



News from Meeting House Hill

The Dover Church

"Building Christian Community"

October 27, 2011

Volume 2, Issue 3

To the Church in Dover,

May grace and peace be yours in abundance, through God our Creator and our Lord Jesus Christ!

Right now there is a lot of new life and energy in our church: renovation projects, new families, more children, bands playing in worship, a great congregational meeting with people wondering when we are going to become a missional church. Talk about exciting! At least for a pastor interested in leading an excited church!

It is particularly exciting in light of where our church was not so very long ago. It is so very easy to forget how much of a decline we were in only two years ago. Everything I just noted was absent. No kids, no excitement, no variety in worship, no young families, no congregational meetings, no outward vision.

People have different ideas about how things got that way here at The Dover Church, but the truth is that many, many churches are in decline right now. These churches are invariably the ones who are trying to do things the way they always have. Those of you who have served on committees with me will know that I have been preaching a new way of being church: one that is faith centered rather than organizational, one that is Spirit lead rather than agenda driven, one that is permission giving rather than hierarchically encumbered with multiple checks and balances that are really just checks to keep things from happening. In short, I am inviting committees to let go of what used to be "normal." Now there are churches that are thriving right now, all around us. Sometimes I think it is better to have an "outside expert" come in to tell you something important which might be disruptive to your comfort zone. And so, I have invited **the Reverend Wendy VanderHart**, our MACUCC Area Minister, to come **preach on November 13**. Her sermon will be "**The New Normal**," and she will tell us stories of what churches that are thriving are doing. I think this will be very exciting for all of you to hear. Perhaps something in what Wendy has to say may spark our vision of what our faith and fellowship might yet become here at The Dover Church. Wendy would very much like to sit down and chat with interested leaders and members after worship. Please don't blow it off and stay away just because "an outsider" is coming.

In Faith, Hope and Love,
Max – Your Pastor

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>

LOOKING AHEAD

October 30
All Saints Day

November 6
Daylight Savings Time ends
Family Worship Begins
New Members' Class

November 13
New Members' Class
Wendy VanderHart Preaching

November 16
What's On Your Heart?

November 20
Agape Sunday

November 27
1st Advent

(See inside calendar for more details)



Associate Pastor

Rev. Emilia Halstead

To the Dover Church Family,

Greetings, salutations, and blessings be upon you! What a wonderful fall semester we have had so far! Rally Day and the Communion Curriculum were a huge success in September. We officially "opened" the new Sunday school rooms with our ribbon-cutting ceremony on World Communion Sunday. To our surprise and delight we have needed to add to our renovation plans the use of the Kraft Hall stage as the Middle School Sunday school room! With 36 registered middle school students and a blooming successful Reel to Real curriculum, the new space is transforming into a multi-media space of learning, discussion and faith sharing.

God's Blessings have not ended there! As of last Sunday we have welcomed seven new families into our Christian Education program. It is a delight to see the number of kids coming up for the Children's Sermon grow and grow! The Holy Spirit surely is in this place.

Another program that has been growing is our Acolyte team! This year we have invited 2nd -8th graders to sign-up to be acolytes this year. In fact, my mailbox has blossomed into a colorful collage! If your child has received a letter about being an acolyte, please encourage them to send back the colorful postcard so that I know they are interested! I will assume that if I do not receive a postcard that the child is not interested in participating. Acolyte training is on November 6th after worship in the sanctuary. Thank you!

In this issue:

- Word from Max p1
- Christian Educationp2
- All Church Cleanupp2
- The Lunch Bunchp3
- Calendarpp4&5
- Operation American Soldier....p6
- Interfaith Hospitality.....p6
- The Center Streetersp6
- The Lunch Bunch p7
- Yoga at The Dover Church..... p7
- Church Duties..... p7

Finally, brand new to the Teddy Bear room is a pager system! Any parent(s) that drop off their child(ren) in the nursery before or during worship will receive a numbered pager. In the unlikely event of an emergency, the Mother's Helpers will be able to page the parent of the child in question. The pager only vibrates to signal the wearer that they are being paged. Feel free to e-mail or call me with any questions you may have.

Christ's Peace be with you,

Emilia



All Church Grounds Fall Clean Up!!!!

**Saturday, November 19
at 8:00am**

Looking for volunteers to help
with the grounds clean up.

We especially need people with
leaf blowers.

Questions? Call Betty Brady
at 508-785-0790

*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.*



The Dover Church Lunch Bunch

invites all women to

"Dresses for Lunch"

November 17, 2011

12:15pm

Kraft Hall

Dover Church



Lunch will be provided by The Lunch Bunch

Everyone attending is asked to bring new-like, clean and stylish women's apparel such as dresses, suits, pants, sweaters, etc. to benefit the

South Shore Women's Resource Center

RSVP by Nov 15th Dawn Fattore

dafattore@comcast.net or

508-785-0426



November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 IHN Week 9:00am Centering Prayer 10:30am Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Spiritual Toolbox	2 IHN Week 9:00am Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	3 IHN Week 9:00am Yoga 1:00pm Decorating Committee 7:00pm Family Handbell 7:30pm Choir Practice	4 IHN Week 11:30am Yoga with Leila	5 IHN Week 10:00 Colonial Clergy Society
6 Daylight Savings Time ends IHN Week ends 9:00am Family Worship 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 11:00am New Member's Class 6:00pm HSYG	7 1:00pm Anon 7:30pm Stewardship Meeting	8 Election Day 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Meeting Night	9 9:00am Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	10 9:00am Yoga 1:00pm Decorating Committee 4:00pm Boston Assemblies 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Choir	11 Veteran's Day Church Office Closed 11:30am Yoga with Leila 1:00pm Men's Friday Lunch Group TBD	12 8:00am CDC Pancake Breakfast
13 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 11:00am New Member's Class 6:00pm HSYG	14 1:00pm Anon	15 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Deacon's Meeting	16 9:00am Anon 9:00am What's On Your Heart? 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm What's On Your Heart?	17 9:00am Yoga 4:00pm Boston Assemblies 7:00pm Family Handbell 7:30pm Choir	18 11:30am Yoga with Leila	19 Confirmation Retreat at Grotonwood 8:00am Church Clean Up 5:00pm "The Center Streeters" Concert
20 Agape Sunday 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	21 1:00pm Anon	22 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Council	23 9:00am Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	24 Thanks-giving	25 Office Closed	26
27 9:30am Worship Kids in Mission	28 1:00pm Anon	29 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer	30 9:00am Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts			

December 2011

THE DOVER CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:00pm Dec- orating Com- mittee 7:00pm Fami- ly Handbell Choir 7:30pm Choir	2 11:30am Yoga with Leila	3 8:00am Dover Po- lice Seniors Break- fast
4 IHN Week 9:00am Family Worship New Members Joining 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 11:00am Advent Brunch	5 1:00 pm Al Anon	6 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 10:30am Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer 7:30pm Spir- itual Toolbox	7 9:00am Al Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	8 1:00pm Dec- orating Com- mittee 4:00pm Bos- ton Assem- blies 7:00pm Fami- ly Handbell Choir	9 11:30am Yoga with Leila 1:00pm Men's Lunch Group	10 DMA Santa Break- fast
11 9:30am Worship Service Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	12 1:00 pm Al Anon	13 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer 7:30pm Meeting Night	14 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	15 1:00pm Dec- orating Com- mittee 7:30pm Choir Practice	16 11:30am Yoga with Leila	17
18 Lessons & Car- ols Open House at Parsonage 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	19 1:00 pm Al Anon	20 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer 7:30pm Dea- con's Meet- ing 7:30pm Council Meeting	21 9:00am Al Anon 9:00am What's On Your Heart? 7:00pm What's On Your Heart? 7:00pm Boy Scouts	22 1:00pm Dec- orating Com- mittee 7:30pm Choir Practice	23	24 Christmas Eve 4:00pm Early Ser- vice 8:00pm Second Service 11:00pm Candle- light Service
25 Christmas Day 9:30am Worship Service	26 1:00pm Al Anon	27	28 9:00am Al Anon	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

Operation American Soldier

Our drive for Operation American Soldier continues, in preparation for their Thanksgiving cheer package shipment. Please consider dropping off the following in the box outside the choir room anytime on or before **Sunday, November 6th:**



- * Peanut butter in plastic jars
- * Individually packaged snacks: trail mix, nuts, cookies, crackers, Gold Fish
- * Beef jerky or individually wrapped "Slim Jims"
- * Tuna in pouch containers

Thanks to everyone for your support!

The Center Streeters at The Dover Church

Saturday, November 19 at 5:00pm

Dover's own folk, country and bluegrass band, The Centre Streeters, has just released their third CD, "Dancing on the Crest." To thank friends who have hired and supported the band for three decades, the Centre Streeters are hosting a CD Release party at the Dover Church on Saturday, November 19th, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The party will be in the Kraft Hall, refreshments will be served and the group will play songs from their new album. Kids are welcome. Please come and join the fun.



Dock Murdock - Dobro, Banjo, Guitar, Vocals;
Putnam Murdock - Guitar, Vocals; Linda Foehl - Bass,
Vocals; Will Swan - Guitar, Mandolin, Vocals;
Tim Roper - Fiddle, Penny Whistle, Vocals.

Yoga at The Dover Church

FLOWING YOGA WITH LEILA

**A six-week session of classes beginning Friday
Nov. 4th at 11:30am!**

Come join us in the Music Room for a 75-minute class perfect for beginners and more advanced yoga students alike. Each pose can be modified to either increase or decrease the intensity for the student.



Leila's style of Vinyassa- or flowing yoga- is a blend of Ashtanga, Iyengar and Viniyoga, with powerful attention to the breath- as this is the essence of yoga. Truly, yoga is a physical form of meditation!

Through small group classes students get the hands-on adjustments that promote proper alignment for safety; as well as provide them with deeper access to the pose to release tight muscles and stuck energy channels within the body!

Classes are \$15 per class for the session- pre-paid, and \$17 per class for drop-in. There must be at least 5 people pre-paid and committed for the session to run. Any questions or to sign up- please email Leila at leilabh@hotmail.com

About the Instructor:

Leila Pidcock has been teaching yoga for 7 years and is trained through Open Doors Yoga School having completed their 200 hr teacher's training program. She specializes in small group in-home yoga classes.

She has gone on to continue her yoga instruction training through workshops and seminars that come to an additional 200 hours with yoga mentors and masters such as Patricia Waldon, Shiva Rea, Natasha Rizopoulos, and Anna Forrest - to name a few. Her quest for knowledge is always there!

From the Moderator

The blessing of our renovated Sunday school rooms was a joyous event. We thanked many people for their efforts on this project and celebrated with a special coffee hour and a delicious cake. Afterwards we found pieces of cake downstairs in the newly renovated classrooms.

I would like to put some guidelines in place to ensure our classrooms stay in great condition. **I hope all of you will join me in this effort to keep our newly renovated classrooms, and the rest of our church facilities, in the best condition possible.**

I ask that whenever possible, food and drinks be consumed in the main area of Kraft Hall and the kitchen. Let's try to not take food or drinks anywhere in the church where there is carpeting. This would include the stairs leading to the classrooms, the downstairs classrooms, the newly renovated stage area, the hallway leading through the administrative wing, the music room and in the sanctuary (with the exception of communion, agape service, etc.).

I ask that everyone help keep food within Kraft Hall proper. I know that this will not always be possible and that situations will come up where we will have food in these other areas, but in general let's try to keep this in mind. I appreciate everyone's help and support and hope no one is offended by my request.

Beth

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

Sunday Fellowship



- November 6 The Newports
- November 13 Jane Moore & Nancy Goodall
- November 20
- November 27 Anna & George Whiting

Deacon on Duty



- November 6 Lisa Procter
- November 13 Lisa Procter
- November 20 Dexter Donham
- November 27 Anna Whiting

Ushers



- November 6 Tammy MacWilliams
- November 13 Brad & Barbara Baker
- November 20 Bob Graham & Klarina Donoghue
- November 27

Readers



- November 6 Carl Krause
- November 13 Barbara Baker
- November 20 Lee Graham
- November 27 Mary Jane Law



**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the
new Sunday School Classrooms**

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