

## Sharon Temple Adventist School

### 2022 Graduation held in Hanover Sanctuary

Hanover has had an ongoing partnership with the Sharon Temple Adventist School for many years. The church and school are right around the corner at 2001 Washington Street. Hanover and the Sharon Temple Childcare Center have a memorandum of understanding agreeing that the children from the childcare center can come to Hanover, in the case of an emergency. The middle school children come to Hanover on Friday mornings, during the school year, to use the gym.



On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Sharon Temple used the sanctuary for their graduation ceremony, because their church sanctuary was undergoing repairs. It was a beautiful ceremony attended by children, families and staff. The kindergarten students received certificates and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students received diplomas. One honor student was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Students sang and played violins. It was a very joyful and uplifting program.



The mission statement of the school is to promote excellence in academic and Christian growth through the collaborative efforts of church, community, home and school. Hanover Presbyterian Church and Sharon Temple are in community together, and Mr. Carl Wilkerson, Interim Principal, sends his thanks and gratitude to the Hanover community for sharing our space. Congratulations, graduates!

Dear Hanover Saints,

Here is the first news about Hanover's Pastoral Transition journey. Subsequent updates will be printed in this monthly newsletter, "The Hanover Herald". If special communication is needed in between "Herald" publications, we'll send it to you immediately in a special edition of "The Scoop."

On June 21, 2022, Rev. Cindy Kohlmann, Connectional Presbyter, met with Session to guide us in both the spirit of, and procedures for, our pastoral transition time. Here are the main points from that meeting:

### **Covenant of Closure**

After opening prayer and time for shared Scripture reflection, Cindy reiterated the importance of the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s policy regarding former pastors and their former congregations. This is across the denomination – not just at Hanover or just in the New Castle Presbytery.

The policy is that pastors who have concluded ministry with their congregations are no longer available for pastoral duties at their former congregations. While this may seem harsh initially, the reason is so that an incoming pastor is not encumbered by a former pastor's presence or influence. The policy also emphasizes the congregation's responsibility to look ahead and plan for a new pastor.

The Former Pastor, the Clerk of Session (on behalf of the Session & the congregation) and the Presbytery's Committee on Ministers & Congregations all sign a "Covenant of Closure", promising to follow this policy. Andy & I have signed this covenant and sent it to the Presbytery office.

### **Clarification of Titles**

Bridge (or Gap) Pastor – serves a congregation for about 2 - 4 months, while the search for a Transitional Pastor is in progress

Transitional Pastor (formerly called "Interim") – serves a congregation for a year or two, taking a more active role than a bridge pastor. In addition to regular pastoral responsibilities, the transitional pastor helps the congregation to define its mission, to begin its pastoral search, etc.

### **Session's Approval**

After discussion and reflection, Session felt that, because Hanover already has pastoral care coverage and worship leadership until early September, that a bridge pastor won't be needed. Session unanimously approved beginning the search process for a Transitional Pastor.

Cindy then gave the Elders questions to help define what Hanover would be looking for in a Transitional Pastor and to help Presbytery identify ministers who would be good candidates for Hanover's consideration. The Session and Presbytery work together on this discernment.

If you have any questions, please contact me or any of the Elders. Thank you.

May we all be blessed as we travel this journey toward Hanover Church's next chapter of ministry to God's people!

Eloise Downing, Clerk of Session  
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# Celebrating 250 Years

2022

## Hanover 250th Anniversary Celebrations

**Sunday, September 18, 11:00am:**

**A New Thing . . . With The Jefferson Street Center**

Guest Speaker: Amanda August

**Sunday, September 25, 11:00am:**

**A New Thing . . . With a New Worshiping Community**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Brooke Scott

**Sunday, October 16, 11:00am:**

**A Musical Worship Service Through the Arts**

Narrated by Sharon Moore, we'll have a morning of worship through poetry, Ssam's Drumming Circle, soloists Gus Mercante, Martin Hargrove, and Tina Betz, an art exhibit from Pacem in Terris, and the Hanover Choir!

**Saturday, October 22: The 250<sup>th</sup> Celebratory Banquet at Oliver's**

(information will be in the August issue)

**Sunday, October 23, 11:00am: The New Things Yet to Come . . .**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II

## Hanover History and Pulpit Vacancies

Hanover has filled the pulpit with 23 solo pastors and 2 co-pastors. That means that 24 times Hanover has been in search for a minister and we are going for 25 times. Hanover has also had 10 anniversaries marking 25 year periods. (Not all were necessarily celebrated with the same enthusiasm.)

So, you may wonder if any of Hanover's other celebrations also were marked by departing pastors.

Including 2022, 5 times pastors were present and were not leaving shortly. But, five times Hanover saw new, departing or no "regular" pastor. That includes 1897 and 1997 when the pastors left within a year of the anniversary. Once the pastor had just joined and twice there was no "full time" pastor.

Each time Hanover has noted the date and continued to serve. We know it will not be fast, but the Session, with help from Presbytery, is hard at work, and our history continues to grow.

Peace, Tim Arnold

Hello, Hanover Family - I wanted to thank you for all your love and spiritual support over many years to my Mom, Peg Showalter. She loved Hanover so much and had special friendships she cherished with so many of you, you know who you are :) I am so grateful you were all around in Mom's last weeks to provide prayers, comfort and celebration of her life. Thank you Becky et al for the nice reception after Mom's memorial service. It was perfectly her with punch including maraschino cherries, cookies, and her pickle relish!



Thank you all so very much!

Love, Karen Melvin



**Hanover Street Presbyterian Church**

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

**Staff:**

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,

Walter Scott, George Turner