

# News from Meeting House Hill

**The Dover Church**

*"Building Christian Community"*

**May 31, 2012**

Volume 3, Issue 6

To The Dover Church Members and Friends:

At a special meeting Monday night, May 14, the Trustees asked that the schedule suggested for restoration of the sanctuary be relaxed such that no significant work would be attempted this summer. It was the plan of The Dover Church 250<sup>th</sup> Restoration Committee to have the sanctuary painting and repair work completed for the fall celebration of the Church's anniversary. As this work was being quoted, questions arose about the underlying condition of the ceiling and walls and whether more attention needed to be focused on their repair or replacement. Over the past months, the Trustees have been reviewing a number of inspections, formal and informal, of structural engineers and contractors who have given opinions on the sanctuary and, specifically, the ceiling. These opinions have, in some cases, been conflicting and it was felt that there was inadequate information to make decisions on ceiling replacement projects that carried ever increasing price estimates approaching the \$200,000 to \$250,000 range.

Last week, we had an architectural conservator and plaster expert, long affiliated with Historic New England, look at our ceiling. He reassured us that the ceiling was holding up well and that restoration work done 20 years ago was done correctly. This restoration work was part of the reconfiguration of the sanctuary to accommodate our new organ. The ceiling at that time was surveyed and an epoxy system was applied in areas where restoration was needed. Through his comments and other opinions from the consulting engineers, the Trustees have developed comfort regarding the safety of the ceiling.

It will be our goal to have a more comprehensive architectural and structural study commissioned focused on the preservation of the sanctuary to include steeple, roof, ceiling, walls and foundation. We feel we can build on the work that was done 20 years ago and develop a long range plan for the preservation of our Church for years to come. In the meantime, funds that have been raised for renovations through the 250<sup>th</sup> Restoration process will be set aside for use when our plan is completed.

While we are disappointed that the original plans for restoration will not be completed for our anniversary, we feel that more measured planning effort will help insure that we pass on our building to the next generation. On an interim basis, the committee authorized the repair of the paint damage to a section of the ceiling.

The Trustees will continue to keep you updated as we have new information on the work to be done. We would also be pleased to answer questions should they arise.

Bob Cocks (Chair), Dawn Fattore and Steve Karlson

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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

**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 in Christ,

"She who treads the path of love walks a thousand meters as if it were only one." This Japanese proverb speaks to me and reflects how I am feeling as I approach my one year anniversary as the Associate Pastor of The Dover Church! An anniversary is a time to celebrate the joys of today, the memories of yesterday, and the hopes of tomorrow.

Looking back on the year, I am amazed by everything that has been accomplished, nurtured and explored. We have made great strides forward with the Christian Education ministry that we offer to one another and to the community. There are still many pieces to implement and then lovingly shape and mold to fit our needs. However, we are on the right path, and I am thankful every day for the many people who helped to make this year a success in its own right. "I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do." - Leonardo da Vinci

Please join us in celebrating our young faith adventurers the next two Sundays! June 3<sup>rd</sup> is Confirmation Sunday where we bless the faith formation work that the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have done this year, and help them to understand that this is not the end of the journey, but rather the beginning. Then on June 10<sup>th</sup> is Sunday School Sunday. **This is a personal invitation to ALL adults who helped to teach, substitute teach and lead Kids in Mission Sundays this year.** We want to thank

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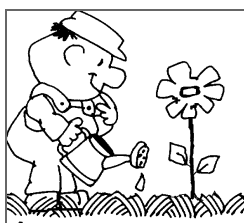
you in person with a token of our appreciation! Plus, you do not want to miss out on seeing Mike Piazza perform with his Flying-High Frisbee Dogs!

Great strides have also been made with the youth ministry of The Dover Church, including an updated middle school curriculum on Sunday mornings, the beginning stages of a Safe Church policy, a further developing Confirmation program, increased awareness about the changing landscape of Middle and High School youth group, and the peak of 18 youth attending Workcamp this year! These pieces and others have helped to lay the foundation for next year and the years to come. As my favorite artist once wrote, "Once you have tasted flight you will walk the earth with your eyes turned skywards, for there you have been and there you will long to return." -Leonardo da Vinci.

We have the God given ability not only to dream (and dream BIG), but we have the creative collective imagination of 300+ people to draw from to "do," as daVinci said - to make our dreams a reality. May Jesus be in you, beside you, in front and behind you to fill each day with immeasurable love.

Blessings,

Rev. Emilia



### Pastor looking for summer gardener

I'll be off to France with my family for a few weeks this summer (July and August) and I am looking for someone who would like to water and weed my vegetable garden and new grass, and also pick and take home whatever veggies/fruit are ripe. It would not be a lot of work and might be just the thing for a young person. The dates and pay scale are open to negotiation. Call me up to let me know of your interest. Max

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- Thank you 2012
- Spring Semester
- Teachers!
- Kim Cone
- Jennifer DaSilva
- Kristin Dennison
- Pam LoDato
- Tammy MacWilliams
- Valerie Marden
- Jenny Newport
- Mary Newport
- Christine Rosecrans
- George Whiting

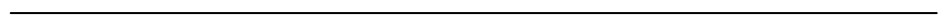
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**OWL (Human Sexuality) Teachers Needed**

From September through November 2012, the OWL program will be held at the Pilgrim Church in Sherborn. We have been working in cooperation with the Pilgrim Church on this important and beneficial class for 8<sup>th</sup> graders for many years. Part of this collaboration is the balance of an equal amount of teachers from both The Dover Church and the Pilgrim Church. We need both male and female teachers, as there needs to be one person of each gender leading the individual small groups. Corey Lincoln at the Pilgrim Church is the coordinator this year and her e-mail is [ce@pilgrimsherborn.org](mailto:ce@pilgrimsherborn.org). Corey is happy to answer any questions about the program and what it means to be teacher in the program. We are looking for teachers of all ages, ranging from 21 years old to 101! Please join us in church on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup> to hear a brief sharing from two members of our church who have taught the program in previous years, John Fattore and Nora Keefe!

The OWL program equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society & culture. It provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills and understand the social, emotional and spiritual aspects of sexuality.



# June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <b>Confirmation Sunday</b> 10:00am Service & Sunday School 6:00pm HSYG	4 9:30am Pilates Class 1:00pm Al Anon	5 9:00am Centering Prayer 7:00pm Centering Prayer	6 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	7	8 8:00am DNS Graduation 1:00pm Men's Lunch Group	9
10 <b>Children's Sunday</b> 10:00am Service	11 1:00pm Al Anon 9:30am Pilates Class 5:00pm CDC Graduation	12 9:00am Centering Prayer 5:00pm CDC Graduation 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Trustee's Meeting	13 9:00am Al Anon 12:00pm The Dolphin Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Yoga with Anna	14	15	16 HSYG Pool Party
17 <b>Summer Worship Begins</b> 9:00am Service	18 1:00pm Al Anon	19 9:00am Centering Prayer 10:00am Staff calendar meeting 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Deacon's Meeting	20 9:00am Al Anon 7:00pm Boy Scouts	21	22	23
24 9:00am Service	25 1:00pm Al Anon	26	27	28	29	30

# July 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am Service	2 1:00pm Al Anon	3	4 <b>Inde- pendence Day</b> Church office closed 9:00am Al Anon	5	6	7
8 9:00am Service	9 1:00pm Al Anon	10	11 9:00am Al Anon	12	13 1:00pm Men's Friday Lunch Group	14
15 9:00am Service	16 1:00pm Al Anon	17 7:30pm Deacons meeting	18 9:00am Al Anon	19	20	21
22 9:00am Service	23 1:00pm Al Anon	24 7:30pm Council Meeting	25 9:00am Al Anon	26	27	28
29 9:00am Service	30 1:00pm Al Anon	31				

## From the Moderator

Hello all,

I wanted to let you know about a couple of things that are going on in the church. If you haven't already heard, we are **postponing our 250<sup>th</sup> construction in the sanctuary** originally scheduled for this summer. We are taking a step back to do a more thorough review of the building. Once we have completed this we will put together a plan and let everyone know. I want to thank the Trustees for their oversight of this process.

You have probably also noticed that the church building and grounds look fabulous. Our design committee has put in many hours behind the scenes. The Art Gallery opened in the administrative wing and has been very well received. We plan to rotate artists every 6 months. Art that is sold while on display will benefit the church with a percentage of each sale being donated to the church. You will see some landscape work in the Taylor Garden and around the church building shortly. We have so many talented members who have volunteered their time and expertise. I can't thank all of you enough for the gift you have given the church.

I also wanted to let everyone know that the **Pastoral Relations Committees (PRC)** for both Max and Emilia are up and running. The purpose of a PRC is to assist the church in fostering a healthy relationship between the Pastor and congregation in order to enhance the effectiveness of the church's mission. The committees meet quarterly to provide support and guidance to the Pastors. The PRC is not a grievance committee; it is there to help to provide a communication link and support. If you would like to find out more about the PRC please feel free to talk with any of the members of Max's PRC: Steve Karlson, Chris Newport, Ken King or Beth Benjamin; or Emilia's PRC: John Cone, Barbara Baker, Peter Wier or Sheryl Weden. I thank the members who have volunteered to serve on these committees.

Lastly, I want to thank **Lee Graham** for her continued support of the church. Lee remained on the Deacons after her term was completed in January, serving in the role as advisor, helping Barbara Baker as she took over the leadership of the Board of Deacons. Lee will be stepping down from this role at the end of June. Barbara will be co-chairing the Deacons with Nancy Simms, who is also a Deacon. Our Deacons are an important group within the church which focuses on our spiritual well being. Please thank Lee when you next see her for her outstanding service to our church.

All the best to everyone.

I look forward to seeing all of you in church,

**Beth**

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## 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, **17** people have joined with a total of **\$1,675** in loans made to **48 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)



### Flying High Frisbee Dogs

#### Pro K-9 Frisbee by Mike Piazza

Mike Piazza is the #1 K-9 Frisbee performer in the world.

Please join us at **The Dover Church** on **June 10 (Sunday School Sunday)** when Mike and his Flying Dogs will perform.

Performance followed by a **barbecue** provided by Blue Ribbon Bar-B-Q.

#### 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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