

# The HERALD

Hanover Presbyterian Church  
Wilmington, Delaware

September 2020

Dear Hanover Saints,

For generations (and if anyone knows how many, please be in touch!) each year the Deacons of the church host a beautiful, spirited, and delicious luncheon. The meal serves as a celebration and recognition of the meaning and blessing of membership. In the midst of our busyness it is a moment to step back and deeply appreciate the "ties that bind" us as a community of faith.

Each year during the meal we take time to recognize and welcome (again) those who have joined the congregation in the last year. We also honor everyone as we recognize how long they have been a member of a Christian community. And then, the crowning glory is to recognize those who have arrived at the 50-year membership milestone at Hanover. This year there aren't any Saints who are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with us.

Last year we had a most remarkable landmark as we rejoiced with Ruth Howell in her 75<sup>th</sup> year as a member at Hanover. This year we have the joy of celebrating that same landmark with not just one, but two more of our Saints. Thelma Meginniss and Nancy Palmer will join Ruth in the 75 plus year club! So, I wonder, how many congregations have **three** members who have faithfully served a single congregation for 75 years!?



Very unfortunately, the Deacons' luncheon is yet another victim of the coronavirus. Not to be deterred, the Deacons became inspired to create an extra special event in which we celebrate what it means to be a part of the Hanover community. In a moving meeting, the Spirit descended and revealed a way to have a pandemically safe event in which everyone can take part. So, here's the plan...

On **Sunday, September 20** our recorded worship service will focus on the meaning of membership. The deacons are currently procuring a special gift for each member that will capture Hanover's essential spirit. Following the 10:00am service there will be four options for taking part in the celebration. You'll be hearing from your deacon to record which one of these four options you would prefer: (*go to page 2*)





## Deacon's Day

### Sunday, September 20

*(Continued from page 1)* The four choices are:

From 10:30am – 12:00 noon, for those who are comfortable coming to the church, you may do so. The first option is to stay in your car. Deacons and others will be standing six feet apart along the sidewalk on Jefferson St. with their masks on. You can pull up and roll down your window and, wearing your mask, catch up with your deacon, who will remain six feet away.

Also from 10:30am – 12:00 noon, for those who are comfortable coming into the church (six feet apart and with masks), we will open the building for all to see the many changes that have taken place while we've been separated. Likely we'll put on the air conditioning, so you won't just see but feel – the difference! And by then there is a good chance the work in the Gathering Place will be done!

From 12:00 on, for those who are not comfortable going out, we have a group of folks who are willing to come see you! If you would prefer a visit, someone will come to your door, knock or ring, and then retreat so you can have a safe and spirited conversation. And they will hand deliver your gift!

For those who are not comfortable interacting in these ways, we extend complete understanding – and another option. If that is the case, we will put your gift in the mail so everyone will be a part of the event.

May God bless our gift of belonging, no less the community that brings us to the place where we receive those blessings.

Peace,  
Andy



**Parishioner Profile:**  
**Walter Scott**

Walter started coming to Hanover in 2002 when he moved to Wilmington and was looking for a church home. He has been both a Deacon and an Elder. Walter was born in Jamaica and grew up in the Anglican Church. He started playing sports when he was five years old—table tennis, soccer, and cricket. Nowadays he loves spending his time reading, watching sports on TV—basketball and baseball; doing crossword puzzles; and listening to music—jazz and reggae.

*Deacon John Russell*

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6	Sharron Gregory
8	Lindsey Harris
8	Alice Winchester
10	Mark Arnold
10	Monisha Smith
17	Peg Green
20	Joshua Gregory
22	Cherise Alexander
22	Kourtney Bibbs
22	Julie Davis
22	Doris Loper
22	Ava Zistl
23	Ruthie McFarland
25	Hillary Mohaupt
29	Django Rosario



*"My life goes on in endless song, above earth's lamentations,  
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging,  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?"*

These words from the beloved hymn "How Can I Keep From Singing?" by Robert Lowry are spoken by one who has weathered persecution and struggle but maintains a focus on God as the solid rock, giving thanks for all in song. But we are faced with the opposite question: how can I keep singing? One of the most discouraging aspects of being in this time of pandemic is not being able to gather and share our song. For most of us, music is essential to our happiness, and it is hard to fathom that it will still be quite a while until it is safe to be singing together and/or have a choir.

So how **can** we keep singing our song?


1—Keep hymns in your heart and head. Go to Youtube.com and type in the search bar: Christian hymns playlist with lyrics. I have found many wonderful playlists that are truly comforting and inspiring—Alan Jackson has a wonderful country gospel hymns that I am listening as I type this note to you. I see Mahalia Jackson, Elvis Presley, One Hour of Relaxing Hymns on Piano, Orchestral Arrangements—some of these sights have the lyrics, and you can sing right along with them (being safe, of course).

2—Watch, listen to, and join in for our recorded services. We send out a weekly recorded service with hymns and special music—watch and listen to it each week. Our dedicated choir members are stepping up and providing music as safely as possible. We're also taking submissions for a virtual **Jeremiah's Coffee House**—you can record any talent/interest you have and send it to my email—remember, our "songs" come in many forms—keep expressing yourself and keep being heard.

3—Sing somewhere every day, whether it's in your home, your back yard, your car—wherever you find yourself that you are alone and not contributing to "super-spreading" - just sing—it will lift your spirit! And if you can't sing, you can hum or whistle! Even as we wait we can joyously sing an endless Alleluia!

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

*Twyla*



**Female Harmony  
Society**

*The Female Harmony Society Annual Meeting with be  
held on Saturday, September 26 at 10am via Zoom.*

Please RSVP to Nancy Long at [j2nlong@comcast.net](mailto:j2nlong@comcast.net) so the Zoom link can be  
included in a confirmation email.

Welcome ~ Election of Officers ~ Presentation of Grant Requests  
Financial Report ~ Remembering Sue Ann Fortney ~ New Business

If you would like to learn more about FHS, please join us and see what we are all about!

Established in 1814 | [www.femaleharmonysociety.org](http://www.femaleharmonysociety.org)





## BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

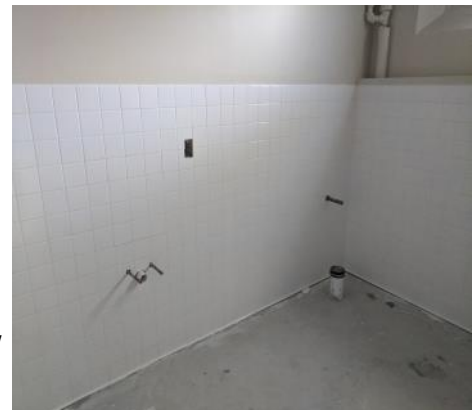
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### The Gathering Place Group

Lots of stuff has been happening in the Hanover Church building since the July/August Herald. You have seen glimpses of the progress through the weekly Flash messages. The underground plumbing was installed in the Gathering Place and the new concrete floor was poured. The walls are up for the new food pantry and the new bathrooms and the custodian's closet. Electrical work is almost complete and wall tile is being installed in the bathrooms. New steps have been installed on the Baynard side of the Gathering Place. Money has been saved because we did not have to remove as much concrete as we anticipated and we did not have to bring in crushed stone for the base. With the money saved, we plan to install a new tile floor throughout the Gathering Place, rather than only in the location when the concrete was replaced. Work is moving forward close to the schedule estimated by the contractor.



The new fire main was installed for the sprinkler system in the gym, but the Fire Marshall's Office refused to issue permits for the sprinkler system and the new fire panel. Work came to a halt, while we obtained new architectural drawings. Negotiations have continued and there is some good news. On Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, Comprehensive Fire Technologies received a permit to install the new fire panel and associated warning systems. We have yet to receive a permit for the sprinkler system, but we are hopeful that will happen soon. Stay tuned! ~Ellen Casson



### Hanover Food Pantry

The Food Pantry has been a busy place this month. Not as busy as earlier in the summer, but still quite a few clients have been by. We average 30 families each week. Our clients certainly are grateful that they can come to Hanover and receive a friendly greeting and food for their family. We are so appreciative of the support we get from our Hanover family and other churches and individuals. As the coordinator of this outreach, I am very thankful for our volunteers who come each week and provide those greetings! They are a dedicated group and they keep our food pantry running efficiently and safely. Our hours of operation are Thursdays from 8-10a.m. Physical distancing, masks and gloves are required. We are all looking forward to the time when we can get located in our "new digs" in the Gathering Place, but for now we are doing very nicely in the Social Hall and outside on the sidewalk. Donations are always appreciated – canned vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tuna, canned meats, rice and soups are great. ~Becky Arnold

## August Financial Update . . .

The finance committee met on August 12. We reviewed the financial report for July 2020, showing we received \$95,578 in combined pledged and non-pledged giving, which is 58 percent of the budgeted amount of \$205,000, at 58 percent of the year. Per capita giving is \$847, approximately 22% of what we budgeted for (\$3,800) in per capita payments and 16% of what Hanover pays in per capita for the year (\$5,275). Per capita is \$29.80 per member per year. Every donation helps, in case you have forgotten about your per capita dues. Our regular income at the end of July 2020 (\$149,970) was exceeded by our expenses (\$178,481) by \$28,511. The Hanover balance sheet shows \$110,992 in total equity.

The finance committee also reviewed property expenditures that will exceed the budgeted amount in the education wing property line. We have \$3,500 budgeted and two unexpected expenses. The compressor for the 2-door commercial freezer had to be replaced (approx. \$2,400) and Delaware State Licensing required some lead paint abatement (approx. \$2,100). In addition, expected expenses of approximately \$2,000 are necessary to replace a motor, and complete other repairs to the two air conditioning units cooling the childcare center.

We also reviewed the donations and grants, expenses and expenditures related to the capital improvements continuing in the Hanover building. Donations and foundation grants of \$357,114 were raised by Jefferson Street Center and individual gifts of \$249,413 were received from Hanover members and friends. An extraordinary total of \$606,527 was raised. The total expenditure for installation of our air conditioning was \$179,675. That includes electrical, carpentry, architect, roofing and AC units. Of that amount, Hanover donations equaled \$168,613 and JSC contributed a \$10,000 grant received for the air conditioning in the gym. The Gathering Place kitchen was renovated at a cost of \$36,273, all of which came from foundation grants and one individual donation to JSC. Work continues on the Gathering Place food pantry, the new ADA compliant bathrooms, and the gym sprinkler and fire safety system.

The finance committee will meet again September 23 to begin to focus on a budget for 2021. If anyone has questions about any area of our finances, please feel comfortable contacting anyone on the committee: Ray Kirkpatrick, Bill Tudor, Bill Balascio, Russ Buckley, Amy Harris, Tim Arnold and Sue Balascio. ~ *Ellen Casson, Finance Committee Chair*



## 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 times. 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](http://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.

Thank you for supporting all of the ministries here at Hanover and in our community.





## Our September Calendar

### 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 Fellowship Hour—Sundays, 10:30 a.m.  
 Creation Care Team—Sundays, 1:00 p.m.

### Zoom Committee Meetings and Events

Deacons: Tuesday, September 1, 5:45 p.m.  
 JSC Board: Tuesday, September 1, 7:00 p.m.  
 From Surviving to Thriving: Thursday, September 3, 7:00 p.m.  
 Labor Day: Monday, September 7—Church Office closed  
 Nominating Committee: Monday, September 7—7:00 p.m.  
 Worship Committee: Tuesday, September 8, 1:15 p.m.  
 Personnel: Wednesday, September 9, 7:00 p.m.  
 Faith in Action: Thursday, September 10, 5:30 p.m.  
 Invitational Team: Monday, September 14, 4:30 p.m.  
 Session: Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 p.m.  
 Internship Lay Committee: Wednesday, September 16, 1:00 p.m.  
 Deacon's Day: Sunday, September 20, 10:30am—12:00 p.m.  
 September *Herald* article deadline: Thursday, September 24  
 FHS Annual Meeting: Saturday, September 26, 10:00 a.m.

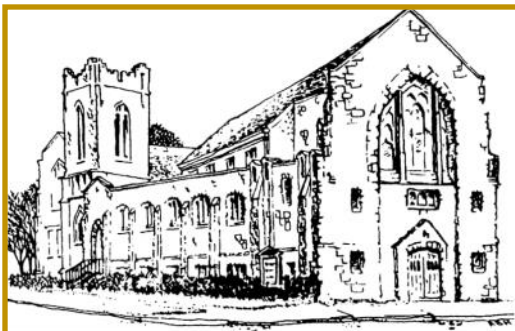


**Worship Time**— As long as we are recording our worship services, our advertised viewing time will be 10:00 a.m., with our Zoom Fellowship Hour beginning at 10:30 a.m. Please stay tuned for updates.

## LOOKING AHEAD to October

**Peace Week Delaware** begins on Saturday, October 3. We'll soon have details on how events will be safely handled this season.

**Discipleship's Community Sundays** return on October 4 on a computer screen near you. Watch for more information in THE FLASH.



### Hanover Street Presbyterian Church

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 Pastor Andy email: [pastor@hanoverchurch.org](mailto:pastor@hanoverchurch.org)  
 Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HanoverPresbyterian/>