

# News from Meeting House Hill

**The Dover Church**

*"Building Christian Community"*

**April 27, 2012**

Volume 3, Issue 5

To the church of Christ in Dover:

Grace, mercy, and peace be yours from God our Father and Christ Jesus our Lord!

This morning at breakfast, Marie-Laure handed me a small glass with Lily of the Valley in it. "Smell this." I did and I was taken away by the beauty of it. So rich. So fragrant. So tiny and delicate. And so many memories. My mother loved Lily of the Valley and planted them abundantly around our home. My grandmother loved Lily of the Valley and placed cachets with that scent in her closets and chest of drawers. When my grandmother passed away, my mother planted Lily of the Valley on her parents' grave. Twenty five years later they have gone native. This time of year, I can go to Oak Hill Cemetery in Plymouth to visit my grandparents' grave and be literally surrounded my smells from the past.

I stand outside our house on Dedham Street and smell the lilacs blooming by the corner of the house. I sit in the kitchen, watching Marie-Laure working away at a delicious supper for her family. I wait on the doorstep for Leo to get off the school bus and just melt as he sees me, smiles and runs up the driveway. I stand behind a bookshelf at Wellesley Books watching Lucas sitting at the children's table, reading *The Cat in the Hat* and *Batman* books. I sit down beside him to hear the story and we walk out, together, holding hands. I get a perfect cast over a beautiful trout which I can see, fining maybe fifteen feet away in skinny water, and he rises slowly and surely and eats my fly... just like I had hoped he would.

My friends, perhaps you do not need me to tell that life is precious, beautiful beyond description and fleeting. But then again, maybe you do. Maybe you are running through your days like a spawning salmon heading upriver. Maybe you cannot even remember exactly what yesterday was like because it's already today and there's going to be a lot more of the same tomorrow.

Do yourself a favor. Take some time to enjoy the details of your life, the people, the sights, smells, sounds, tastes and feel of it all. Believe me, for God's sake, just do it. Turn off your cellphones. Walk away from your computer screens. TVs, radios, exercise equipment, turn away. Calm your heart. Try to keep your knees from shaking. See if you can just sit or stand still, and savor. As Forest Gump said it, "And that's all I have to say about that."

In faith, hope and love, Max – Your Pastor

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Rev. Dr. C. Maxwell Olmstead, Senior Pastor <[max@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:max@thedoverchurch.org)>

Rev. Emilia Halstead, Associate Pastor <[emilia@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:emilia@thedoverchurch.org)>

## LOOKING AHEAD

**April 29**

**Workcamp Sunday**

**May 13**

**Mother's Day**

**250th Anniversary Service**

**IHN Hosting week begins**

**May 27**

**Pentecost**

**June 3**

**Confirmation Sunday**

**June 10**

**Children's Sunday**

**June 17**

**Summer Worship begins**

*(See inside calendar for more details)*



**Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Emilia Halstead**

Greetings and Salutations Beloved of Christ,

Well, we made it! The Workcamp 2012 to Washington, D.C. was a huge success! Thank you for EVERYONE'S support. The youth had a wonderful time. Many thanks to Jon Schaffrath and Kristin Khanna the fearless adult leaders who helped to make this a memorable trip for everyone involved. This year we worked with Youth Service Opportunities Project (YSOP). The staff members in D.C. are tremendous! Sarah DeGrandpre, who is the Program Director, and Shawn Sendar, who is the AmeriCorps Fellow, made us and the work we did feel welcome and appreciated.

Please join us this Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> for our Workcamp Service at 10am! We will be celebrating our accomplishments in D.C. with music, reflection and stories. Following the service, during coffee hour, will be the presentation of our 2012 Workcamp slideshow! Since we can't have a film without goodies, the HSYG is also hosting a Bake Sale to support the Youth Ministry at The Dover Church.

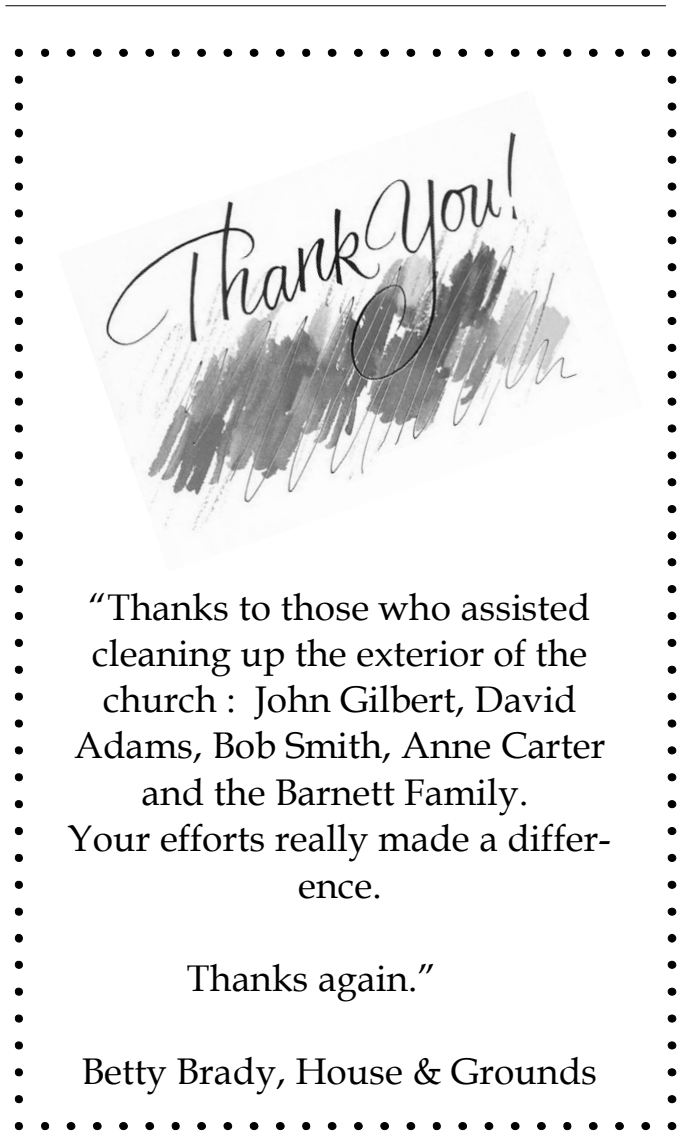
There is a great deal of goodness coming up in May and June! As much as we would *love* to let everyone know one-on-one what is going on, it is simply not possible! We respectfully request that if you are interested in knowing what is coming up to please check the church calendar, E-News, Newsletter, and weekly announcements in the Worship Bulletins. In addition, we enjoy hearing from you!

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So if you have specific questions, please call either Max or myself in the church office – we are excited to share all the wonderful things that are happening in the life of our church community.

Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook!

Blessings,  
Rev. Emilia



"Thanks to those who assisted cleaning up the exterior of the church : John Gilbert, David Adams, Bob Smith, Anne Carter and the Barnett Family. Your efforts really made a difference.

Thanks again."

Betty Brady, House & Grounds

## New Afterschool Program for Early Release Wednesdays

Emilia and I have an idea for a new program at The Dover Church: an Early Release Wednesdays Afterschool Program for Chickering Students.

- It would start in September and run from 12-3, with an option of staying to 5 for those families who cannot come at 3.
- It would be a paid for service, just like DEDA, with the exact fee to be determined as we get this organized (but it will be in the DEDA ballpark).
- It will be the 4 F's: Faith, Fun, Fellowship, Food
- It will be Christian Education in our United Church of Christ, which is to say, not CCD. The longer time period will allow us to teach Biblical and Spiritual materials that just cannot be covered in 20-30 minutes on Sunday morning.
- Our intention is to offer in-depth religious education for those families who want that for their children, in a fun, playful, friend filled setting.
- There will always be: snack time, playtime, music time, arts and crafts time, AV time (like movies on the big screen TV), as well as education time.
- It will be in Kraft Hall, lower Kraft Hall classrooms, and in our playground behind Kraft Hall.

If interest is sufficient, we may be able to have camp like experiences scheduled for February and April school vacations.

If you would be interested in such a program, please drop Max or Emilia an e-mail ([max@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:max@thedoverchurch.org) or [emilia@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:emilia@thedoverchurch.org)). More details will be forthcoming shortly.

Peace, Max

### 250th Anniversary Service, April 22



# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00am Centering Prayer 10:30am Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm NO Centering Prayer 7:30pm NO Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting	2 9:00am Al Anon 12:15pm The Dolphin Group 3:00pm DS Coalition Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	3 9:00am Yoga with Donna	4	5
6 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class	7 9:30am Pilates class 1:00pm Al Anon	8 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Trustee's Meeting	9 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	10 9:00am Yoga With Donna 6:30pm Middle School Youth Group 7:30pm Personnel Meeting	11 1:00pm Men's Friday Lunch Group 5:00pm DSHS Pre-Prom Party	12
13 <b>Mother's Day 250th Service</b> IHN Hosting Week 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	14 9:30am Pilates class 1:00pm Al Anon	15 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Deacons meeting	16 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	17 9:00am Yoga With Donna	18 HSYG Retreat	19 HSYG Retreat
20 <b>Pentecostal Music</b> 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	21 9:30am Pilates class 1:00pm Al Anon	22 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Council Meeting	23 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	24 9:00am Yoga with Donna 6:30pm MSYG	25	26
27 Pentecost 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	28 <b>Memorial Day</b> Church office closed 9:30am Pilates class 1:00pm Al Anon	29 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer	30 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	31 9:00am Yoga with Donna		

# June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 12:15pm Yoga with Leila	2
3 <b>Confirmation Sunday</b> 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 6:00pm No HSYG	4 9:30am Pila- tes Class 1:00pm Al Anon	5 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer	6 9:00am Al Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	7 9:00am Yoga with Donna 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Pastoral Staff Relations Committees	8 8:00am DNS Grad- uation 12:15pm Yoga with Leila 1:00pm Men's Lunch Group	9
10 <b>Children's Sunday</b> 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service 6:00pm NO HSYG	11 1:00pm Al Anon 5:00pm CDC Graduation	12 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 5:00pm CDC Graduation 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer 7:30pm Trus- tee's Meeting	13 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	14 9:00am Yoga with Donna	15 s 12:15pm Yoga with Leila	16
17 <b>Summer Wor- ship Begins</b> 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service	18 9:30am Pila- tes Class 1:00pm Al Anon	19 9:00am Cen- tering Prayer 7:00pm Cen- tering Prayer 7:30pm Dea- con's Meet- ing	20 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	21 9:00am Yoga with Donna	22 12:15pm Yoga with Leila	23
24 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service	25 9:30am Pila- tes Class 1:00pm Al Anon	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:00am Service						

## 250th Restoration Update

The Design Team of the Restoration Committee has been hard at work finishing up work in the Administration Wing. New carpet, paint, a few new pieces of furniture and donated window treatments, have turned this area into a warm and welcoming space. Many thanks are due:

- Dale Cabot, Lee Graham, Heidi Heiland, Nancy MacKay, Sara Jo Marble, Jane Moore and Sally Shoemaker for their never ending commitment and talent in creating our new décor.
- John Cone and John Fattore for assembling large pieces of furniture that arrive in very small pieces.
- Betty Brady and Andy Tucker for coordinating the removal of items no longer being used.
- Charlene and Bill Fallon for helping us with the beautiful carpets.
- Anne Carter, Joan Whalen, Sara Jo Marble, Jane Moore and Francesca Wier for removing and returning the contents of the Music Room in preparation for carpeting.
- Max, Emilia, Anne and Joan for their patience during the renovation of this area.

The Restoration Committee now turns its focus to landscaping and the Sanctuary. Jeanne Lukenda, Betty Brady and Beth Benjamin have been working on a plan to update our landscaping. The Design Team is coordinating work to be done in the Sanctuary, which will include updating paint, carpet and sound/lighting systems. Work on the landscaping will start in May, with Sanctuary updates starting possibly as early as June. The goal is to finish all Restoration work by Labor Day.

My continued appreciation to everyone who has donated not only funds, but time and talent, as well, to this amazing project. As always, please feel welcome to e-mail me with any questions or concerns at [Kimberly\\_cone@comcast.net](mailto:Kimberly_cone@comcast.net).

Respectfully submitted,  
Kimberly Cone



## The Dover Mass Lending Team

Following Marie-Laure's sermon on March 25, we have formed a micro-financing team, making loans to people in the developing world in \$25 amounts. To date, 14 people have joined with a total of \$1,450 in loans made to 39 individuals in places like Peru, Mongolia, Sudan, Jordan, Armenia and El Salvador. Visit our team page and join us: [http://www.kiva.org/team/dover\\_mass\\_team](http://www.kiva.org/team/dover_mass_team)




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## NEW CHURCH ART GALLERY!!

In addition to being office space for our staff, the Administrative Wing is now also an art gallery!

Guest artists will display their art for six month intervals, donating 10% of the proceeds of any sales to the church. Our first artist is Bill Ternes of Sherborn. Bill has been painting for over fifty years, creating watercolor and oil paintings. His affinity for the



outdoors is expressed in his direct approach to painting with an emphasis on nature's luminosity. Bill is thrilled to have the opportunity to display his paintings at The Dover Church.

Our sincere thanks to David Hall, who has agreed to be our first gallery manager.

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### 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**

*The newsletter of  
 The Dover Church is published monthly. Deadline for  
 all submissions is **Monday at noon prior to publi-  
 cation**. Please email all submissions to Joan Whalen  
 in the church office at [admin@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:admin@thedoverchurch.org)  
 We welcome your news.*

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**NEWS from Meeting House Hill**

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