Lenten Journey at Hanover

Lent 1, March 1: The devil tempts Jesus.

Lent 2, March 8: Nicodemus approaches Jesus as a “seeker.”

Lent 3, March 15: A Samaritan woman at the well meets Jesus who offers living water.

Lent 4, March 22: A blind man seeks sight; Jesus grants him both sight and vision.

Lent 5, March 29: Martha pleads with Jesus to reverse the death of her brother Lazarus.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 5: The parade into Jerusalem is led by a donkey.

Maundy Thursday, April 9 (7 p.m. service): We dine with the disciples and their anxieties, needs, expectations, and desires on the night of the last supper.

Good Friday, April 10 (7 p.m. service): We live the story of betrayal, trial, suffering and death.

Easter Sunday, April 12 (7 a.m. Sunrise Service, 11 a.m. Resurrection Service): Mary comes to find Jesus but finds Resurrection.

Plumbers Tackle Kitchen Makeover

Perhaps you thought it would never happen, but work on the Gathering Place kitchen began Tuesday, Feb. 25.

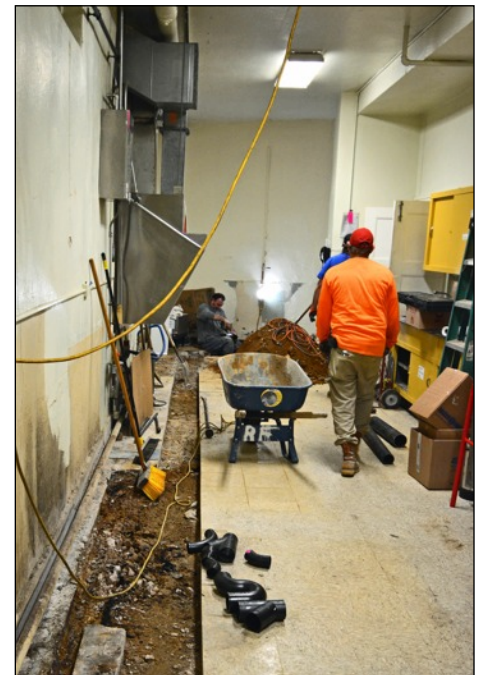
Nearly everything has been disconnected and moved out of the kitchen to provide room to saw through the concrete floor and replace water lines and drain pipes. The new plumbing is being installed in preparation for the arrival of five (count them) new sinks. We will have a three-bowl washing sink, a prep sink and two hand-washing sinks. A new grease trap and mop sink will also be installed.

This is all being done to get a kitchen that will be licensed by the State Board of Health.

During construction our Tuesday Café will continue to operate, but in the Church School Hall with a limited menu. The Food Pantry will continue to be open on Thursdays and the Clothing Closet will be open on Wednesdays in the Gathering Place.

To finance the kitchen renovation, Jefferson Street Center was able to obtain a grant from the Mar-

mot Foundation to cover most of the plumbing costs, and a gift from a devoted supporter of the food pantry is also helping. JSC also has a grant request pending with the Christmas Shop Foundation to purchase
Continued on Page 2



The Three (3) Rs

Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic, right? No? OK then, how about Reduce, Reuse, Recycle? Neither of them relevant? Well, all right then, I relinquish with my reactions and request the response and the revelation!

Those two Three Rs capture the core of education and environmentalism. But religion, specifically Christian, also has Three Rs. So, without reservation, let me offer a third Three Rs, this time for Lent: Resist, Repent and Receive.

In last Sunday's intergenerational Bible study we discussed what it means to resist temptation (Praise you, Ms. Nancy, for another inspired gathering!). Young and old, we talked and water-colored about the things we need to resist if we are to be faithful followers of Christ. We discussed how hard it is to resist. We shared the vision of having the strength to resist the things that draw us away from God—especially when we're alone, exhausted, afraid, and hungry. We talked about forging a personal path through the wilderness so that, like Jesus, we would be delivered from temptation.

There is yet another level to Lenten resistance. We are also called to resist the things that hurt, harm, oppress, and violate. And we are called to resist them like Jesus: with love and without violence. We are called to stand firmly for ourselves and others when forces, systems, and structures deny the dignity of any child of God. And so we talked about being lights who bring hope to a world darkened by fear.

And yet . . . the reality is, our resistance fails. From the Garden of Eden in Genesis to the Holy City in Revelation, the Biblical story is about our inherent sinfulness. As confessing Christians we acknowledge that Jesus was the only person to live in the world without sin. Which leads to the next R.

Repentance. Yes, it is (two more r's!) "sincere regret or remorse." But it is much more. To repent is not just to feel bad about what we've done.

Repentance takes us beyond our prayers of confession; it is the next step with which we make the commitment to strengthen our resistance. In Hebrew to repent is "to turn." Our confession acknowledges that we have turned our back on God and are on a path that leads away from God. Our repentance is our commitment to turn around and make the pilgrimage back to God. When our resistance fails but our confession is true, and our repentance is real, we arrive at the third R.

Receive. The Psalmist tells us over and over again that we worship a God who "is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." When we repent and ask God's forgiveness, we hear the promise: "Friends, receive this, the good news: that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven." The only greater promise is of the new and everlasting life secured by our Christ that we receive when we leave this world.

The season of Lent is several journeys in one. Through forty days. Through the wilderness. Through trials, tribulations, and temptations. Away from temptation and sin and towards forgiveness, grace, and new life. From the ashes of humility and humanity, to the cross of pain and death, to the tomb of light and life. It is a journey from Resistance to Repentance to Reception. May yours be blessed, and may it bring you . . .

Peace, *Andy*

Flower Reminder

If you would like to donate flowers or give a donation to the Flower Benevolence Fund (goes to Hanover's fundraising efforts) please call Becky Arnold at 584-0356. You can put a dedication or memorial in the bulletin whenever you choose; a donation is not necessary.

IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE hearing any part of the worship services, please let the Head Usher know. Hearing assist devices, compatible with our sound system, are available.

Black History Month at Hanover was filled with great experiences – the museum trip, guest speakers Rev. Charles Gilmour and The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Livingston, a delicious Soul Food Luncheon, and our wonderful Gospel Vespers. A big thank you to George Turner, Cherise Alexander, Bill Tudor, Pastor Andy, David Harris and the Dixie Ramblers, the Mount Pleasant High School Gospel Choir, the Delaware State University Choir, Anita Young, Brian Gray, and, of course, our own Hanover Choir—what an inspiring month of celebration!

This coming month, on Sunday afternoon, March 22, at 3 p.m., the Hanover Choir is joining with the Silverside Choir and Pacem in Terris and presenting: "Songs for Peace: Expressions through Music, Dance and Art." We will also be seeing the Melodic Movements Dance Team again—they are the young dancers who have been at our Gospel Vespers program. This afternoon event will also be a sneak peek at the Youth Peace Art Exhibit that will be coming to Hanover on Thursday, April 2. Please plan on joining us.

As always, may everything we sing, say, dance, and express be . . .

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

Kitchen Makeover

Continued from Page 1

chase a new refrigerator and freezer and we are hopeful that money will come through.

While we are extremely grateful for the funding that we have, there are additional needs, including some minor electrical improvements, carpentry, painting, and flooring repairs. We will be extremely grateful for any additional gifts toward this project. Checks can be made out to Hanover or to Jefferson Street Center with a notation for the Gathering Place Kitchen.

Our goal is to create a space within our community where people of all backgrounds will be welcomed and gather together for a meal and conversation and find common ground.

Easter Eggs? Eggs-actly!

Have you heard? We have an eggs-traordinary project going on! Our first “mini” sale is underway.

Twenty adventuresome Hanover Saints will be getting together to carry on the Port Penn tradition of handmade chocolate Easter eggs. We are taking orders now; each quarter-pound egg is only \$5. Three types to choose from: butter cream, coconut or peanut butter. If you’ve never tried one you are in for a treat—perfect gifts for special people at Easter. To order call the church office (658-5114) or Becky Arnold (584-0356).

These mini fund-raisers are taking the place of our Super Sale this year. We are hoping to raise a comparable sum by smaller, one-shot events. Keep your eyes open for our next mini sale in the spring!

Order Now

for delivery
**April 5,
Palm Sunday**

Choose filling:

- ✓ Butter cream
- ✓ Peanut Butter
- ✓ Coconut

1/4-lb egg
only

\$5



**You shall
be called
repairers
of the
breach**

— ISAIAH 58



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

One Great Hour of Sharing: Study and Offering

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 will be available on the tables at the rear of the sanctuary and on a table in the Church School Hall. The resource on one side has a map of the world showing locations where some of the funds from the annual offering are used. On the other side is a calendar of the 40 days of Lent. Each day has a suggested brief reading, prayer or action.

If you want to prepare your heart, soul, and mind for Holy Week, take a look at this resource and maybe give it a try for 40 days. It is suitable for adults and for families with children.

CALENDAR

Weekly

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

K’nittee, 5:30 p.m.

P-R Study Group, 7:30 p.m., all
Mondays except first

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., Wednes-
days

Choir, 7:15 p.m., Wednesdays

Food Pantry, 8 a.m., Thursdays

Bridge Club, 7 p.m., Thursdays

Yoga, 6:15 p.m., Fridays

Events and Meetings

Deacons’ meeting, 5:45 p.m.,
Tuesday, March 3

JSC Board meeting, 7 p.m., Tues-
day, March 3

From Striving to Thriving, 7 p.m.,
Thursday, March 5

Nonviolent Wilmington, 3:30 p.m.,
Saturday, March 7

Family Promise Volunteer Train-
ing, 1 p.m., Sunday, March 8

Invitational team, 4 p.m., Monday,
March 9

Worship meeting, 1:15 p.m., Tues-
day, March 10

Faith in Action, 5:30 p.m., Thurs-
day, March 12

Session meeting, 7 p.m., Tuesday,
March 17

Staff meeting, 12 p.m., Wednes-
day, March 18

Women’s Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.,
Thursday, March 19

“Songs for Peace” concert at Sil-
verside Church, 3 p.m., Sunday,
March 22

April *Herald* article deadline, Fri-
day, March 27

March Birthdays

- 2 Justin Lewis
- 5 Taralynn Dillard
- 5 Melissa Heieie
- 8 Frann Anderson
- 8 Martha McFarland
- 8 Sirena Turner
- 9 Sue Baker
- 11 Christopher Jacob
- 11 Susie Watson
- 12 Ray Kirkpatrick
- 13 Thelma Meginnis
- 16 Porshay Matthews
- 16 Sharay Matthews
- 24 Ruthann Headley
- 26 Joan Ross
- 27 John Russell
- 28 Ellen Casson
- 28 Andrea McCoy-Carty
- 30 Anna West

Hanover Street Presbyterian Church
1801 N. Jefferson Street
Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 658-5114
Address Service Requested



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wilmington, DE
Permit #45

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 March 31*

