

## Festivities in December

**The Greening of the Church** will be this **Saturday, December 3**, starting at **10am**. Join us as we decorate the church for the upcoming month of celebrations. Coffee and donuts will be provided.



**The Annual Congregational Meeting** is immediately following worship on **Sunday, December 4**. Agenda items are: Election of Elders, Deacons & Nominating Committee member; review of the 2023 Church Budget; and the 2023 Pastor's Terms of Call.

### Holiday Brass Concert:

Dave Harris is bringing back 50 of his musical friends called the Newark Community Band to Hanover on **Sunday, December 4, at 3pm**. The concert is free, with a free-will offering that will benefit our Food Pantry. Join us this afternoon for a festive hour of holiday music!



### Advent Luncheon:

The Deacons are hosting our annual Advent Luncheon this year. It is on **Sunday, December 11am**, immediately following worship. Turkey and ham will be provided. Please bring either your favorite side dish or dessert and join us for a wonderful time of food and fellowship.

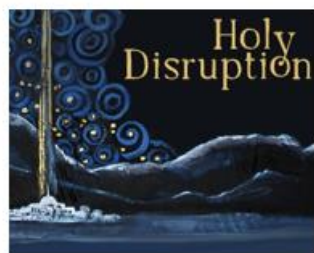
### Christmas Eve Service:

We'll have our candlelight service on **Saturday, December 24, at 5pm (pre-service music begins at 4:45pm)**. Special musical guests are Gus Mercante, countertenor, and Shannon Booth-Johnson, soprano.



### Christmas Day Service:

Christmas morning service will be at **11am** in the Church School Hall. It will be a relaxed time, with readings, carol singing, cookies and cocoa. Come and adore the newborn king!



## Discipleship Offerings for Advent

### Holy Moly | Holy Disruption

*Holy Moly* is back! Each lesson invites kids into the advent story with animated Bible story retellings. The *Holy Moly* videos are designed without narration so kids have a chance to watch each story and discuss, in their own words, what surprised them and made them wonder.

During Advent, Hanover's children will be viewing and discussing videos on The Annunciation, Mary and Elizabeth, Jesus' Birth, and The Magi as well as exploring the advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. The children will also help "build the bulletin board" in the Sunday School Hall during this season of waiting and anticipation.

Meanwhile, next door and just underneath the youth classroom in the lounge, the older youth with Jeff Long and the adult class led by Bea Johnson and George Turner will be wondering this advent—"where *IS* the baby?" as they discover Advent in the Gospel of Mark in Tracy Daub's study, *Holy Disruption*.

The Gospel of Mark does not have a nativity story—no annunciation, no shepherds in fields, no heralding angels, no baby in the manger, no magi following a star. Instead, we hear the Advent message through Jesus's life and ministry, through his death and beyond. "The incarnation—God's coming to earth in human form to be baptized, teach, heal, eat, and die—is what we celebrate at Christmas and Mark shows us just how radical and celebration-worthy it is! Together, let's experience God's disruptive but transformative love for us and our world." (~Rev. Tracy S. Daub). There are still books available for people interested in joining the discussion.

No time to read the book? Here are short videos recorded by the study author:

<https://www.youtube.com/@westminsterjohnknoxpress4992>

Discipleship Classes begin at 9:30—why not join us?!

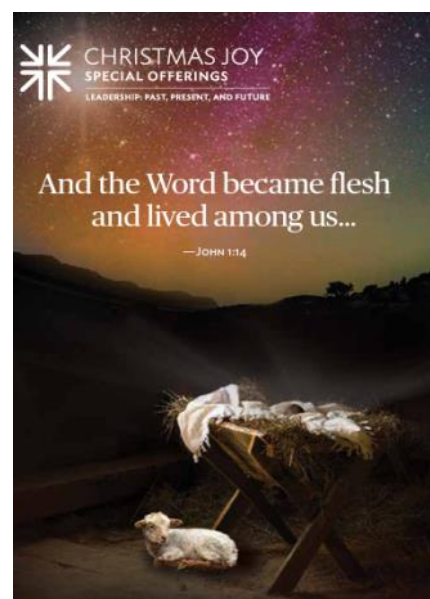
## The Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual offerings that are sponsored through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

It provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

We'll be collecting money for this offering on Sunday, December 11, which is considered the Joy Sunday in Advent. Envelopes will be available in the bulletins; checks can be made out to the church and designated for the Joy Offering, or you can mail it to the church. You can also use PayPal on our website.

We appreciate your generosity.





Dear Hanover Saints,

During Session's monthly meeting on Nov. 15, 2022, it was noted that, despite Hanover's Transitional Pastor position being advertised in the New Castle Presbytery and nearby Presbyteries, Hanover has not yet received any inquiries or résumés. After discussion, Session agreed to expand the search using the "Church Leadership Connection" - a service offered by the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s national office that helps connect congregations seeking pastors with ministers who are seeking pastoral calls. Session is completing the form & will submit it promptly. Please let me or any of the Elders know if you have any questions.

For clarity, we'll use this communication schedule:

~ "The Scoop" (weekly e-newsletter)

On the Wednesday after the third Tuesday, "The Scoop" will publish Transitional Pastor info from the previous evening's Session meeting. (Session meets on the third Tuesday.) If time-sensitive items arise between Session meetings, "The Scoop" will also publish these.

~ "The Hanover Herald" (monthly newsletter) will publish Transitional Pastor updates as well.

With the Advent season at our doorstep, let us respond to our call to "prepare the way" as we journey in the Light!

Eloise Downing, Clerk of Session  
 clerk@hanoverchurch.org  
 302-304-0579

## Ordination and Installation of Officers—Sunday, December 11, 2022

### Nominee Biographies

#### Elders - Class of 2025

**Maggie Alexander** joined Hanover in 2010 and has served as a Deacon & an Elder. She's a member of the Faith in Action committee & the Female Harmony Society. She helps with the Eco-plastic collections and helps make sure the Little Free Library is stocked with books. She volunteers at the Super Sale, is a Sunday worship greeter & usher and is being nominated for a second term as Elder.

**Becky Arnold**, a life-long Hanover member, has served as a Deacon & an Elder and is being nominated for a second term as Elder. She's a member of the Church Life & Building Use Committees, Female Harmony Society, & Women's Bible Study. She's a Super Sale Co-Chair and coordinates the Food Pantry, JB's Café, Thanksgiving baskets & the Easter Egg candy fundraiser.

**Amy Harris** joined Hanover in 1992 and has previously served as an Elder. She serves on the Finance & Worship Committees, is a Financial Secretary, and a choir member.

#### Deacons - Class of 2025

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

**Andrea McCoy-Carty** joined Hanover in 1988 and has served as a Deacon, having been nominated 3 times for this office. She's a member of the Female Harmony Society & has served on Building Use Committee & the Startup Advisory Board of the Jefferson Street Child Care Center. She is Treasurer of S.E. 9th Ward Neighborhood Association & a Volunteer at the Clothing Closet.

#### Nominating Committee – Class of 2024

**Jeff Long** joined Hanover in 1990. He has served several times as an Elder and also has served on Pastor Nominating Committees. Currently, he's on the Stewardship & Discipleship Committees and is a choir member.

At the close of Jewish Sabbath celebrations, it is customary for people to turn to one another and say, "Have a good week." This is more than just a polite way to say goodbye. It is a recognition that Sabbath has something to say about how we live our lives in the coming week. Sabbath has a claim on us and on our behavior, even after the Sabbath sun sets.

The blessing from the Sabbath "leave-taking" service, Havdalah, makes this explicit:

Havdalah is not for the close of Shabbat alone; it is for all the days.

Havdalah means: Separate yourself from the unholy; strive for holiness.

Havdalah means: Separate yourself from fraud and exploitation,  
be fair and honest with all people.

Havdalah means: Separate yourself from indifference to the poor  
and the deprived, the sick and the aged;  
work to ease their despair and their loneliness.

Havdalah means: Separate yourself from hatred and violence;  
promote peace among people and nations.

May God give us understanding to reject the unholy and  
to choose the way of holiness.



Havdalah candle set



### December Birthdays

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

## Hanover's 250<sup>th</sup> – Thank you!

A year ago we were looking forward to celebrating Hanover's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We did with events throughout 2022, culminating with October's celebration. So, even though we are now in our 251<sup>st</sup> year, it is most appropriate to say thank you to everyone who took part in whatever way to making Hanover, Hanover.

We look forward to 2023 and new challenges and new things to celebrate.

The 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee wishes everyone well and repeats, "Thank you for celebrating with us."

Eloise Downing (co chair)

Twyla Evitts (co chair)

Cherise Alexander

Tim Arnold

Stephanie Hinson

Ruth Howell

Nancy Long

George Turner

Andy Jacob (organizer and former pastor)



# What's Happening with



**FOOD PANTRY:** By the day before Thanksgiving we had finally distributed the last turkey of our 100! We happened to have one left and a call came in to the office from a young woman who was in need of a turkey. We were glad to be able to help her and she was certainly appreciative! Thanks to all who helped put the bags together and whose donations made them possible. As in the past we partnered with the BTL Foundation and we thank them for their support.

Now on to Christmas! This year we will be giving laundry detergent to all of our clients. If you happen to be shopping and would be able to pick up an extra container of detergent to donate, we would appreciate it.

**JB'S CAFÉ:** We have set up shop in the Gathering Place for the winter. Gradually, our customers are beginning to come in and sometimes, we actually look like a little cafe! Join us when you can, we have changed our menu slightly to include soups, chili and a few other items. Thanks for your support as always!



**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:** If you would like to sign up to host this time for Fellowship, the list is on the bulletin board in the Sunday School Hall. This does not have to be a meal, simply cookies and coffee or tea would be fine. It's more about the fellowship than the food!

**CLOTHING CLOSET:** We are collecting all things winter: coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Please bring any donations with you to church or you can drop them off during the week from 8AM—12PM. If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation—simply as a check or you can go through PayPal on our website. The need for warm clothing and outerwear is here, and your generous gifts will help out many people in our community.

Clothes Closet

*"I needed clothes and you clothed me."*

Matthew 25:38



We are still tallying up our proceeds from this our final fundraiser of the year. To date we have taken in \$1857.50. That brings our total fundraising amount to \$5773.40. By the time all the dust settles, we just might make our goal of \$6000! Thanks to all who helped make this and our other two events (Easter Eggs and Spring Sale) a success. Without your support and time none of these could take place. Ellen, Ruth and Becky have always felt that whatever funds we raise are secondary to the chance these times provide for our Hanover family to come together and get to know each other in ways other than Sunday morning. If we can share some laughs, have a good time, and manage to bring in some money for the church, then we feel our mission was complete!



## **REMINDER – Closing Date For Enslens Scholarship Applications is December 15th**

Marybell Enslens was a devoted member of the Female Harmony Society who believed in the power of higher education. Her family created The Marybell Enslens Memorial Scholarship in her honor. One \$1000 scholarship is offered each year for a student in a post-graduate program leading to a degree or professional certification that will help the recipient improve the lives of others.

Applications were available on November 1<sup>st</sup> with a closing date of December 15<sup>th</sup>. The award decision will be made by January 15<sup>th</sup>. The short application will be posted on the Female Harmony Society Website at [www.femaleharmony.org](http://www.femaleharmony.org) or available by contacting Maggie Alexander, ([MaggieA10@verizon.net](mailto:MaggieA10@verizon.net), or 302-521-6611.) Please share this opportunity with your family and friends.



### **Earth Care at Hanover**

Many of you know that Hanover Presbyterian Church is certified by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as an Earth Care Congregation. One of the criteria for being certified is having partners in the community with whom we work to improve the environment. One of Hanover's community partners is Delaware Interfaith Power and Light. Folks from DIP&L visited Hanover a few weeks ago and put up a new Earth Care bulletin board in the Church School Hall. Next time you're in the Church School Hall, please take a look at all the great information they gave us through an attractive presentation.

## **What is an "UnGift"?**



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. The next page lists this year's UnGifts choices. Stop by the Church School Hall after worship, and one of our Faith in Action members will help you out. You can pay by cash or check in person. You can also use PayPal on our website. You need to describe the project(s) you're paying for, how much, and an FIA member will mail your gift cards to you.



*Your Faith In Action* 

# Hanover UnGifts

**UnGifts are available  
after worship on  
November 27, and  
December 4, 11, and 18**



Branches to Chances (Delaware Center for Horticulture) trains unemployed, underemployed, and/or formerly incarcerated people to work in landscaping,



tree maintenance, and park maintenance as well as skills in financial and computer literacy, preparing for a job interview, and workplace skills. Upon completion of the program, participants have the opportunity for full-time employment.

## Read In, Read Out

Incarcerated parents read books aloud and record them. The books along with the recordings are sent to the child. This helps the parents preserve their bonds with their children and improves transitions back



into the community. The children are given an inexpensive CD player with which to listen.

## Water is Life Kenya

For people in developing countries, poor sanitation and a lack of safe water are critical issues. Water for Life is a visionary organization

with a simple yet far-reaching solution. It has developed a cost-efficient filter system that is small, easy-to-use, low-maintenance, and fast. The Water for Life portable filter brings safe drinking water to people who need it desperately.



## HANOVER Clothes Closet



Considered one of the best clothing missions in the area, the Closet is staffed by Hanover volunteers and others and distributes clothing for all ages. Your donation will help with the purchase of coats for the winter season.





“Colored lights blink on and off, racing across the green boughs. Their reflections dance across exquisite glass globes and splinter into shards against tinsel thread and garlands of metallic filaments that disappear underneath the other ornaments and finery. Shadows follow, joyful, laughing sprites.

The tree is rich with potential wonder.

All it needs is a glance from you to come *alive*.”

– Vera Nazarian, [The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration](#)

## Weekly Happenings

Prayer Circle—Mondays, 9am

JB’s Café—Tuesdays, 8am - 1pm

Pickleball—Wednesdays, 10am - 11am

Clothing Closet—Wednesdays, 10am -12:30pm

Choir rehearsal—Wednesdays, 7pm—8:15pm

Food Pantry—Thursdays, 8-10am

Yoga—Fridays, 6:15pm - 7:30pm

## December Meetings

Deacons: Tuesday, December 6, 6pm Zoom

JSC Board: Tuesday, December 6, 7pm

Faith in Action: Tuesday, December 13, 5pm

Session: Tuesday, December 20, 7pm

Staff meeting: Wednesday, December 21, 12pm

December “Herald” deadline: Friday, December 30

Church Office is closed the week after Christmas.



### Hanover Street Presbyterian Church

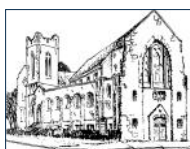
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Website: <http://www.hanoverchurch.org>

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,

Katie Leep, Walter Scott, George Turner