Council News

Hanover Area Council of Churches

September 2025

As September arrives, we are reminded of the joy and energy that come with a new school year. We wish all of our students, teachers, staff, and families a wonderful year filled with growth, learning, and success. Alongside the classrooms, our community also rallies around the excitement of school sports, Friday night lights, and the crisp anticipation of fall weather just around the corner.

This season also means the return of one of our most cherished ministries, **Ruth's Harvest**. As children head back to school, Ruth's Harvest is once again preparing to provide weekend meals to local students who may otherwise go without. You can learn more about this vital ministry in our spotlight section and discover ways you can be part of the effort to fight hunger in our local schools. Every contribution, big or small, helps ensure that no child goes hungry.

We are encouraged by the promise of Isaiah 58:10:
"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Together, let us be that light in our community.

PO BOX 1561 136 CARLISLE ST HANOVER PA 17331 717-633-6353

A Message from the Interim Executive Director

Dear Friends, Community Members, and Supporters,

As we enter September, I am filled with excitement and gratitude for the momentum happening at the Hanover Area Council of Churches. Over the past two months, our team has been hard at work re-connecting and re-establishing partnerships across our community. We are thrilled to share that our newly formed taskforces are now underway, bringing together an incredible group of business leaders, non-profit organizations, and legal representatives. The knowledge and expertise at the table are already shaping meaningful conversations that will guide our mission forward.

Looking ahead, we have several opportunities for you to join us in strengthening our community. This month, we are hosting two small fundraisers—Rhea's Food Drive and our MOD Pizza fundraiser. Both events provide simple but powerful ways to support our work, and details can be found in the flyers included in this newsletter.

We are also preparing for the CROP Walk on October 12, 2025, and we encourage all community members to start a team and walk with us. This event is not only a wonderful time of fellowship, but it is also a vital effort to raise money and awareness to fight hunger locally and across the nation.

In the past weeks, our team has been actively visiting with local Rotary groups, churches, and organizations like Community Aid to build stronger partnerships. These connections remind us that when we work together, we can accomplish more than we could ever do alone.

As Scripture tells us in Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." We continue to trust that God will provide through the hands and hearts of this generous community.

Thank you for walking alongside us as partners in this important mission. Together, we are building a stronger, more compassionate Hanover.

Erika Gonzalez

Erika Gonzalez
Interim Executive Director
dirhacc@hanoverareacouncilofchurches.org
717-633-6353 ext. 25

Hanover Area Council of Churches

Needs for September 2025

Ministry	Special Needs this Month
1983 PROVIDE-A-LUNCH *daily lunch from 11:30a-12:30p*	-Tuna Canned in Water -Beef & Turkey Gravy -Scalloped Potatoes -Reusable plastic grocery bags -Hot dog/Hamburger Rolls -3 compartment clamshell take-out containers
2013 RUTH'S HARVEST *weekend food for children*	**-Small Canned Vegetables** -Single serve Fruit Cups -Single serve Cereal -Single serve Mac & Cheese -Individual non-perishable food items
1968 CLOTHING BANK *FREE clothing for those in need*	-Dryer Sheets -Plastic Hangers -Men's Clothing (all sizes) -Children's Clothing 5T and up
1970 MEALS-ON-WHEELS *Food delivery for homebound*	-Volunteer(s) needed to pack Monday & Friday -Portable Fans -Word Search/Crossword Puzzle Books -Easy Chew Snacks (applesauce, fruit cups, crackers)
2007 CHANGING LIVES SHELTER *Only Emergency Shelter in Hanover*	-New Sheets and Blankets -Men's Underwear/Boxers (Medium, Large) -Women's Underwear (Small, Medium) -Travel size shampoo and/or conditioner -Washcloths and Bar Soap/Body Wash -Hair Brushes -Mouthwash (non-alcoholic)

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Ruth's Harvest

RUTH'S HARVEST 2013

Ruth's Harvest, a program under the Hanover Area Council of Churches, provides backpacks filled with nutritious, easy-to-prepare meals for school-aged children to take home over the weekend. Bags are packed by dedicated volunteers at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church and delivered to local elementary schools in the Hanover Public School District. Our mission is to ensure that no child goes hungry when school is out. Each backpack contains a variety of meals and snacks to help children stay energized and focused throughout the weekend. If you know a child who could benefit from this service, contact us today to sign up and help make sure no child goes without.

Stolte Scholarship

Luke Dumois of Gettysburg is the 2025 winner of the Stolte Scholarship. He will enter Messiah University in the fall, majoring in Christian Ministries and Leadership. He is currently an intern at Freedom Valley Church and feels that he was called to "become a pastor who reflects the light of Jesus Christ to others."

The Stolte Scholarship awards a one-time grant of $1000 for a local student called into ministry, missions, or humanitarian service.

CONGRATULATIONS, LUKE!

PAL Teams & Menu

SEPTEMBER

Lunch is served daily 11:30am-12:30pm

menu is subject to change

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**
	First Church of Hanover Fish Sticks, Mac & Cheese and Whole Tomatoes	**Dominion Life** Big Mac Burgers, Veggies & Fruit	**St. Bartholomew** Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Veggies	**St. Jacobs** Ravioli, Bread & Fruit	**St. Paul's #1** Soup & Sandwich	**IPCA** Pork Chops, Rice & Beans
7	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**
St. Joseph's Chili, Cornbread & Fruit	**Harrity** Chick-fil-A, Biscuits & Veggies	**Emmanuel Hanover** Beef BBQ, French Fries & Fruit	**St. Joseph's** Baked Chicken, Diced Potatoes & Fruit	**St. Matthews** Hot Dogs, Baked Beans & Fruit	**St. Paul's Broadway** Ham, Green Beans & Potatoes, Biscuits & Pudding	**St. David's Lutheran** Salmon Cakes, Taco Salad
14	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**
St. Vincent's Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes & Veggies	**Hanover COB** Sausage Sandwich & Soup	**Lazarus** Ham, Sweet Potatoes & Fruit	**Harvest Chapel** Taco Casserole, Black Beans & Pudding	**Black Rock** Lasagna, Garlic Bread & Veggies	**Grace Church** Grilled Cheese Sandwich & Soup	**Grace UCC** Sausage, Mashed Potatoes & Veggies
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**
Stone Church Hot Turkey & Gravy, Mac & Cheese & Fruit	**First Church of Hanover** Shrimp Alfredo, Bread & Veggies	**Dominion Life** Pancakes, Sausage & Eggs	**Trinity** Sheppard's Pie, Beans & Fruit	**St. Jacobs** Chicken Alfredo, Bread & Veggies	**St. Paul's Lutheran #2** Sausage, Biscuits & Fruit	**St. David's UCC** Pork, Mashed Potatoes & Veggies
28	**29**	**30**				
New Oxford Cheerleading Cheeseburgers & Soup	**New Hope Faith** Pulled Pork, Tater Tots & Fruit	**Emmanuel UCC** Fish Stick, Noodles & Veggies				

Calendar of Events
September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		PAL Breakfast 7-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm		PAL Breakfast 7-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm		Clothing Bank 9am-12pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm		PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm UPMC onsite at HACC 9am-12pm	Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm	PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm		PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm	**Finance Committee Meeting 9am** Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm	PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm		Rhea's Food Drive 1pm-4pm Clothing Bank 9am-12pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm		PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm **Executive Committee Meeting 2pm-3pm**	Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm	MOD Pizza Fundraiser-ALL DAY PAL Breakfast 7am-9am Clothing Bank 9am-12pm		
28	29	30				
Smart Recovery 7:30pm-9pm						

DID YOU KNOW?

The Hanover Area Council of Churches (HACC) has an Endowment Fund at the York County Community Foundation. Help us to secure the future of our mission, ***"To combat hunger and homelessness."***

Contribute directly to the Endowment Fund or create a legacy by including a future gift to the HACC Endowment in your will, life insurance policy, or retirement account.

Your generosity today can make a lasting impact supporting our ministries as we continue to feed, clothe and shelter those in need**.**

PROVIDE-A-LUNCH 1983 | RUTH'S HARVEST 2013 | CHANGING LIVES SHELTER 2007 | MEALS-ON-WHEELS 1970 | CLOTHING BANK 1968

Learn more about how you can help on our website:
www.hanoverareacouncilofchurches.org

MOD PIZZA FUNDRAISING

RAISE SOME DOUGH

Join us

Bring in this flyer, or order online through the MOD app or website, to use the fundraiser code provided and MOD will donate 20% of your bill to support this great work!

JOIN MOD IN SUPPORTING

ORGANIZATION NAME: HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

FUNDRAISER DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

ADDRESS: 100 EISENHOWER DR, SUITE 260
HANOVER, PA 17331

FUNDRAISER CODE: MODGIVES20

Offer valid only on the date(s) and at the MOD location identified on this flyer. Offer valid for dine-in, takeout, or delivery when ordered through the MOD app or website only. For online or in-app orders, please use the code provided by GroupRaise. For delivery, customer must live within delivery boundary. Only nonprofit organizations and nonprofit schools are eligible to participate in the MOD fundraising program. MOD will donate 20% of food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gift cards, and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Offer void if the flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant. For more information about fundraising, visit https://modpizza.com/fundraisers/

RHEA'S FOOD DRIVE

YOU CAN HELP FIGHT HUNGER!

SEPTEMBER 20TH
1PM-4PM

SOUTH HANOVER BOWLING LANES

1767 Baltimore Pike, Hanover, PA 17331

- Rhea will be collecting non-expired non-perishable items.
- All proceeds will benefit Provide-A-Lunch (PAL) and Ruth's Harvest at the HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.
- Monetary donations will be accepted; or checks can be made out to the Hanover Area Council of Churches, 136 Carlisle Street, Hanover, PA 17331.
- WIN A FREE GAME OF BOWLING with each donation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

CROP HUNGER WALK BY CWS

HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

CHICKENS, BEANS AND BIG *Dreams*

Hanover CROP Hunger Walk

October 12, 2025 at 1:00PM

1, 2 or 3 mile Walk routes at Codorus State Park - Marina Day Use Area

Registration begins at 12:30p.m.

St. Paul's (Dubs) UNION CHURCH ANNEX

1958 Dubs Church Road, Hanover, pa 17331

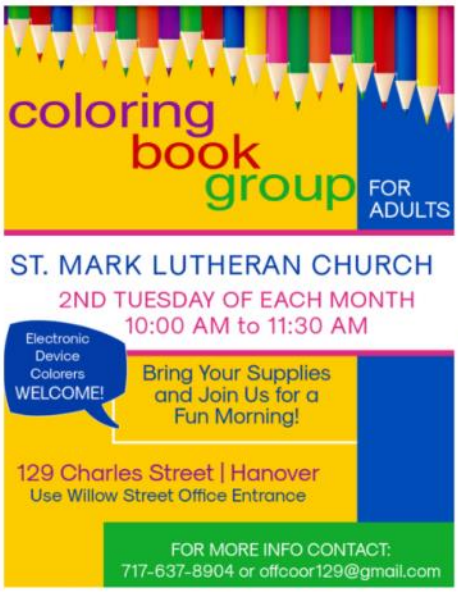
Come Join Us! Register Your Team Today at:
www.crophungerwalk.org/hanoverpa

Hosted by the Hanover Area Council of Churches

888-CWS-CROP • CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG

Donate or sign up for your walk today!

COMMUNITY EVENTS



WHAT DOES THE OFFICE OF THE AGING OFFER TO HELP SENIORS?

On Saturday, September 20th, a representative from York County's Office for the Aging will be at St. Paul's talking about the programs they have for seniors in York County. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 9am to 10:30am. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. This is a perfect time to learn more about programs that are available and to ask any questions you may have about them. Please call 717-637-5941 if you would like to sign-up to attend.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

NEED DIAPERS?

We've got you covered

Families in Bloom
A ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church
100 E. Water St. Abbottstown, PA

SUMMER 2025 DISTRIBUTION DATES:

THURSDAYS (2:30-4:30PM)	SATURDAYS (9:30-11:30AM)
JUNE 5	JUNE 21
JULY 3	JULY 19
AUG. 7	AUG. 23
SEPT. 4	SEPT. 20

717-467-3041 | amy@stjohnsatown.com

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH- 5:30PM to 7:00PM
SPRING FORGE SHOPPING PLAZA

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH est. 1760

LAUNDRY LOVE

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH est. 1760

LOVING PEOPLE ONE LOAD AT A TIME

Seniors Summer Fun

Every Thursday from 1:00PM-3:00PM

Enjoy: Fellowship, Bingo, Snacks, Crafts galore, Chair Yoga, Family Feud, Sing-A-Longs, And Much More!

A Just Serve Opportunity from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Grace Mullen – (717) 640-0691

Looking for a community of mature adults to 'hang out' with? Please join our Seniors Hang Out at St. Matthew Lutheran Church!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 FROM 10:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
30 W. Chestnut St - Hanover, PA
Call the church office at 717-637-7101 with any questions.

Happy
95.3 • 1280
93.7 • 1320

TUNE IN TO THE LIVE BROADCAST ON WHVR 1280 AM Live 10:00—11:00 AM | Every first Monday of the month Join program Better Living Radio with Bill O'Brien as various guest speakers in form, entertain and enlighten you on a variety of interesting subjects from health care, community events, and other topics of local and regional interest.

Hanover Area Council of Churches
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www.hanoverareacouncilofchurches.org
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Any Questions, Concerns, Suggestions or Address Changes?

For any newsletter submissions, updates and/or any volunteer opportunities please email:
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Melissa Early, Clothing Bank Coordinator
clothingbank@hanoverareacouncilofchurches.org

Please call us at: Office 717-633-6353 Shelter 717-633-1992
Our administration office is open Monday to Friday 8AM to 1PM
Changing Lives Shelter is closed between the hours of 11AM to 1PM