

Hanover The HERALD

Hanover Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, Delaware

December 2021

Dear Hanover Saints,

Extra special greetings and blessings as we enter the season of anticipation and expectation; of waiting and watching. Advent is the four stop Sunday journey that delivers us to the barn that holds the manger that holds the Christ child. Each year we place our hopes, desires, dreams, and visions in that child. We pray that, in this coming year, the Christ-child will deliver the light, justice, and peace for which we long.

This is our second Advent/Christmas season under the pall of a pandemic. Although we have made progress, and are blessed to have reduced our required social distance, we nonetheless remain under restrictions. Even if the tide of quarantine and isolation is going out, infectious waves continue to produce incoming surges. The potential for new variants compromises our deepest hopes for a vaccine that is able to deliver the deadly blow to the virus.

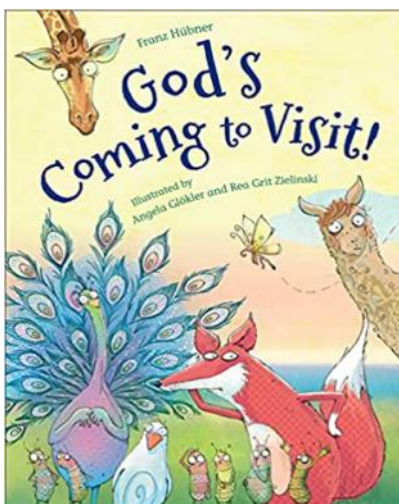
Could there be a better time for Advent? Perhaps more than any other year, the anticipation, longing, expectation, and desperation we are living with this year will help us all the more enter into the themes of this season. When Jesus was born the first time, the people were desperately wanting a Savior to liberate them from their worldly bonds of oppression and the spiritual bonds of despair.

In that moment there was no room at the inn for the good news because it was "too good to be true." It was many years later before people recognized the grace that was walking in their midst. Even then, it was only a handful. His followers were such a small, insignificant, and powerless lot that they could not prevent his demise.

Partners in ministry, faith, and Christ, let us be ones who recognize the grace that walks in our midst—even, and especially, in this time of pandemic, division, and conflict. Even as we wait with eager anticipation for the peaceful reign of our Christ, may our words and deeds reflect the grace that walks in our midst right up until the day that reign descends upon the earth.

May your season of anticipation deliver you to the place where all of your expectations are fulfilled. And may it fill you with...Peace,

Andy



“Community Sunday”

November 28, 9:30AM

Join us for a Covid-safe “Community Sunday” gathering in the Church School Hall this coming Sunday, November 28 at 9:30AM. On this the first Sunday of Advent, we’ll be reading together the book, “God’s Coming to Visit” - just in step with Advent, we’ll talk about being prepared and waiting. This will be a hybrid gathering—both in person and if you like, via Zoom. The link will be posted in The Scoop or you can email the Church Office to have it sent directly to you. See you then!

Christmas Poinsettias to Decorate the Sanctuary

If you wish to honor loved ones by donating poinsettias for display on Christmas Eve, 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 Church (\$10 per plant)
3. Mail form and check to Hanover, or to:

Sue Baker
110 Southwick Drive
Wilmington, DE 19810

After Christmas Eve 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 Sunday, Dec. 5



Family Promise®

Building communities, strengthening lives.

As the holiday season begins, please remember our neighbors in New Castle County who will spend the holidays homeless. Some of these neighbors are now being served by Family Promise of Northern New Castle County receiving temporary housing that keeps their families together. Family Promise continued to serve families experiencing housing insecurity throughout the pandemic, providing shelter in local hotels and now at their Hospitality House on Milltown Road. Did you know that most of the families referred to Family Promise avoid shelters or moving to the Hospitality House? Staff help families stay in their communities by coordinating temporary housing, working with landlords to find stable housing, assisting with rental deposits, and teaching life skills to maintain employment and manage money.

Family Promise relies on their network of volunteers who either serve families directly at the Hospitality House or through their rotational network of churches and houses of worship. There are many ways to help Family Promise continue this valuable work in our community. First, you may volunteer through our rotational network with the 9th ward which hosts families four times a year. You may contribute from their Holiday Wish List <https://www.familypromisede.org/wish-list>. As families move into the Hospitality House, they need supplies that you can donate. Finally, you may send donations directly to Family Promise at <https://familypromisede.org/donate> or through the United Way campaign.

Our next hosting week is the week of **December 12-19, 2021**. Please consider volunteering for meal preparation, meal and supply delivery, or donations of holiday decorations during that week. Let's give our neighbors some hope and joy this holiday. For more information about our hosting week, please contact Karin Wilson at kfmadison583@msn.com or Marti Yates at martiyates@gmail.com.

What's Happening in the



FOOD PANTRY: Turkey basket pickup a success! Monday, Nov. 22, 103 turkeys were distributed to 103 happy families in our neighborhood. Once again this year our Food Pantry partnered with the BTL Foundation to purchase turkeys and fill bags with other foods to provide a Thanksgiving meal. Thanks to all who donated items and helped put the bags together on Sunday. As always, without your support this could not be done.

JB'S CAFÉ: JB's Cafe is a hopping place on Tuesdays! We have moved into the Gathering Place for the winter and have been so pleased that our customers have moved with us. We continue to tweak our menu to provide our old standbys but to also broaden our selection to more interesting fare. We now serve breakfast from 8-10 and lunch from 10-1. We have a great team working in the kitchen and we are always up for new ideas. We even have a suggestion box! Come on in out of the cold and join your Hanover friends as well as Hanover neighbors. Soup's On!!



Hanover SUPER Online Sale

Well, we sure have missed our "annual" Super Sale, which has been absent for two years now! The "neighborhood" fellowship that was such a huge part of our Hanover Super Sale, just can not be reproduced if we are not together in person. That said, Hanover is still here and we have managed to be creative. With Becky Arnold's leadership and the help of many volunteers, we had a spring sidewalk sale focused primarily on plants and anything related to gardening – plus, as always, FOOD! Then this summer, we had a pretty SUPER outdoor sidewalk sale, with an amazing variety of odds and ends, and you guessed it, more FOOD! Both were very successful.



Our next creative effort is the SUPER Online Sale. Sorry, the food will be absent, but there will be bargains. The bargains are in a little higher price range than the spring and summer sales, but the focus is the same – that is to raise money to support the work of Hanover Church – a church vital to the neighborhood in which it lives and continues to thrive. The wonderful and unique items in our SUPER Online Sale have been donated by people who care deeply about

supporting the church, its work to serve people in the community, and its commitment to hospitality, inclusiveness, and racial and social justice.

Check out the sale! More information will be coming soon. You will be sure to find something you just have to have, or the perfect gift for someone you care about.



Fourth and final **mini Super Sale** is coming! Starting on **Sunday, December 5** we will have a table set up in the Sunday School Hall filled with Christmas items that you probably will want to have. They may be gently used or they may be new but for sure they will be just what you have been looking for.

Greening of the Sanctuary - Saturday, December 4 at 10am

We'll meet in the sanctuary to decorate for Christmas. Masks are required. Many thanks!



Two Advent Studies

Midweek Advent Study ~ Advent in Plain Sight

At Christmas, God came into our ordinary world in the form of a child, and still today, God is at work through the ordinary stuff of life, if we train our eyes to see.

Photo credits from unsplash:

Gate- Jonny Gios | Tears-Arwan Sutanto | Belts-Max Nayman | Trees- Vince Gx

During this year's Advent study by Jill J. Duffield, we will look at 4 ordinary objects that appear in biblical narratives of messianic prophesy and incarnation—objects we encounter in our own lives: Gates, Tears, Belts, and Trees. During our time together we will be reminded that God still dwells among us, even in the most ordinary places.

Let's gather together via Zoom, around our individual computer screens, enjoying a time, in the midst of the busyness of the season, for conversation, reflection, discussion, and prayer with members of your Hanover family.

Join us on Advent **Thursdays (December, 2, 9, 16, and 23) from 5:30 – 6:30pm**. Yes! We are breaking from tradition and holding this Advent time together on Thursday evenings. Please let Nancy Long know if you would like a copy of the study. Also, we're inviting you to take pictures of gates, tears, belts, and trees if you'd like to have them in our discussions. You can send them to Nancy Long at: j2nlong@comcast.net. Subject line: Advent photos

Sunday Discipleship Classes - beginning **Sunday, December 5, 9:45am**- We're kicking off the new liturgical year on the second Sunday of Advent with a 9:45am Adult Discipleship Class. Please join us in the Lounge for a

The Hanover Clothing Closet will be reopening on **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**. There have been changes, which were described in the November Herald. The footprint of the clothing closet will be smaller. The hours have been changed to **10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Adopt-A-Family, which was a lifeline for the Clothing Closet for so many years, became a victim of the pandemic and lost its State funding. There will no longer be volunteers from Adopt-A-Family to work in the clothing closet, but many of the other former volunteers are excited to come back and serve the neighborhood through the clothing closet.

There will be some new leadership, new energy and new creativity. We anticipate the same Hanover grace and hospitality and care for others will be present, as the clothing closet moves forward. Those qualities have been evident since the clothing closet started under the leadership of folks like Susan Stewart, Peg Showalter and Mary Barry, and through the support of many volunteers along the way.

CANDIDATES for \$1000 ENSLEN SCHOLARSHIP

Just a reminder that applications for the Enslin Scholarship must be submitted by **December 15th**. One \$1000 scholarship is offered each year for a post-graduate program leading to a degree or professional certification that will help the recipient improve the lives of others. The award decision will be made by January 15th. The short application is posted on the Female Harmony Society Website (www.femaleharmonysociety.org) or is available by contacting Maggie Alexander, (MaggieA10@verizon.net, or 302-521-6611.) Last year no one applied for the scholarship. We need you to let any relatives or friends who might be eligible know about this opportunity.



Sunday, December 5, 2021
Immediately following worship

Who has been nominated and accepted the call to serve?

Elders—Class of 2024—3-year term

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

Jude Harlan grew up at Hanover, has served as Deacon & currently serves on Session. Her Hanover involvements include: Personnel Committee, HPC/JSC Program Advisory Committee, Financial Secretaries & Clothing Closet volunteer.

Nancy Long joined Hanover in 1990 and has served as Elder & Deacon. She chairs the Discipleship Committee, is president of the Female Harmony Society, is a member of the 250th Anniversary Planning Committee, and participates in Presbyterian Women at the presbytery, synod & national levels. She is the Admin. Assistant at Presb. Church of the Covenant, Wilmington.

Deacons—Class of 2024—3-year term

Jerri Harmon-Matthews joined Hanover in 1996 & currently serves as a Deacon. She works at Open Arms Academy during the week, provides childcare during Sunday worship, and is a member of the Female Harmony Society.

Bea Johnson joined Hanover in 2015. She has served as an Elder, is a member of the Church Life committee, has facilitated "From Surviving to Thriving" discussions, and helped lead Sunday morning Adult Bible Study discussions.

Katie Leep, a Hanover member since 2005, is a choir member, a church office volunteer, and a Faith in Action Committee member.

Nominating Committee—2-year term

Natalie Jobs became a member of Hanover in 2001. She has served as an Elder, a Deacon, and Moderator of the Board of Deacons. This year, Natalie served as the Deacons' representative on the Nominating Committee.

Stewardship 2022 Update

Pledging First Look



- Proposed Contributions: \$205,000
(pledged & unpledged)

- Actual P ledges to date: **30**

*Final budget will be presented at the
 Congregational Meeting on Dec.5th*

Agenda:

Election of officers
 Approval of the pastor's 2022 terms of call
 Final budget presentation



The Un-Gift Guide

Hanover Christmas UnGifts - 2021

Faith in Action is offering UnGifts again this year. UnGifts, which began in 2006, provides an opportunity to give a gift of a donation to an activity to make a difference in our community and in the wider world. A gift card is provided, along with an insert which describes the project, and this can then be given to the person in whose honor you made the donation.

Over the years, there have been a variety of gift options. This year's UnGifts are:

Let's Stop and Screen our Fun in the Sun and Play – Let's Play, an organization located in the Hanover Ed Wing, is launching a project to prevent what can be serious sunburn in children and their families (including, contrary to what most people think, people of color). To encourage the use of sunscreen, families will be given small packs of sunscreen to use on themselves and their children. \$24 will buy 24 of them, so every dollar donated will provide a dose of sunscreen.

Hope Commission – The Wilmington Hope Commission advocates for, supports, empowers, and assists ex-offenders so they can positively integrate back into our communities. They provide help to those reentrants in zip codes 19801, 19802, and 19805. To help them reenter society successfully the Hope Commission helps clients find housing, provides medicine and groceries, and pays for driver's license fees, transportation (including bus tickets), legal document fees, equipment supplies for jobs, and groceries – all of which are needed for successful reentry and finding a job. Your donation will help these ex-offenders start a new life.

Afghan refugee resettlement – Through Jewish Family Services, Delaware will be accepting thirty Afghan families to resettle in the First State. Bill Getman from 1st and Central Presbyterian Church is leading team "Hope", on which Hanover is a member, in local resettlement efforts. Recently we welcomed an Afghan family including a mother with an infant child, and a father who has yet to arrive. Donations through UnGifts will assist in meeting their needs as well as the needs of others who settle in Delaware.

Hanover energy conservation – Hanover is working to upgrade our facility in response to the recommendations from our recent energy audit. For example, we will be replacing fluorescent light tubes in the Gathering Place with LED tubes, which will provide significant saving in energy costs. Donations through UnGifts will help us purchase necessary supplies and, if necessary, hire someone to assist Herm, our most competent sexton, in the extensive work that will be necessary.

Faith in Action members will have UnGifts for sale each Sunday during Advent in the Church School Hall. For more information, contact Alice Davis, Lorie Tudor, or the Church Office.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SWAP

Christmas is coming and that means cookies! On **Sunday, Dec. 19** after church we will be having a Cookie Swap. Please bring your favorite cookies to share. We will bag an assortment up and everyone will be able to leave church with a treat made by Hanover Saints. Any questions? call Becky Arnold -302-584-0356.



Creation Care Matters



ECOPLASTIC COLLECTION – GETTING IT RIGHT

All donated plastic/bags must be CLEAN and DRY.

Plastic : **Only** #2, #4, and # 5 plastic, will be accepted. The number indicates the type of plastic. If you don't find a number, there may be letters indicating the type of plastic. #2 (HDPE), #4 (LDPE), and #5 (PP).

Bags: #2 (HDPE) and #4 (LDPE) bags can be recycled and should be placed in separate bins. Most other bags can be recycled, but they must be bags and not random pieces of plastic wrap. Exceptions are bubble wrap and some plastic around large items. It's great if your bags have markings on them, but since most do not, it's good to know some general guidelines.

- plastic shopping bags (from any store — remove receipts, etc.)
- Ziploc-type bags for packaging food
- bread bags
- produce bags
- dry cleaning bags (remove staples, receipts, hangars)
- plastic newspaper wrapping
- product wrapping (such as covers a case of water bottles or paper towels)
- bubble wrap and air pillows (popped)
- plastic shipping envelopes (remove labeling)



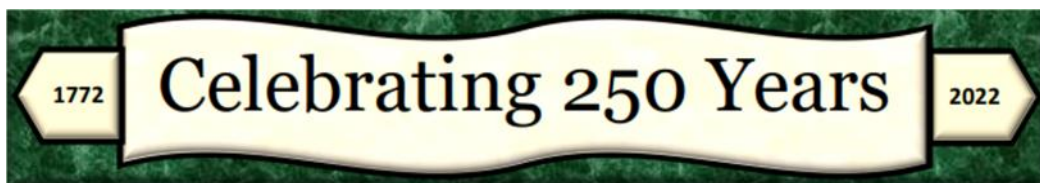
Plastic bottle caps: Most plastic bottle lids can be recycled, even if they come from a #1 bottle. (Put them in the small bag at the collection site.)

Last month we collected 15 lbs. of recyclable plastic. We know everything we donate gets recycled into usable products and won't end up in the ocean or a landfill. Let's all keep on recycling.

Questions: Email Maggie Alexander (MaggieA10@verizon.net) or Alice Davis (AliceWilm@gmail.com)



The **Christmas Joy Offering** is the fourth of the special offerings that we collect throughout the year. This special offering supports racial and ethnic Presbyterian-sponsored high schools and colleges as well providing financial assistance to church leaders and their families. We will collect the Christmas Joy offering in church on **Sunday, December 19**. You may also donate online at <https://www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/christmas-joy/> and designating Hanover as your congregation. We thank you in advance for your generosity!



Hanover's 250th Anniversary celebration

Advent is that time of preparation for God's special gift. Normally we focus on our anticipation of that last week of the year. But, this year, we want you to be ready for a fast shift to new activities.

On **Sunday, January 9**, we begin our 250th anniversary activities. We begin with a celebration of both what came before and what is to come. So mark that Sunday for a special worship service with a special guest speaker (or maybe two!) and plan to stay for the coffee hour and what time to visit with your Hanover family.



Mankind is a great, an immense family. This is proved by what we feel in our hearts at Christmas.

- Pope John XXIII

December Weekly Happenings

Prayer Circle—Mondays, 8:30am
 JB's Café—Tuesdays, 8am-1pm
 Zumba—Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6pm—7pm
 Clothes Closet—Wednesdays, 10am-1pm
 High Noon at Hanover—Wednesdays, 12pm
 Choir Rehearsal—Wednesdays, 7pm
 Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8am
 Advent Study —Thursdays, 5:30pm
 Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm

December Birthdays

5	Lynn Gregory
5	Alison Moore
7	Marjorie McNeill
8	Cory Melvin
12	Pat Hall
12	Della Williams
12	Taylor Zistl
13	Lois Ford
14	Andy Jacob
14	Judy Van Rooyen
15	Michael Carty
20	Diane Dunham
22	Peg Showalter
29	Grant Evitts
29	Bea Johnson

December Zoom Groups & Meetings

Deacons: Tuesday, December 7, 6pm
 JSC Board: Tuesday, December 7, 7pm
 Faith in Action: Thursday, December 9, 5pm
 Article deadline for January Herald: Monday, Dec. 20
 Session: Tuesday, December 21, 7pm

December Special Dates

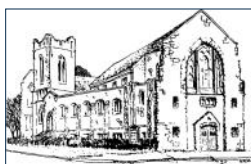
Saturday, Dec. 4—Greening of the Church, 10AM
 Sunday, Dec. 5—Congregational Meeting, following worship
 Sunday, Dec. 12—Installation of Officers in worship
 Sunday, Dec. 19—Christmas Cookie Swap, following worship
 Friday, Dec. 24—Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
 4:45PM Prelude
 5PM Service
 5PM YouTube Premiere Event
 Monday, Dec. 27 thru Thursday, Dec. 30—Church Office closed



*A blessed Advent
 and Christmas
 season to
 you and yours!*

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/>



Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Andy Jacob
 Commissioned Ruling Elder: Tim Arnold
 Organizing Pastor: Rev. Brooke Scott
 Church Administrator/Minister of Music: Twyla Evitts
 Sexton: Herman Pulliam
 Child care: Jerri Harmon-Matthews
 Office Volunteers: Alice Cornelius, Ruth Howell,
 Katie Leep, Walter Scott, George Turner



HAPPY
Holidays



2021 Holiday Concert

Under the Direction of Mr. David Harris

Sunday November 28, 2021 at 3pm - Hanover
Presbyterian - 1801 N. Jefferson St.
Wilmington, DE

Wednesday Dec. 15, 2021 at 7:30pm - First
Presbyterian Church - 292 West Main St.
Newark. DE

The Saints Hallelujah

Greensleeves

Russian Christmas
Music

Rocking Carol

A Canadian Brass
Christmas

March of the
Toys/Toyland

Christmas Day

Somewhere in My
Memory

Sleigh Ride

A Charlie Brown
Christmas

We Wish You a Merry
Christmas



Glory

to

GOD

in

the

Highest!

Celebrate Christmas Eve at Hanover
Special musical prelude at 4:45 p.m.
Worship by Candlelight at 5 p.m.