

News from Meeting House Hill

The Dover Church

"Building Christian Community"

March 29, 2012

Volume 3, Issue 4

To the Church of Jesus Christ in Dover,

May grace and peace be yours in abundance from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

As a boy, I remember Holy Week being a strangely exultant time in the life of the church...not to say that we were "downers" the rest of the year, but it seemed like we went directly from one parade, a bunch of children marching and waving palms to the tune of "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" on Palm Sunday, to another parade on Easter...no marching this time but ladies and girls with hats and the instantly uplifting opening chords of "Christ the Lord is Risen Today," usually with brass accompaniment and the sopranos of the choir singing soaring descants. It was grand. It was glorious. I loved it, but I also wondered what the big deal was. Why the parades? Had we won the war? The World Series? What had happened? It had seemed like a happy Sunday and an even happier Sunday.

As I got older, in Confirmation Class to be exact, I went to Holy Week services and finally looked behind the curtain as it were to see what all the hoopla was about. We don't call it "Holy Week" for nothing. The Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services can be some of the most moving of a lifetime. I'm not trying to sell something here so I won't go into details, but if you want to know what the big parades are about this year, if you want to dip your toes into holy waters, take some time out from your ordinary life and come by the church Thursday, Friday and/or Saturday night at 7 PM.

In faith,

Max — Your pastor

LOOKING AHEAD

**April 1
Palm Sunday**

**April 5
Maundy Thursday**

**April 6
Good Friday**

**April 7
Easter Vigil—a Labyrinth Walk**

**April 8
Easter Sunday—three Services**

**April 22
250th 1912 Anniversary Service
Hymnal Dedication Sunday**

**April 29
Workcamp Sunday**

(See inside calendar for more details)

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

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



Associate Pastor
Rev. Emilia Halstead

Greetings and Salutations Beloved of Christ,

Can you believe the rollercoaster weather we have been having? If you were at worship on March 25th you would have seen a new look on me – glasses! Well, the truth is I normally wear contacts, but the tree pollen in the air has turned my contacts into feeling like I have a log of wood in my eye. This has, during my Lenten devotional time, had be thinking about Matthew 7:3-5. “Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.”

Our Spring semester of Sunday school has begun! Thank you to our Winter semester teachers for all of their hard work and dedication. Between April 1st and June 10th we have planned something for children each week! You never know what you might miss out on if you stay away!

Each week the Mother’s Helpers will be in the Teddy Bear nursery room.
April 1 – Sunday School – Learning about Holy Week and Easter!
April 8 – Easter Sunday! There will be a special Easter coloring book for all children.
April 15 – Kids in Mission: The children will be decorating cookies for A Place to Turn and making sand bottle cross necklaces for themselves.

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April 22 – 250th year 1912 – The children will be watching parts of Samantha: An American Girl, which depicts the story of Samantha Parkington and her friend Nellie in 1904.

April 29 – Sunday School – Learning about meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

As Lent draws to a close and we enter the Christ-centered time of Holy Week, I invite you to remember that we all make mistakes and we all say or do things that we wish we had not. May we strive to allow Jesus to remove the log of wood from our eyes, clear away the grime, the sleep, and the tears so that we will be able to see the glory of the Son of God. May the Holy Trinity sing in your soul this Easter season, so that your life can harmonize with the Kingdom of God in each moment of everyday.

God Bless,
Rev. Emilia

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Looking for Bakers!

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Our 250th committee needs help with the upcoming 250th service on April 22nd. For our service on the 22nd, we will be providing refreshments for the early 1900’s. Elizabeth Barnes is organizing the recipes. If you like to bake, we need you!

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Please contact Beth Benjamin if you would like to help. Thank you. Beth can be reached at beth@benjaminfamily.org or 617-335-1404.

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Youth Group Events



Upcoming Youth Group Events:

Middle School youth group –

April 12th 6:30-7:30pm [TIME CHANGE]

Please join us for pizza and making sugar cookies for the Kids in Mission project on the following Sunday!
(Note: This youth group meeting is only an hour long, due to a meeting in Kraft Hall at 7:30pm)

April 26th 6:30-8:00pm

High School youth group –

April 1st 6:00-8:15pm

April 15th 5:55AM ß Workcamp youth, meet at RT. 128 AMTRAK Station.
Set four different alarms, do what you have to do to, but be there on time.
The train doesn't wait for nobody!

April 29th 9:30-11:30am -- WORKCAMP SUNDAY!
This year the service will be completely led by the Youth!

May 6th 6am-3pm -- Project Bread: Walk for Hunger! Contact Rev. Emilia for details in joining The Dover Church team!

**Thank you Winter Semester
Sunday School Teachers:**

- Marie-Laure Grillet**
- Leila Pidcock**
- Amy Barnett**
- Mary Yanke**
- Jennifer Bancroft-DaSilva**
- Nancy Simms**



Easter Services at The Dover Church

April 1 Palm Sunday Service at 10:00am

**April 5 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00pm
Labyrinth Walk at 6:30pm**

**April 6 Good Friday Service at 7:00pm
Labyrinth Walk at 6:30pm**

April 7 Easter Vigil – a Labyrinth Walk - at 7:00pm

**April 8 Easter Sunday Services
6:00am Worship at Channing Pond
9:00am Worship
11:00am Worship**



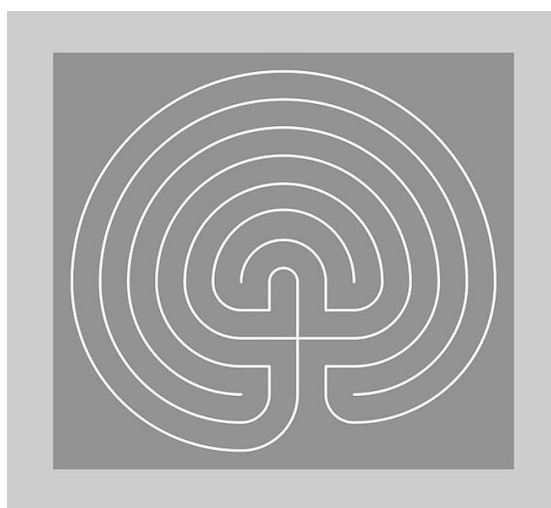
Walk the Labyrinth at The Dover Church --

April 5th through 8th

To celebrate Holy Week this year, we will have a 36-foot labyrinth available in Kraft Hall for anyone to come and use. It will be available daily from 9am-3pm, as well as in the evening during services. If you wish to have instruction on using the labyrinth, please join us before or after our Holy Week services: 6:30-7pm & 8-8:30pm.

Labyrinths can be thought of as symbolic forms of pilgrimage; people can walk the path, ascending toward salvation or enlightenment. Labyrinths are used to help achieve a contemplative state. Walking slowly among the turnings, one loses track of direction and of the outside world, and thus quiets the mind.

Labyrinths began to appear on church walls and floors around 1000 B.C., and there are even examples from churches in the Roman Empire. There are surviving descriptions of French clerics performing a ritual Easter dance along the path on Easter Sunday.



April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Palm Sunday 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:50am Lenten Hymn Devotion 10:00am Service & Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation class 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm HSYG	2 9:30am Pilates class 1:00pm Al Anon	3 9:00am Centering Prayer 10:0am NO Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm NO Spiritual Toolbox	4 9:00am Al Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Design Committee 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	5 9:00am Yoga with Donna 4:00pm Boston Assemblies 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service 8:00pm Choir rehearsal	6 12:15pm Yoga with Leila 6:30pm Labyrinth Walk 7:00pm Good Friday Service	7 7:00pm Easter Vigil: A Labyrinth Walk
8 Easter Sunday 6:00am Sunrise Service 9:00am Easter Worship 11:00am Easter Worship 5:30pm NO Evening Worship	9 Church office closed 9:30am Pilates Class 1:00pm Al Anon	10 9:00am Centering Prayer 6:30pm Chitabot Garden Club 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Trustee's Meeting	11 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	12 9:00am Yoga with Donna 6:30pm MSYG 7:30pm Pastoral Staff Relations Committees	13 12:15pm Yoga with Leila 1:00pm Men's Lunch Group	14
15 Workcamp week begins 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 11:15am New Members' Class 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm NO HSYG	16 Patriot's Day Church Office Closed 1:00pm Al Anon	17 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Deacon's Meeting	18 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	19 9:00am Yoga with Donna 7:00pm Choir rehearsal	20 Workcamp week ends 12:15pm Yoga with Leila	21
22 250th Anniversary Service 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation class 5:30pm Evening Worship Service	23 9:30am Pilates Class 1:00pm Al Anon	24 9:00am Centering Prayer 9:30am Staff Calendar meeting 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Council Meeting	25 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	26 9:00am Yoga with Donna 6:30pm MSYG	27 12:15pm Yoga with Leila	28 8:00am Charles River Rug Guild Hook In
29 Workcamp Sunday 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm HSYG	30 9:30am Pilates Class 1:00pm Al Anon					

May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00am Centering Prayer 10:30am Spiritual Toolbox 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Spiritual Toolbox	2 9:00am Al Anon 12:15pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	3 9:00am Yoga with Donna 12:15pm The Lunch Bunch 6:30pm MSYG	4	5
6 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Service & Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm HSYG	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	11 1:00pm Men's Friday Lunch Group 5:00pm DSHS Pre-Prom Party	12
13 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:50am Lenten Hymn Devotion 10:00am Service & Sunday School 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm HSYG	14 1:00pm Al Anon	15 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Meeting Night	16 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	17 9:00am Yoga With Donna	18	19
20 Celtic Service 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:50am Lenten Hymn Devotion 10:00am Service & Sunday School 5:30pm Evening Worship Service 6:00pm HSYG	21 1:00pm Al Anon	22 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Deacons meeting	23 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	24 9:00am Yoga with Donna 6:30pm MSYG	25	26
27 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:50am Lenten Hymn Devotion 10:00am Service & Sunday School 5:30pm Evening Worshin Service	28 1:00pm Al Anon	29 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Council Meeting	30 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	31 9:00am Yoga with Donna 4:00pm Boston Assemblies		
6:00pm HSYG						

Next 250th Anniversary Celebration: 1912

On April 22, we will be celebrating the 74th anniversary of our church as The Dover Church. That's right. On April 22, 1938, the First Parish Church, Unitarian, of Dover and the Evangelical Congregational (aka The Second Congregational) Church of Dover, officially merged to become The Dover Church. You'll remember that they had split in 1839, with the Unitarians staying where we are today and keeping the building as it were, and the Evangelical Congregationalists moving across the street to where St. Dunstan's is today.

The centerpiece of this anniversary service will be the dedication of our new hymnal. This was a period in which denominations were forming and churches were merging and one of the tools for forming this larger, denominational identity were hymnals. Our Pilgrim hymnal, for example, was first published in the 1930s.

The 1930s was the period in which Congregational Churches formed themselves into a national denomination (one of the precursor denominations of the United Church of Christ).

And so, we will celebrate our union into The Dover Church and our music, by dedicating our new hymnal, collecting and blessing our old hymnals, and singing our hearts out.

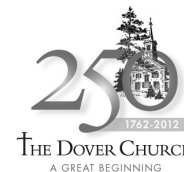
There is still time to dedicate hymnals in honor of or in memory of someone special (see the order form on page 9).



Have You Heard About Sign Up Genius????

The Dover Church now has a link that will allow you to sign up ON LINE for ushering, coffee hour and reading! Sign ups are quick and easy, and changeable-- you can even see the other people signed up for each Sunday. Please help us fill the spots for April through June (there are many still open)!

If you have not already receive this link as an email, please send your email address to Barbara Baker (bakerdover@aol.com) to be added to the list.



Another opportunity to honor a beloved one this special Anniversary year!

Purchase a new 250th Anniversary Hymnal for the church, into which a plaque will be inserted in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one or an event.

Donor's name _____ # of hymnals

Phone _____ E-mail _____

*Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ (\$30/hymnal) made out to The Dover Church.

LAST DAY TO ORDER HYMNALS: APRIL 15, 2012

Please print the name of the person/s you would like to inscribe inside each hymnal. Use the EXACT wording you would like to appear, for example, in honor of, in memory of, in celebration of, etc.

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, 7 people have joined with a total of \$650 in loans made to 10 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



Circle of Caring Forming

A lot of people in our church are in a difficult place in their lives right now. They are either caring for elderly parents who are soon to die or have already lost parents. At the same time, these folks are caring for spouses and dependent children. I am putting together what I call a "Circle of Caring" for all of you out there who are trying really hard to do your best, who are having to process difficult emotions, and who have to get up every day and put in a full day on all your pre-existing responsibilities. This group is going to a support and sharing group, in which we voice our situations, hold each other in prayer, share best practices, and perhaps bring in guest speakers. If you would like to be part of this new ministry, please drop me an e-mail so I can start the scheduling process. I envision this being once a month at most, unless some of you are in critical stages of distress. Peace, Max – max@thedoverchurch.org

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
 We welcome your news.*



Easter Lily Orders



Do you wish to honor a beloved friend, parent, or child? Have you ever wanted just to thank God for hope and faith and life itself? An Easter Lily in church on Easter morning can make just such a statement — as well as bringing beauty to our Meeting House.

Please order by filling in the form below, and return it to us with a check for the full amount. We will be able to fulfill all orders received by March 30 and ensure that your dedication is included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Donor's Name: _____ # of Lilies _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please give exact wording for use in the bulletin:

Given: In (Loving) Memory of or In Appreciation of

or In Honor of: (circle one) †

Given by: (exact wording, if you wish such acknowledgment)

___ Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$10.00 per lily), made out to The Dover Church.

___ I shall take my plant(s) home following the 9:00AM or 11:00AM service on Easter Day.

___ I wish to leave my lily, to be donated to any person designated by the Pastor or Deacons.

LAST DAY TO ORDER LILIES: FRIDAY, MARCH 30

† If you prefer any other dedication, please write your dedication below:



THE DOVER CHURCH

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