

News from Meeting House Hill

The Dover Church

"Building Christian Community"

February 10, 2011

To The Church in Dover,

May grace and peace be yours from God our Creator and our Lord Jesus Christ!

More than a fifteen months ago, three men in our church started getting together for lunch every Friday: myself, Dave Melville and Jim MacDonald. We were going to be my first "small group" at The Dover Church, a gathering to talk about faith, share our lives, and listen for God. It soon became clear that our group was not going to be a "traditional" group, in that our conversations always came back to a desire to do something, to find a way to let our faith speak through action. We wanted to do something transformative, both for ourselves and for the people and community we would work with. We wanted our mission to be inter-generational, something we could involve our children in. We wanted our mission to be something that we could share with our church as an invitation for wider participation. And we wanted whatever we did to be both meaningful, substantive, and sustainable. No "One-offs." No disaster tourism. No "feel good throw away gestures."

And we met and had lunch, week after week, as we threw out ideas, did research, talked with people, and focused our thinking. Barry Fougere joined us and brought his vision to the table. When the earthquake hit Haiti a year ago, we started to turn our attention towards the overwhelming need for hands and hearts. We began to plan an exploratory trip, first with our brothers and sisters at St. Dunstan's Church across the street, and then with an organization called the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation, a group from the South Shore who run a hospital in Haiti. Jim's father had been one of the prime movers in starting this group and Jim himself had served there in his twenties. Then Dave heard about a woman from Dover named Elizabeth Sheehan who was turning abandoned shipping containers into medical clinics. We met with Paul from St. Boniface. We met with Liz. We didn't get to go to Haiti because of the political unrest there. We met with both Paul and Liz and Conor, also from St. Boniface, and now they are working together.

(Please turn over)

LOOKING AHEAD

This Sunday

February 13

Black History Month

Haiti Presentation

during

Worship

March 6

Lenten

Fat Sunday

Pancake Brunch

Dixieland Music during

Worship

March 13

Daylight Savings

Time Begins



THE DOVER CHURCH • P.O. Box 305, Dover, MA 02030 • Tel/fax: 508-785-0957 • info@thedoverchurch.org • www.thedoverchurch.org

Rev. Dr. C. Maxwell Olmstead, Senior Pastor <max@thedoverchurch.org>

Rev. Ingrid J. Barrett, Interim Associate Pastor <ingrid@thedoverchurch.org>



Continued from p.1

Now we want you to meet Conor and Liz, to hear their stories of innovative and inspiring service. Karl Johnson put together our invitational flier, which we hope you have all seen. We want to see if you catch our dream for partnering in meaningful mission work. We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday, February 13, at 9:30. Conor and Liz will be preaching and showing slides of their work. There will be an opportunity after worship for questions and answers. There will be special music. This is going to be great and we hope to see you here.

In faith, hope, and love,
Max - Your Pastor

Thursday Bible Study

Bible Study resumes on Thursday February 17th at 9:00am in the church library. The study this winter is entitled: Smorgasbord: Tasting Biblical Topics. Everyone is invited to join us Thursday mornings. For more information contact Ingrid at ingrid@thedoverchurch.org.

*The newsletter of
The Dover Church is published bi-weekly. Deadline for all submissions is Wednesday at noon. Please email all submissions to Joan Whalen in the church office at admin@thedoverchurch.org
We welcome your news.*

In this issue:

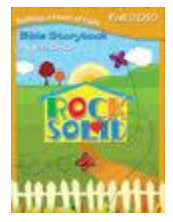
| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| News from Max | p1 |
| Christian Education..... | p2 |
| Bible Study | p2 |
| HSYG | p2 |
| Book Group..... | p2 |
| Ministry of Music..... | p3 |
| The Lunch Bunch..... | p3 |
| Confirmation..... | p3 |
| From the Moderator | p4 |

Christian Education Director

Rev. Ingrid Barrett

Sunday School

This Sunday there is regular Sunday School for 3rd grade and younger. Grades 4-8 will stay in church for the entire service to hear the Haiti presentation.



Ingrid

High School Youth Group

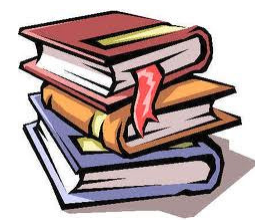
Reminder from
Jen Hornsby -



This week high school youth group will be held on SUNDAY 2/13. There will be no high school youth group on Monday 2/14. We will be meeting from 6:15 - 8:15 in Kraft Hall. Hope to see you there!!!

Book Group

- There are many great spiritual books out there waiting to be read and discussed. If you are interested in being part of a Dover Church Book Group please contact Ingrid at ingrid@thedoverchurch.org.



The Ministry of Music

Michael and Stacia Kraft

On Sunday, April 3 we will gather as an expanded choir for the 9:30 morning worship service to sing *Kleine Orgelmesse* (Little Organ Mass) of Franz Joseph Haydn. It is a simple, 15 minute composition that we can work on beginning in March. I would like anyone who has sung in the choir, who has thought about singing in the choir, or should be singing in the choir to join us that day. This is your chance to experience being in the choir with a short term commitment, a chance to get to know your fellow parishioners, and have fun singing beautiful and fairly simple music together in a Sunday morning worship service.

Please RSVP with a short note of your interest so I can plan accordingly.

The rehearsal schedule is:

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Thursday, March 3 | 8-9 p.m. |
| Thursday, March 10 | 8-9 p.m. |
| Thursday, March 24 | 8-9 p.m. |
| Thursday, March 31 | 8-9 p.m. |



Michael

The Lunch Bunch



The Lunch Bunch's next meeting will be on Thursday, February 17th at 12:15pm in Kraft Hall for a "bring your own" lunch. We will be preparing fleece blankets for the children to assemble as their Kids in Mission project in February. These blankets will be given to two Dover seniors and six dormitory living areas at the Walker School for children. We are also going to make two blankets to be auctioned off at our 250th Anniversary celebration in April. Please bring with you scissors that can cut fabric and straight pins. Come join us for fun, learning, service and friendship.

For more information contact Ingrid at ingrid@thedoverchurch.org.

MORE MUSIC NEWS



February 13 Musical celebration of Black History Month

March 6 Dixieland band to celebrate "Fat Sunday" - last Sunday before Lent

On another note, the CD's from our Christmas concert are in and available for \$10. Please let Michael know if you would like a copy so that he can have the proper number of copies made.

Confirmation Meetings

Sunday, February 13 @ 5:30 pm
 Sunday, March 6 @ 5:30 pm
 Sunday, April 3 @ 10:45 am
 Sunday, April 10 @ 10:45 am
 April 29 & 30 Mission Retreat
 Sunday, May 8 @ 10:45 am
 Sunday, May 15 @ 10:45 am
 Sunday, May 22 @ 10:45 am
Sunday, June 5 Confirmation

Office Hours for Max Olmstead

Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00pm
 Wednesday 9:00 – 4:00pm
 Thursday 9:00 – Noon

Or by appointment

From the Moderator:

"I want to thank everyone who has already completed our participation survey. I am thankful to have 50 completed forms. I still need to hear from many of you.



Please take a minute complete the survey, or email me to let me know how you would like to participate in our church life. Copies are available in the church office. I have compiled lists for our staff and ministry teams to let them know of your interest. I hope this will allow all of us share our gifts with the church and each other."

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