



A Monthly Newsletter by the
Hanover Church of the Brethren

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SUNDAY SCHOOL—9:00 AM WORSHIP—10:30 AM

Volume 12, Issue 1 ☎ February 2026

From the Desk of Pastor Mark

“My Boss is a Jewish Carpenter”

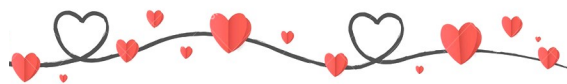
What does it take to gain true success in life? How do we measure that? Is it about job status, performance rating, income, what degree we hold and from what university? Some would say yes, yes, yes, and yes! Others would say no, it's about family. How good of a father or mother, wife or husband am I? Someone else would say it's simply about being a good friend. Each of these is at least a piece of the truth.

But what about spiritual success? Most of us can live with the standards we are held to at our job or by our peers. But what if someone came right out and said, "What have you done for God lately? How successful are you in the Kingdom of God?" I don't know about you, but here's where things can get mighty uncomfortable for me—until I remember Who I'm dealing with. That's right. I know God is God and I'm not and I owe Him everything. I know that no one has higher standards than He. But even with all that, I'm still comfortable knowing I work for Him. I used to have a key ring that said, "My Boss is a Jewish Carpenter," and it's true. His name is Jesus!

Just look at the people God chose to work with in the Bible. All of them were sinners, and most of them pretty big sinners. Even among the "A List" Bible characters, we find two were murderers, one was involved in a huge national cover-up scandal, another tried to pass his wife off as his sister and nearly got both of them killed. One became a traitor to his people and worked for the enemy king for a while. Most of them tried to run the other way or refuse to cooperate when God called them. They made pretty lame excuses. I can relate.

But the other thing they had in common was that they finally figured out that God loved them, even *after* they did all their bad stuff. They finally figured out that He was good, and in the long run, worth giving up *everything* for. God's choice of co-workers says a lot to me about myself and what I might accomplish for

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Church Mission Statement

“Engage, Embrace, Empower with the love of God.”

Pastor

Mark Bowyer
540-758-1144

mbowyer1@gmail.com

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Secretary

Shal Dehoff
717-632-2267

hanoverCOB@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Please Take Note



**Sunday,
Feb 8, 2026
Donations Needed**



Ash Wednesday February 18

Please join us for Ash
Wednesday Service at 7:00.
Choir will be held at 6:00.

Inclement Weather Policy For Sunday Service



In case of inclement weather, a cancellation notice will be sent out by email, recorded on the church's answering machine, and published on the TV 8 website. Please see Pastor Mark with any questions.

Pastor-Congregation Relations Support Team

The Ministry and Worship Commission, with the approval of the Board, decided to create a support team for the pastor and the congregation to aid in the resolution of any conflicts that may arise. The appointed team members are Bob Long, Dick Ambrosius and Angie Ruth. The Ministry and Worship Commission will oversee the team. Please contact one of the members of the team or the Ministry and Worship Commission if you feel you have not been able to resolve a conflict on your own. It is the Commission's hope that any areas of conflict can be resolved without hurt feelings. As the body of Christ, it is imperative that we work together to keep our church healthy.

—Ministry & Worship



THE CHOSEN

**Sunday,
February 1
6:00 pm**

Stewardship Reports

November 2025

Average Attendance	Sunday School 27	Worship 68
Budget Goal (\$4,310 per week)		\$ 224,139
Need to-date (48 weeks)		\$206,880
Budget Giving to Date (68%)		\$ 166,966
Designated Giving to Date		\$ 39,274
TOTAL GIVING		\$206,240
Budget Giving for November		\$ 16,461
Designated Giving for November		\$ 2,145
Building Rental		\$ 501
Copier		\$ 965
Heifer		\$ 384
Messenger		\$ 175
Spiritual Renewal		\$ 100
Youth Group		\$ 20

December 2025

Average Attendance	Sunday School 24	Worship 69
Budget Goal (\$4,310 per week)		\$224,139
Need to-date (52 weeks)		\$224,139
Budget Giving to Date (82%)		\$184,865
Designated Giving to Date		\$ 43,014
TOTAL GIVING		\$227,879
Budget Giving for December		\$ 39,274
Designated Giving for December		\$ 3,740
Building Rental		\$ 726
Copier		\$ 1,800
Flowers		\$ 247
Heifer		\$ 917
Women's Fellowship		\$ 50

In Our Church



Deacon Dedication January 4



Board Installation January 11



Ice Cream Social

Saturday, April 18

6:00 pm

Please join us!

*Signup sheet coming.
More details to follow.*



Wednesday,
February 18
Noon to 2 PM

The Over 60's Group will meet on February 18 2026 at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please come for "Game Day" fun and fellowship and don't forget your dish to share.

In Our Church & Community

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship had their holiday party on January 9 with 22 ladies in attendance. It started with a delicious breakfast. At the business meeting, officers for 2026 were elected. President – Lona Bridenbaugh, Vice President – Leslie Bowyer, Secretary – JoAnn Kline, Treasurer – Melissa Godfrey, Keyperson – Cindy Goodling.

Plans were made for activities during the year. Distribution of our profits from 2025 were discussed. \$2,000 will go to the church to be used for following budget items and special offering items – Camp Eder, Children's Aid, HACC, Good Sam Fund. \$500 will be donated to New Hope Ministry. Monies remaining in our account will be used for the Pillow Club, for people going on mission trips, and any new projects around the church.

Our next meeting will be on March 12 at 7 p.m. at the church.

Valentines Candy



The youth will be making candy and pretzels for Valentines Day. We will have them ready for pick up at church on Sunday, February 8. Orders and \$\$ must be received by Sunday, February 1. You can give orders to any youth or Amy and Rebecca. Thank you for supporting our youth.

AARP 2026 Tax Prep Program

Hanover Church of the Brethren is again cooperating with the AARP Tax Program.

Appointments must be scheduled through the Hanover Area Council of Churches (HACC), Carlisle St., Hanover at **717-633-6353**.

The Tax Prep program will begin here in the Fellowship Hall Monday, Feb 2 at 7:30 A.M.



**Friday
March 20
7:00 am - 3:00 pm**
**Saturday
March 21
7:00 am - 12:00**

We are going to hold a two-day yard sale this time. So please bring items from your home and ask your friends to also bring items. All items will be an asset to this sale.

DONATIONS

Collection begins February 1 and will continue through Wednesday, March 18.

Items can be dropped off during the day or call Amy for a special drop-off time. Please place all items in the Fellowship Hall on the stage behind the curtain.

All items should be clean and in working order. We cannot sell broken or unusable items. Make sure clothing is clean and usable.

Please refrain from bringing large items until Monday, March 16.

We DO NOT ACCEPT electronics, sofas or exercise equipment.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Friday, March 13 - Thursday, March 19, throughout the day, we will be setting up the Fellowship Hall. Anyone that can help will be much appreciated. Set-up includes sorting and hanging clothing, displaying items and having FUN.

Friday, March 20, 7:00am - 3:00pm and Saturday, March 21, 7:00am - end. Help carry items to cars, organize tables, keep order during the day and talk with shoppers. All help will be greatly appreciated!

BAKED GOODS

Baked goods can be dropped off anytime Thursday, March 19. Please have the items bagged and priced for sale. Cakes will be sold by the piece so they would be greatly appreciated also. We would like to add a few quarts of soup to the sale, so if you make a gallon or two of soup, we have containers for you to use.

CLEAN UP

When the sale is over, after 12pm, Saturday, we will need help to take down tables and clean up.

Any help that you can give during the week will be greatly appreciated!!!

Any questions - call Amy Despines, 717-451-5071 (if no answer, please leave a message).

From the Desk of Pastor Mark continued

Him. It helps me realize that He isn't choosing me for my resume, but because he knows that when He does anything good through me, He will get the credit, not me. And that's been His plan all along- for our lives to point to *Him!*

To illustrate this point, I have included the following. It is a delightful look at Jesus' disciples for who they really were when He called them. It's especially good when we remember how He used them after He was gone (back to heaven). They did pretty well in the end, and so can we- if we just let Him use us. What if Jesus' disciples had been vetted by professional consultants?

TO: Jesus, Son of Joseph, Woodcrafter's Carpenter Shop, Nazareth

FROM: Jordan Management Consultants

Dear Sir:

Thank you for submitting the resumes of the 12 men you have picked for managerial positions in your new organization. All of them have now taken our battery of tests... and we have not only run the results through our computer, but also arranged personal interviews for each of them with our psychologists and vocational aptitude consultant.

It is the staff opinion that most of your nominees are lacking in background, education and vocational aptitude for the type of enterprise you are undertaking. They do not have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue your search for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capacity.

Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper. Andrew has absolutely no qualities of leadership. The two brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, place personal interest above company loyalty. Thomas demonstrates a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale. We feel it is our duty to tell you that Matthew has been black-listed by the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau. James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus definitely have radical leanings, and they both registered a high score on the manic-depressive scale.

One of the candidates, however, shows great potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, and has a keen business mind and has contacts in high places. He is highly motivated, ambitious and responsible. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your comptroller and right-hand man. All of the other profiles are self-explanatory. We wish you every success in your new venture.

Sincerely yours, etc.

Aren't you glad those guys aren't vetting you and me!? We speak today of people having feet of clay. Most people feel that way when God taps them for something. And that's not a bad thing, because the Bible says God can use us best when we're humble. Paul uses clay as his image for us believers in a wonderful line from his second letter to the Corinthians:

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. -2 Cor. 4:7

Paul didn't ever want anyone thinking that the things he did were his own doing, or that he was anything special. He was glad when God got the credit. He knew that when God asked him to do something, be somewhere, say or write something, that God would give him the power to do it. All he had to do was trust and obey.

Success? Do you think that Peter, James, John, Paul were successful? We still read their words today, and will continue to right up until we all meet in Heaven. And they will tell us then what they told us long ago- that He is good, and in the long run, worth giving up everything for! Think about that. Amen.

Pastor Mark



CROSS KEYS VILLAGE
The Brethren Home Community

The Friends of Cross Keys Village: The Brethren Home Community Annual Membership Drive

The purpose of The Friends of Cross Keys Village is to benefit the lives of residents and team members of Cross Keys Village. To accomplish this objective, funds are raised through an ANNUAL Membership Drive, donations, and various fundraising events throughout the year. The funds raised by The Friends are principally used to support:

1. The Good Samaritan Fund, assisting residents whose finances are exhausted.
2. The Tuition Assistance Program, offering support to team members who wish to further their education.
3. The Memory Care Education Program, which offers support to individuals living with Alzheimer's disease or another neurocognitive disorder and to their care partners, whether they live on campus or in the greater community.

The available membership levels are: Bronze- \$15 per person, Silver- \$50 per person, Gold- \$100 per person, Platinum- \$200 per person.

Please contact Cindy Goodling to obtain a membership form.

The Friends of Cross Keys Village 2026 Fund Raisers

The Friends of CKV have set the following fundraisers for 2026.

1. Valentine Candy Grams: Sell Dates: Thursday January 15 to Friday, January 30.
2. Spring Sub Sale: Sell Dates: March 27- Wednesday, April 8
3. Chicken BBQ and Car Show: Saturday August 8
4. Fall Sub Sale: Sell Dates: Sunday August 9- Friday, September 11
5. Naylor Nut and Mint Sale: Sell Dates Monday, October 19- Monday November 2
6. Gift Wrapping: Mondays in December (7, 14, 21)
7. Luminary Sale: Sell Dates: Tuesday, November 24- Friday, December 11
8. Hot Chocolate/Caroling: Monday, December 21 at 6:00pm in Harmony Ridge Lobby

Year-Round Fundraisers:

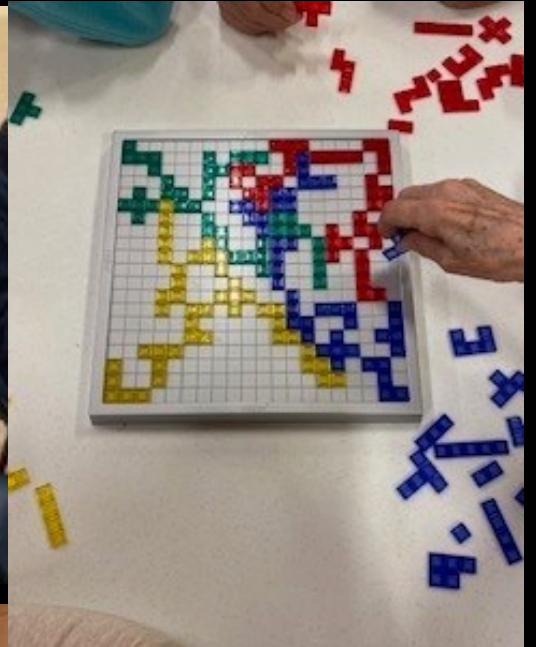
1. Shopping Card Program: Gift cards are available for purchase from approximately 700 vendors. See Mike Goodling for order forms and details.
2. Car Wash Coupons: Get a \$30 car wash at Tidal Wave for \$10.
3. The Almost New Shop: This store, which is located inside the main healthcare entrance, offers reasonably priced jewelry, clothing, household goods, furniture, and assorted other treasures. The store is open on Wednesdays from 10:00am- 3:00pm, Thursday from 12:00- 4:00 pm, and the last Saturday of each month from 10:00am- 1:00pm.

In 2025, The Friends of Cross Keys contributed the following: Good Samaritan Fund: \$67,119.13, Tuition Assistance Program- \$10,029.92, and Memory Care Support- \$1,500.

Please consider becoming a member of The Friends of Cross Keys Village: The Brethren Home Community and supporting the varied fundraisers to help other people.

See Cindy Goodling for details or order forms for all fundraisers. Information about each fundraiser will also be posted on the downstairs bulletin board.

Game Night Nov 2025



Christmas Fun





FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/1	Keri Yinger	2/17	Kevin Mowry
2/2	Jordyn Miller	2/18	Abe Church
2/6	Jim Wolf	2/19	Matthew Molison
2/7	Aaliyah Frymyer	2/20	Wayne Mummert
2/8	Carol Krouse	2/23	Joe Luckenbaugh
2/9	Leiland Smith	2/25	Paul Bollinger
2/11	Jay Godfrey	2/26	Bob Laughman
	Betty Stockslager		John Skiles
2/14	Sonja Bankert		



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2/3	Jon & Alka Swanson	(42)
2/7	Robert & Gloria Yinger	(55)
2/10	Scott & Jennifer Sanders	(36)
2/13	Dale & Cindy Ault	(44)
2/25	Michael & Gerry Altice	(48)

Thank You Notes

Dear Pastor Mark & Church Members:

Thank you so much for participating in the 40th annual Hanover Feed-A-Friend food drive! We were blessed by your support. Your donations weighed in at 140 pounds! Wow! That's awesome!

We are grateful for your love and compassion for a neighbor in need. We'd love for you to come visit our Center any time. We can show you your impact in action. God bless you all!

Michelle Zemba
New Hope Ministries



Uplift in Prayer

Listed here are those with ongoing concerns, recuperating from surgery or procedures, recently hospitalized and/or have been shared through our prayer chain. Your thoughts and prayers are always appreciated.

Carol Snyder, Brian & Julie, Sue Ambrosius, Betty Stockslager, Bob & family, baby Aurora, Mary Kate Henry, Tim, Patrick Sullivan

Hanover Hall

Esther Brown, Rm 117A

Spring Creek Rehab

Sonja Bankert

Country Meadows

Bonnie Berwager, Apt 311

Brethren Home

Mary Kate Henry, PC Rm 2918

Dolores Beard, PC Rm 4931

Mary Ann Dissinger, BR Rm 210

Miriam Mills, HC Rm 2179

Utz Terrace

Evelyn Dickensheets, Rm 422



I'm going to try to find the words to tell all of you how overwhelmed I feel by the love I feel from Hanover COB.

The cards, prayers and gifts are more than I've ever had before. God truly led me to where he wanted me to be. I love each one of you.

With love and God's blessing,
Eileen McKinley

My sincere thanks for your prayers, many cards, phone calls, texts, meals, and other acts of kindness during my recent hospitalizations and since my return home. Your love and prayers have been a blessing to me along with God helping me through the healing process for which I am most thankful.

I love you all, Pat Conrad

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship  6 pm Movie Night	2 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 6 pm Line Dance 7 pm AlAnon	3 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 8 pm AA	4 2 pm Line Dance 7 pm Choir	5 9 am Crafts 6 pm Bread of Life	6 11 am Bible Study	7 8:30 am Youth Candy Making 
8 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship  6 pm Line Dance 7 pm AlAnon 7 pm Executive Board	9 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep PAL@HACC 6 pm Line Dance 7 pm AlAnon 7 pm Executive Board	10 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 8 pm AA	11 2 pm Line Dance 7 pm Choir	12 9 am Crafts	13 11 am Bible Study	14 
15 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Newsletter Article Deadline	16 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 6 pm Line Dance 7 pm AlAnon	17 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 8 pm AA	18 12 pm Over 60's 2 pm Line Dance 6 pm Choir 7pm Service 	19 9 am Crafts	20 9 am Newsletter Assembly 11 am Bible Study	21
22 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	23 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 6 pm Line Dance 7 pm AlAnon	24 7:00 - 2:00 Tax Prep 8 pm AA	25 2 pm Line Dance 7 pm Choir	26 9 am Crafts	27 11 am Bible Study	28


FEBRUARY
 2026