



News from Meeting House Hill

The Dover Church

"Building Christian Community"

September 1, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 14

It's already time again for Rally Day!!!

Rally Day is the 2nd Sunday in September when we kick off our church programming year: Sunday School, Music, Ministry and Mission Leadership Team Meetings, the whole enchilada!

This year we have an extra special Rally Day planned with a string band playing bluegrass music in worship and the blessing of our newly renovated Sunday School classrooms in Lower Kraft Hall. That's right, the 250th Renovation Committee has been busy as bees all summer and the new rooms look fantastic. Other highlights will be: Emilia's first official Children's Sermon, our covenant with the Sunday School students and teachers, and, after the service a barbecue lunch and a Rally Table Fair, to discover what the different groups of the church are passionate about! Want to sign-up for a particular group? No problem! Just looking around to see what is available at the Dover Church? Wonderful, we would love to chat with you about our part of the ministry of our church.

Please bring your families and friends who may be looking for a church home. This is going to be a fun event and a great way to introduce folks to the Dover Church!

With all this activity swirling around us, we will need volunteers to help bring this fun to our children. If you can help the CE committee members with serving lunch or overseeing our games, please be in touch with Emilia through the church.

Monetary contributions for the catered luncheon will be gratefully accepted. A check made out to 'The Dover Church' can be sent or dropped off at the church office. Please identify the check for the Rally Day luncheon.

It would be great if as many people as possible park in the lower parking lot this Sunday because all the games will be set up in the upper church parking lot. Those who need to park closer to the church may certainly still park in the upper church parking lot.

LOOKING AHEAD

September 4

Woodland Worship

at 9:30 am.

The cross street on Pine Street is Hales Hollow. Just follow the crowds through the woods to worship!

September 11

Rally Sunday at 9:30am

Sunday School Resumes

**9/11 Remembrance Service at
Dover Center**

September 18

**High School Youth Group
Resumes**

October 2

World Communion Sunday

October 16

**Congregational Meeting and
Pot Luck**

*(See inside calendar for more
details)*

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. Emilia Halstead, Associate Pastor <emilia@thedoverchurch.org>



Associate Pastor

Rev. Emilia Halstead

*“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.”
Matthew 7:24*

With the help of previous Sunday School teachers and discussions with other CE Directors in the area, **Rock Solid** by Cokesbury has been chosen as our curriculum for grades Pre-K to 5th grade. **Reel to Real** will be used for our older students in grades 6, 7, and 8. **Rock Solid** is built around stories from the Bible. For children to form a lasting relationship with the Bible we have to get them into it. As our children grow we will help them develop skills that will unlock the Bible’s messages for them. The development editors of **Rock Solid** recognize that children “know” that which they have “experienced” and processed. In order for children to have faith and build a relationship with God they have to experience what this faith is like and see it lived out in the adults around them.



Reel to Real is a Bible-based exploration of issues facing youth through the medium of modern and classic movies. Movies are selected which both interest youth and which offer insights and exploration into life and faith and where they intersect. Reel to Real promotes discussion, fellowship, and community among the youth as they view and discuss the films in conjunction with selected Biblical passages that tie in with the theme of the movie.



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In September, all our children will have lessons about communion. Through the suggestion of previous teachers and also members of the CE Committee, we will be sampling the “stations” model of Sunday School with a curriculum created by Rev. Deborah Alberswerth Payden. These lessons are being offered because on Sunday, October 3rd, which is **World Wide Communion Sunday**, all our students will be invited to share in communion with their families. A letter detailing this worship service will be sent to all families with Sunday School age children.

It is our hope that through these lessons the children will have a better understanding of this sacrament in our faith tradition.



During October and November our **Rock Solid** curriculum presents lessons from the Old Testament on the lives of Jacob and his son Joseph, the growing of God’s family and the Hope for God’s people.

After Thanksgiving we enter the season of Advent – a season of preparation and waiting for the Christ child’s birth. The children will be talking about Advent, Jesus’ birth and preparing for a Christmas pageant.

God’s grace be with you,

Emilia

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

Sunday School Teachers

If all our Sunday School families pitch in and help, there is no reason why any teacher should have to teach more than one session, unless they choose to do so. Please say “yes” if you are called and asked to teach, or if you wish, be in touch with Emilia through the church. We are also looking for parents who would be on a substitute teachers list and/or willing to help with **Kids in Mission** Sundays. Any questions about teaching, please call Emilia.

Sunday School Teachers’ Meeting

Sunday School teachers’ training will be held on Tuesday, September 5th 9:30-11:00am for teachers leading the Pre-K through 5th grade classes. Training for teachers leading the 6, 7 & 8 grade class will be held on Wednesday, September 6th 7:30-9:00pm. These are mandatory meeting for teachers. Anyone who is interested in teaching in the future is also invited to attend! Contact Emilia in the office with any questions.

Sunday School Curriculum

Sunday School curriculum will begin on September 18 and run through June 12th which will be Children’s Sunday. Our theme this year asks the question “What’s in your Faith Toolbox?” Throughout the year during Sunday School this question will be asked and answered. The year will center around “the tools of faith.”

To register for Sunday School just join us for Rally Day on September 11 or call the church office at 508-785-0957 during the week for more information or for questions, call Emilia Halstead at the church.

Sunday School will be offered **every** Sunday throughout the year. On the holiday weekends all classes of Sunday School will be combined into a class called **Kids in Mission**. These classes will focus on mission projects done by the children. For example, letters/cards could be written to our soldiers overseas, small decorative pieces could be made for the meal trays at a VA hospital, or perhaps some project which would allow our children to interact with the children who come to us through the IHN project. Regular Sunday School teachers will not be expected to lead these classes unless they wish. Members of the Sunday School team will be leading these projects with other interested volunteers.

September 2011

THE DOVER CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:30am Woodland-Worship	5 1:00pm Al Anon	6	7 9:00am Al Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	8	9 1:00pm Men's Friday Lunch Group	10 9:00am Do- ver Days Fair
11 9:30am Rally Sunday Sunday School Re- sumes 11:30am 9/11 Re- membrance Service at Dover Center	12 1:00pm Al Anon	13 7:30pm Meeting Night	14 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	15 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Choir Prac- tice	16	17
18 9:30am Worship Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG Re- sumes	19 1:00pm Al Anon	20 3:15pm 4th & 5th Grade Youth Group 7:30pm Deacon's Meeting	21 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Per- sonnel Meet- ing	22 7:30pm Choir Prac- tice 12:15pm The Lunch Bunch	23	24
25 9:30am Worship Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	26 1:00pm Al Anon	27 7:30pm Council Budget Meeting	28 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	29 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Choir Prac- tice	30	

October 2011

THE DOVER CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Old Home Day UCC Super Saturday
2 World Communion Sunday 9:30am Worship Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation Class 6:00pm HSYG	3 1:00 pm Al Anon	4 3:15pm 4th & 5th Grade	5 7:30am DSHS Peer Helping 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 7:00pm Family Handbell Choir 7:30pm Choir Practice	7	8
9 9:30am Worship Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	10 Columbus Day Church Office Closed 1:00 pm Al Anon	11 7:30pm Meeting Night	12 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Choir Practice	14 1:00pm Men's Lunch Group	15
16 9:30am Worship Sunday School 11:00am Congregational Meeting/ Pot Luck 6:00pm HSYG	17 1:00 pm Al Anon	18 3:15pm 4th & 5th Grade 7:30am Deacon's Meeting	19 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 7:00pm Family Handbell Choir 7:30pm Choir Practice	21 Youth Group Retreat	22 Youth Group Retreat
23 9:30am Worship Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation 3:00pm Lunch Bunch Kitchen Shower 6:00pm HSYG	24 1:00pm Al Anon	25	26 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27 4:00pm Boston Assemblie 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Choir Practice	28	29
30 All Saints IHN Week Begins Sunday School 11:30am New Members 6:00pm HSYG	31 IHN Week 1:00pm Al Anon					

Restoration Committee Update

The Restoration Committee has been hard at work since last spring. Here is a quick update:

1. **May:** A newly expanded Restoration Committee met to decide the order of work to be done, based on both the "Wish List" approved by the congregation and Trustees, as well as by the amount of funds currently raised. The committee decided the following:
 - a. Due to the pre-school tenant and our Sunday School not being in session, work on lower Kraft Hall should be done during the summer months. A "Sunday School Sub Committee" was formed, consisting of Laura Wood, Anne Carter, Sally Shoemaker, Emilia Halstead and Kim Cone.
 - b. A "Decorating Committee" was also formed at this time, consisting of Lee Graham, Sally Shoemaker, Dale Cabot, Sara Jo Marble and Kim Cone. The goal of the Decorating Committee was to not only study the overall color scheme of the church, with its first goal being paint color recommendations for lower Kraft Hall, but to make furniture and carpet recommendations for this area, as well. It was decided that the color scheme currently in place in both the sanctuary and Kraft Hall would only be freshened, not changed dramatically.
 - c. As the result of an extensive energy audit coordinated by Bill Barrett and Chris Newport last winter, designated repairs/adjustments to the heating system were also approved at this time.
 - d. Also approved was the work to be done on the sanctuary carrying wall, due to the summer being the optimal time for this work, as well. Betty Brady offered to coordinate this work.
 - e. Finally, the committee approved a glass door for Max' office, which is required under "Safe Church" policies, as well as new furniture and paint for Emilia's new office.

2. *May and June:*

- a. The Sunday School Sub Committee met once a week to review in great detail the usage of lower Kraft Hall with the goal of fine tuning the details of the proposed renovation. The group also toured the Wellesley Congregational Church to view another recent renovation. A "Building Specification" sheet was developed for the two contractors bidding on the project. This sub committee also worked tirelessly to clean out the Sunday School rooms. Assisting with the final clean out was Peter Wier and two friends of Emilia's from seminary school. *(cont. on p. 7)*

High School Youth Group

Pies! Pies! Pies!



We are looking for a few (or a lot) of pie makers! Emilia has heard the wonderful stories of the mountains of pies made in previous years for the Dover Days Fair and would love to see it in action! We are also looking for a few folks to whip up a couple dozen chocolate chip cookies. Volunteers for baking pies/cookies, please contact Emilia in the church office.

This year Emilia and the Senior High Youth Group will be organizing the Dover Church booth at the Dover Days Fair held on Saturday Sept 10 from 9am-4pm. In addition to the pies made by members of the Dover Church, the youth will be making and selling seven layered bean soup mixes. The initial proceeds collected at the booth this year will go towards our sponsored child, Jake. All subsequent funds will go towards the Senior High Work Camp in April. Hope to see you there!!

Since Dover Days was generated to celebrate all residents of Dover of all generations we would like to have *at least one adult* church member and one **youth** staffing the booth throughout the day. Shifts will be 9-11am, 11am-1pm and 1-3pm. To sign up for a shift or with questions about Dover Days, please contact Emilia in the office.

Office Hours for Max Olmstead

Tuesday 1:00 – 2:30pm
Wednesday 9:00 – 4:00pm
Thursday 9:00 – Noon
 or by appointment
Cell Phone: 508-982-0422

Coffee Hour Hosts 2011 – 2012

PLEASE CONSIDER HOSTING A COFFEE HOUR TO CELEBRATE A FAMILY EVENT, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, OR A HOLIDAY SUCH AS COLUMBUS DAY, HALOWEEN, MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY, MOTHER'S DAY OR FATHER'S DAY.

SIGN UP EARLY TO RESERVE YOUR SPECIAL DATE BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 508-785-0957.

FIRST COFFEE HOUR IS ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2011.



(cont. from p.6)

b. The Decorating Committee met on a weekly basis starting in June, looking at a multitude of paint and carpet samples that might be considered in all areas of the church.

c. Emilia's office was completed.

3. July:

a. The Sunday School Sub Committee met with the larger Restoration Committee and Trustees to make a recommendation to hire Peter Halkett as the contractor of choice for the lower Kraft Hall project. Both the Restoration Committee and Trustees approved the hiring of Peter Halkett. Peter started work on July 30th, with much progress already having been made by the end of the first week of August.

b. The Decorating Committee made paint, carpet and furniture decisions for lower Kraft Hall.

c. Thanks to Betty Brady, work on the carrying wall, which includes both exterior and interior construction, has almost been completed.

d. The replacement of Max' door was also completed.

e. The work on the heating system has been scheduled to be completed before the end of the summer.

4. Going forward:

a. The Restoration Committee will meet again in early September to review the next segment of the "Wish List" to be completed, once again based on funds raised and the church schedule.

My very sincere gratitude to all committee members who took time from their summer schedules to expedite the work to be done on the church. The work is exciting, but the camaraderie and friendships made during this process is valuable beyond measure.

Warm Regards,
Kim Cone

The Lunch Bunch



The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, September 22 at 12:15 pm at the church for a "bring your own" lunch. Come join us as we make plans for this fall. All women are invited to attend. For more information, contact Ingrid Barrett at ijbarrett@comcast.net

Youth Ministry at the Dover Church

FIRST Senior High Youth Group gathering is: Wednesday SEPTEMBER 7th from 6:00-8:15pm

Youth Group Schedules (please note the date/time for Junior and Senior High have changed):

4 & 5 Grade Youth Group: First (1st) and Third (3rd) Tuesday afternoons each month from 3:15-4:30pm
First gathering is September 20th

Junior High Youth Group: Second (2nd) and Fourth (4th) Thursday evenings each month from 6:30-8:00pm
First gathering is September 15th

Senior High Youth Group: Every Sunday evening from 6:00-8:15pm
First *Sunday* gathering is September 18th

“What’s in a name? Come to the first gathering to find out!”
Questions? Contact Emilia in the office.

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