

The HERALD

Hanover Presbyterian Church Wilmington, Delaware

July & August 2020

Dear Hanover Saints,

If you are a fan of fireworks, this is your season! In recognition of the season, let me offer you a (legal and figurative) way to set off some fireworks of your own in two easy steps.

Step #1: (when it is possible again) go to a packed sports bar in the middle of a big game when twelve different events are all blaring, each on a different large screen TV.

Step #2: when there is a lull in the roar, in your best outdoor voice ask: "What is the greatest dynasty in the history of sports?"

After that, just sit quietly and listen to the arguments rage. John Wooden's UCLA Bruins. The Pittsburgh Steelers in the 70's. The University of Connecticut women's basketball team. The New York Yankees in the 30's and 40's.

The argument will rage until last call because there is no definition as to what exactly qualifies as a dynasty – at least one that people can agree upon. The dictionary is of little help.

Having said that, clearly a dynasty is about great success. Not just that, it is about consistent greatness over a long period of time. It is about being recognized, revered, and respected for having achieved uncommon success. Dynasties become the stuff legends are made of.

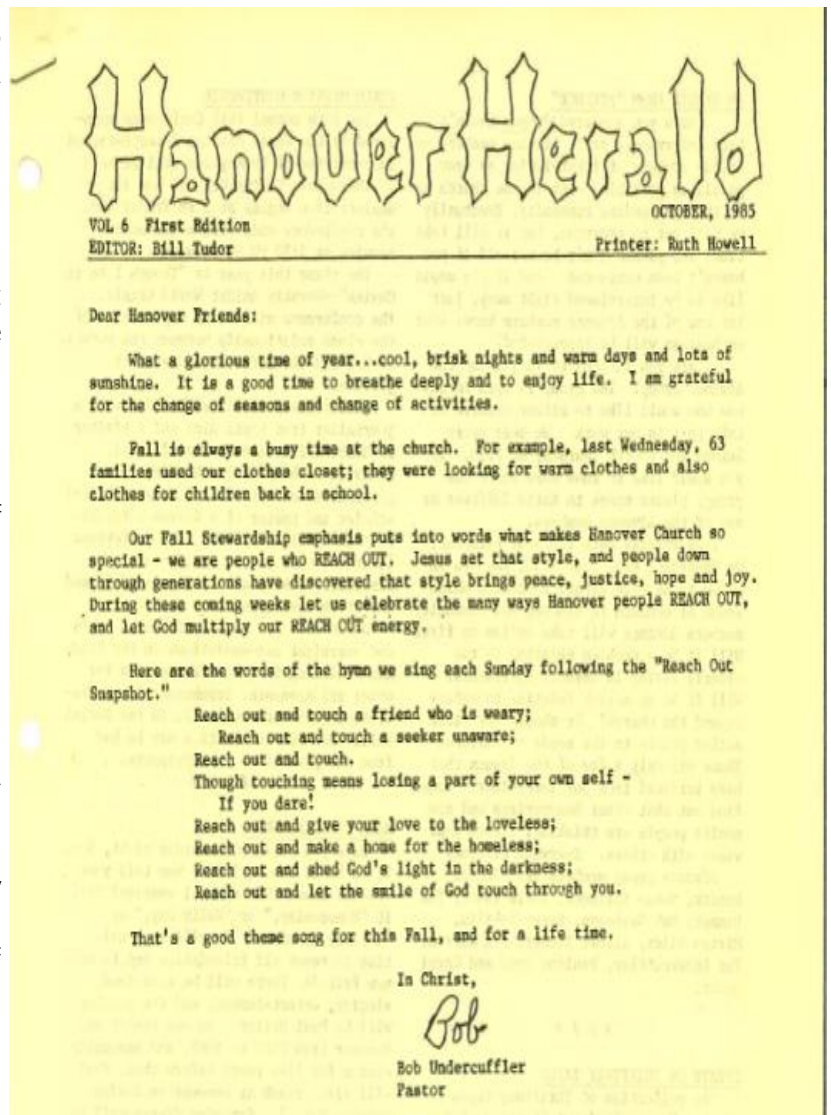
My friends, this month we recognize an astonishing dynasty in the life of Hanover. Bill Tudor has made the decision to step out of a role in which he has served for 35 years. In October 1985 Bill edited and produced his first Hanover Herald (*see picture*). Every month for 35 years he has produced what has become the single most important means of communicating the news of Hanover. We have been blessed to receive the fruits of Bill's expertise, gifts, and creativity. Even more, we have watched discipleship in action: his dedication and commitment to use his gifts in the service of the church. My friends, we have witnessed a dynasty – by any and every definition.

So, Bill, on behalf of the saints, I offer gratitude for your spirit, and praise for your service. We stand in awe of your achievements. We will miss your editorial touch, and yet we take heart in knowing that one dynasty leads to the next. May yours become the stuff of legends.

Especially on the nights before printing, may you know...

Peace,

Andy





SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020—10:00 AM

Our Re-Opening, Revival, and Reunion: What You Can Expect

Dear Hanover Saints,

It is with great energy that we anticipate gathering together for worship in our sanctuary on Sunday, July 26. Even as the Session and Worship Committee have worked tirelessly to create a plan with all of our protocols, it must be said that if, in the next month, the risk of gathering rises, that we will adjust the date accordingly. Regular updates will be provided right up to that day, and you are always welcome to call me or the church office to hear the latest.

First, and most importantly: the decision about whether or not to attend worship is an absolutely personal one. If, for any reason, you are not comfortable gathering with others in worship know that you have complete support for that decision. If the anxieties of attending are greater than the comfort you would receive in coming, know that we are also working on ways to make the services available to you.

In preparation for the day we first gather, I would offer this partial list of what will be different:

- at the outset we will not be holding Discipleship classes, or hosting the continental breakfast or fellowship hour following worship
- we are requiring that everyone maintains a six foot distance from anyone else, unless it is someone you have been sheltering in place with: we may greet one another with smiles, tears, words of joy and virtual hugs (we will demonstrate!) – but not real hugs or handshakes;
- we are requiring that everyone wears a mask, unless there are medical reasons for not doing so; they will be provided for anyone who needs one, as will gloves, and hand sanitizer;
- with great regret, there will be no communal singing as doing so produces one of the highest risks of transmission: and yet, if you know Twyla, you know we will have music, offered safely, creatively, and joyfully;
- the hymnals and Bibles will be removed from the pews; you are encouraged to bring your own Bible!
- as you enter for worship an usher will greet you at the table where you can pick up a bulletin, a mask, glove, sanitizing wipe, hearing device;
- we will also be collecting each person's name and contact information (if we don't already have it) so in the unfortunate event that we would have to do contact tracing we would have the means to do so;
- hearing devices will be available, and we ask that each person who uses one keeps it in their possession until departing
- on your way out of the service there will be offering baskets on the back tables for you to leave your offering, recycle your bulletin, and return any hearing devices;
- and we have established a cleaning crew that will sanitize the sanctuary and bathrooms
- the good news: we have researched the question and have found nothing that suggests the use of air conditioning poses any additional risks...we will be cool and comfortable!

Given all these differences, let me offer what will not change: the spirit of joy in being able to gather to worship and praise the God of love, the One whose Holy Spirit will fill the space with comfort, companionship, and connection. Most of all, we will receive that which is leading us through the wilderness of separation...

Peace,
Andy



JULY & AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 2 Sam Arnold
- 2 Peter Arnold
- 3 Theo Gregory
- 3 Stephanie Hinson
- 5 Jerri Harmon-Matthews
- 5 Darren Undercuffler
- 6 Ruth Howell
- 7 Becky Arnold
- 7 Nia Evans
- 13 Emma Psomas
- 14 Marybeth Auld
- 15 Mary Jo Penna
- 15 Ayinde Truxon Flores
- 15 Tracey Turner
- 18 Diane Murphy
- 18 Bill Tudor
- 20 Leandra Roselle
- 22 Cheyenne Rosa
- 22 Maricela Rosario
- 26 Rick Melvin
- 27 Robert Poirier
- 28 Bill Balascio
- 28 Jude Quinn
- 29 Jacqueline Hamilton
- 31 Barbara Coleman
- 31 Sophia Moore

AUGUST

- 1 Evan Pulliam
- 7 Frances McFarland
- 11 Terry Gross
- 11 Brett Pulliam
- 11 Marshae Pulliam-Bibbs
- 13 Quazeem Rosa
- 15 Brittany Peterson
- 15 Karin Wilson
- 16 Susan Anderson
- 18 Norma Reid
- 18 Michael Zankowsky
- 18 Elizabeth Heiks
- 22 George Turner
- 24 Bruce Showalter
- 29 Leon Wilson
- 29 Michele Zistl
- 30 John Heiks



Parishioner Profile:

**Rochelle
Ransom**



Rochelle joined Hanover in 2009. She had been driving her mom Della Williams to church every Sunday for about 8 years. She enjoyed the service and the choir each Sunday and felt very connected to the congregation, and especially their warmth and hospitality. She has two sisters, Margaret and Dana, and a brother, Joseph.

Rochelle recently shared her story about serving in the Air Force during our May 24 recorded worship services. She works at Christiana Care as an Administrative Assistant in the Physicians Relations Department. She said that she is lucky to be able to work from home during the pandemic and feels grateful for the safety. She prays and appreciates each day.

Deacon Isheta Smith

The Hanover Sidewalk Café is off to a grand start! Our first few days of being open have been very successful. We are managing our physical distance and still being social. We are using the Baynard side street, which is shadier than Jefferson St. If you want to get out and enjoy the fresh air, stop by and see who of your Hanover family might be at the Café—
Tuesdays, 10:00am—1:00pm



What's Happening



BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

from

The Gathering Place Group

Progress continues on the many projects moving forward around the Hanover building. Insite Constructors received the City Building Permit June 11. The asbestos removal began June 22 and finished ahead of schedule. Concrete removal began June 30. The interior of the Gathering Place surely does look different – sparse and empty, but soon to be transformed. We have a work schedule from the contractor that takes us into September with a final inspection in mid-September, but it could very likely be completed sooner than that. The work schedule is “worse case” and leaves room for the unexpected. Our contractor thinks we may not need as much concrete removed as we planned, which will save time and money. And speaking of money, Jefferson Street Center and Hanover are humbled and grateful for the funding support from foundations and individuals. The most recent funds deposited in the bank in June were \$50,000 from the Welfare Foundation and \$50,000 from the Longwood Foundation.

Work also began in June toward the installation of the sprinkler system in the gym and a new fire safety panel and warning system. Cochran Excavation dug a trench on the Baynard side of the church which required removing some sidewalk to install a new water line to bring the necessary water pressure into the building. The line is in, the sidewalk is replaced and soil and grass seed are down. Thanks to Lorie Tudor for help with rescuing some of our special plants from the shovels and backhoe.

The gym sprinkler system and upgrading the outdated fire alarm panel in the church office are being handled by Bear Industries and Comprehensive Fire Technologies. They submitted drawings and received permits from the City, but we must also obtain a permit from Licenses and Inspection, and the City Fire Marshal's Office must approve the changes. We are engaged in that process now.



This is NOT the Super Sale!

WHERE IS THE FOOD PANTRY?

The Food Pantry has taken up temporary residence in the Church School while construction is going on in The Gathering Place. We are still serving our clients outside with pre-made boxes of food and have set up tables on Jefferson St. with produce and other items to choose from. So far the weather is cooperating! If you have donations, you can drop them off at the Church Office or call Becky Arnold at (584-0356).



dates to Remember



Weekly

Prayer Circle—Mondays, 8:30 a.m.
 High Noon at Hanover—Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m.
 Living with Covid-19—Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
 Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8:00 a.m.
 Yoga—Fridays, 6:15 p.m.

Zoom Meetings and Events

Worship Leader Training: Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 p.m.
 Sanctuary Set-Up: Thursday, July 23, 7:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School: Thursday, July 23, 3:00 p.m.—sundown!
 Church Reopened for Worship!: Sunday, July 26, 10:00 a.m.
 Deacons: Tuesday, August 2, 5:45 p.m.
 JSC Board: Tuesday, August 2, 7:00 p.m.
 From Surviving to Thriving: Thursday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.
 Invitational Team: Monday, August 8, 4:30 p.m.
 Worship Committee: Tuesday, August 9, 1:15 p.m.
 Faith in Action: Thursday, August 11, 5:30 p.m.
 Session: Tuesday, August 16, 7:00 p.m.
 September *Herald* article deadline, Thursday, August 27



Like everything else in the year of our Lord COVID-19, our annual [Vacation Bible School](#) will be very different this year. Between the social distancing requirements and the limitations of technology, we will have a one-afternoon event on [Thursday, July 23](#).

This year we will host a Wilmington-wide treasure hunt. At 3:30 p.m. that day a long list of places, items, and tasks will be sent out. "Teams" of people who are sheltering-in-place together will get in their vehicles and check off as many of the items as they can. Everyone must return to Fox Point State Park no later than 6:00pm. We have reserved a pavilion where we will share in a physically (not socially!) distant picnic dinner. We will also present awards for the team with the most items checked off, the best video or picture, the most meaningful story, and the most outrageous story. Watch the Flash for details and teasers in the coming weeks, and feel free to call the church office for more information. Everyone is invited, and may God bless all of our adventures this summer!



Continuing to Give . . .

The work of Christ is going strong at Hanover, and we are relying on your pledges to keep us running smoothly, especially during this uncertain time. Here are the ways that you can continue to give:

Mail: Send your check to: Hanover Presbyterian Church, 1801 N. Jefferson Street, Wilmington, DE 19802.

Drop-off: You can go to the Jefferson Street Open Arms Academy/Church Office entrance and put your envelope inside the gray mailbox on the left door. It is safe and secure. If you prefer to hand it to a person, the Church Office is open Monday—Thursday from 9am—5pm.

On line: Go to our website: www.hanoverchurch.org—scroll down to the bottom of the screen to Online Giving. Click on the yellow- highlighted word Donate. The next screen asks you if you are using a credit card or PayPal. Follow the prompts—make sure you write in the Note section where your money is to go.

MAY FINANCIAL UPDATE

The financial report for May 2020 shows we have received \$95,578 in combined pledged and non-pledged giving, which is 47 percent of the budgeted amount of \$205,000, at 42 percent of the year. Per capita giving is \$716, approximately 19% of what we budgeted for (\$3,800) in per capita payments and 14% of what Hanover pays in per capita (\$5,275). Our regular income at the end of May 2020 (\$121,048) was exceeded by our expenses (\$128,201) by \$7,153.

As we reported in the May Herald, Hanover qualified for a loan of \$38,995 from the federal CARES Act paycheck protection program. The loan carries a 1 percent interest rate, but it can be forgiven. In May, we reported we needed to document that 75 percent of the amount is spent on payroll. Recently, that requirement was adjusted to 60 percent. The process for meeting that reporting obligation is just beginning. M&T Bank has been providing excellent updates and communication. The online portal for applying for the forgiveness of the loan is targeted to open at the end of June.

Ellen Casson, Finance Committee Chair

A VIRTUAL JEREMIAH'S COFFEEHOUSE!

Share your talents of singing, playing an instrument, drama, showing crafts, reading, poetry – make a short video and send it to: churchadmin@hanoverchurch.org. When we get enough submissions, we will have Tom Davis craft them into a “virtual” Coffeehouse that everyone can enjoy!



Enjoy the summer! We'll see you in September!



Hanover Street Presbyterian Church

Address: 1801 N. Jefferson Street, Wilmington, DE 19802

Phone: (302) 658-5114

Email: office@hanoverchurch.org

Pastor Andy email: pastor@hanoverchurch.org

Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HanoverPresbyterian/>