

# The Dover Church

"A Welcoming Community of Faith and Service since 1762"

September 26, 2013

Volume 4, Issue 8

## News from Meeting House Hill

To the church in Dover:

Grace and peace be yours abundantly in God our Creator and Christ Jesus our Lord.

A year ago, our Deacons adopted the following phrase to capture what we are about as The Dover Church:

**A Welcoming Community of Faith and Service Since 1762**

We are here on Meetinghouse Hill to welcome our neighbors and build a community of faith and service. If you look at the demographics of our town, one fifth of our neighbors are over 60. Most of these folks have already found a faith community if they are looking for one. Of the other four fifths, roughly 4,500 people, many live in families with school age children. These are the people we are here to welcome, serve, build community and grow in faith with.

All too often, however, when a young family comes visiting and expresses enthusiastic interest in joining our faith and fellowship, our second move after saying "Welcome" is to say, usually to mother, "now why don't you help out every Sunday morning in the Sunday School for the next six months?" And what tends to happen then? Enthusiasm wanes, interest becomes burden, and people run for the doors the moment their teaching responsibility is fulfilled.

Right now, we find ourselves in just such a situation. Seven of our outstanding Sunday School faculty from last year are not teaching this year. Some have just stopped coming to church (for fear of being asked to teach?). Others have other commitments and cannot do every Sunday. And others would like to come to church for worship...just like the rest of us.

To get right to the point, as a church we need **EVERYONE** to volunteer to help out in our Sunday School ministry, just as we need everyone to participate in our annual giving ministry (aka Stewardship). In the same way that we cannot do church without money, we cannot do church without children and that means a vibrant, quality Sunday School. Without such a ministry, the church will quickly empty out, the median age will quickly rise, and it will become even more

- Continued on the next page -

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



### LOOKING AHEAD

October 6

Family Promise Sunday

October 20

Congregational Meeting  
Stewardship Kick-Off

October 20

Family Promise  
Hosting Week

October 27

All Saints Sunday

November 2 & 3

Annual Fall Social  
Organ Anniversary

See inside calendar for more details.

(Max, continued from page 1)

difficult to offer quality Sunday School. Our teachers should represent a cross section of our membership, not just mothers of school age children.

Please volunteer for a month or two weeks. And by volunteer, I mean call Beth Benjamin, our Director of Congregational Life, **RIGHT NOW**. We have an easy, turn key curriculum with which you can easily teach well with only a quick preparation per class. Everything you need to know about your lesson is right there in the curriculum, as are clear guides for how to teach and do activities. Becky Petersen, our CE Director, is a gifted Christian Educator and will always be available to help out on Sunday mornings. You will find yourself growing in faith as you teach. Our children are truly lovely people who you will enjoy getting to know.

I have tried not to overstate our need, but if we had a massive budgetary deficit, the need for broad-based and immediate congregational engagement couldn't be greater.

Peace,  
Max - your pastor

### Stewardship

Join us on Sunday, October 20th, after worship, for a discussion of our 2014 vision and plans. Lunch will be served.

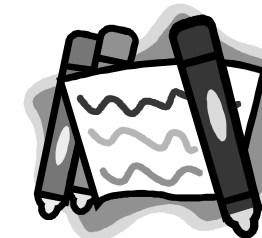
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### Family Promise Sunday

On Sunday, **October 6th**, Judy Mongiardo, Family Promise Network Coordinator, along with members of the Dover Church who are actively involved in our Family Promise ministry, will be leading worship, sharing their experiences in serving our neighbors, and inviting you to join them in participating in this, one of our core ministries. (<http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org>)

**Our next hosting week starts the week of October 20th** and the Ladies Lunch Bunch is organizing our volunteers. We hope that everyone will find a way to participate. Sign up sheets are in Kraft Hall.



### Worship Bags

Our Deacons, Nancy Simms and Barbara Baker, have put together worship bags for our younger members to use during worship. They can be found in a basket in the Narthex. Inside you will find a board book, stuffed animal, crayons and a coloring book.

We hope these will help make your child's time in worship enjoyable. We ask that you please return the bags to the basket in the Narthex at the end of service.

### Sanctuary Renovations Update

This is an update to last month's article by Bob Cocks on the Sanctuary Renovation project. Don Mills, Architect and Principal of Mills Whitaker Architects LLC, was here recently with a structural engineer to begin the process of analyzing and testing the structure in the sanctuary. We will continue to update you as we learn more.

We also had Safety Signal, our fire alarm company, re-wire the sanctuary. This re-wiring project came after numerous false alarms. We are pleased to report that we are back online and fully operational.

## Serving Others

### Special Collection on October 6th

Our Special Offering on Sunday, October 6th will go to support the work of Family Promise Metrowest. We will have special offering envelopes available in the pews and we ask that you give as generously as you are able.



### Operation American Soldier (OAS)

To help support OAS efforts, and in honor of Veterans Day, we will be collecting the following items during the month of October:

- **Healthy snacks**, including beef jerky, packaged nuts of all kinds, single-serving packages of tuna, and granola or cereal bars
- Any **non-frozen microwavable meal**, including cup-o-noodles and packaged single-serve meals
- **Baby wipes**, any size package
- **Financial contributions** are also welcome, 100 percent of which go to either purchasing product or towards the cost of shipping up to 300 packages a month overseas

Please bring your items to the Dover Church during normal business hours or during church on Sunday.

### Villa Clinic Collection

We have an ongoing collection of general medical supplies for the St Boniface Hospital and Villa Clinic. The following items are being collected:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| - Band-Aids      | - Prenatal Vitamins                           |
| - Gauze pads     | - Vitamin C                                   |
| - Medical Tape   | - Ibuprofen (kids & adult)                    |
| - Ace bandages   | - Tylenol (kids & adult)                      |
| - Multi-vitamins | - Blank Notebooks, Pencils, Crayons (schools) |

Help us fill a suitcase to be delivered to Villa on our next visit. Please bring items to the Dover Church during normal business hours or on Sunday during worship.

*(Serving Others, continued)*

### A Check for Haiti

This past Sunday, we presented the Saint Boniface Haiti Foundation with a check for \$4,734.50! This money was originally from the 250th auction and was designated to be used for social concerns issues. At that time, half of the money raised was given to Family Promise and the other half was cycled through KIVA.

We are so pleased to now be able to put this money to further use in Haiti through the work of the Saint Boniface Haiti Foundation.

### Soccer Balls for Haiti

Graydon Wood would like to thank everyone who made a donation for soccer balls and pumps. She has received \$ 3,480, enough to purchase over 200 soccer balls and many pumps.

### Christian Education

Volunteers are needed now to help build our church school. Contact Beth Benjamin to sign up to teach Sunday School. Sign up for a month or as many weeks as possible.



### Youth Group

Our High School Youth Group worked our Dover Days booth and also held a car wash last weekend. We also sold some honey. In all we raised \$1,085 for the Kids for Timoun project in Haiti.

We encourage all high school students and their parents to come to our **Work Camp Presentation** meeting at **7 pm on September 29th in Kraft Hall** to hear Reverend Gary Ritts, pastor in Cohasset, who has taken hundreds of teens to Appalachia every summer for decades. He will speak with parents and interested teens. **Please RSVP to the church office** if you are planning on attending.

*(Youth Group, Continued)*

We have a full calendar of meetings and activities coming up. On October 26th, we are planning a trip to Witch's Woods for a haunted hayride and three haunted mansions. The cost is \$25 per person. Please complete the sign up sheet handed out at the meeting on the 29th and return with a check to the church by October 13th to save your place! Bring a friend!



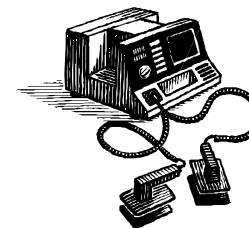
### Calling All Musicians!

On **Monday, October 7th at 7:30 pm** we are holding a **Band Jam!** Come, bring your instruments, and enjoy fellowship with others who find their spiritual calling through the music they make.

An additional band jam date is October 21st. We will add dates in the following months as well. Meet in the music room.

### Defibrillators Training

We will be holding **Defibrillator and CPR training on Tuesday, October 29th at 7 PM** in the music room. The cost is \$45. We have 6 people signed up so far and can have as many as 10. Please contact Beth Benjamin to sign up. If we have enough interest we will schedule another session in November.



## Ladies Lunch Bunch

Hello Ladies,

We meet again on October 17th in the library. From 11 am until 12 noon we will have Family Promise Training to get us ready for our hosting week.

Lunch Bunch will be organizing our October 20th Family Promise hosting week. Please come so that you can help with this important mission initiative. We will then have lunch from 12:15 pm until 1:30 pm.

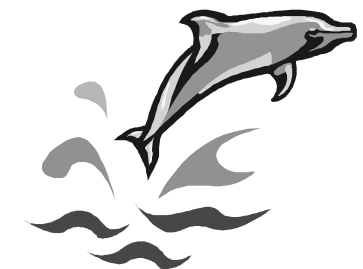
If you have a friend that you would like to add to our distribution, please let Ruth Mallett know. Bring your lunch and your friends to our meeting on the 17th!

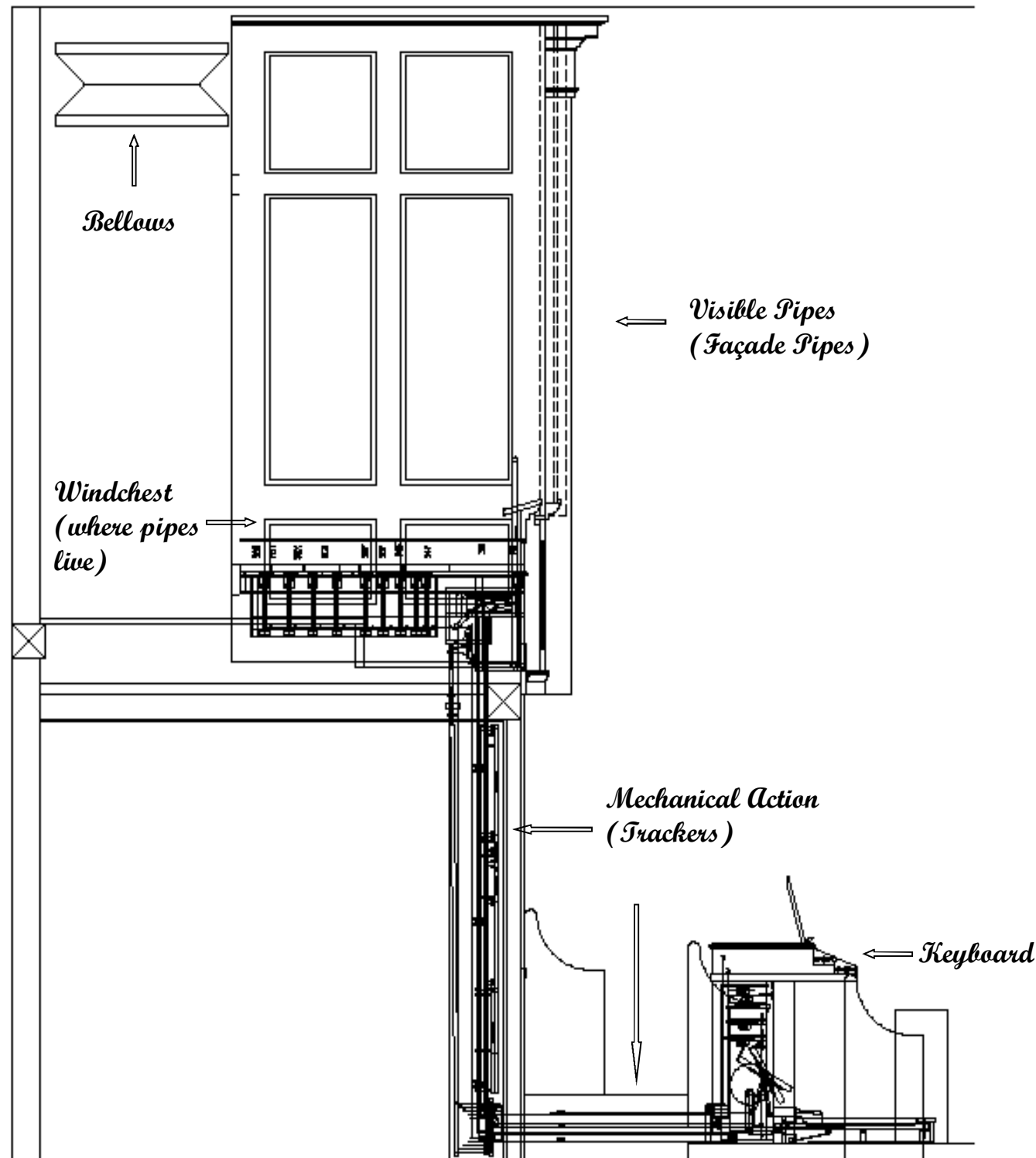


### The Dolphin Group

The Dolphin Group is a group of senior and/or retired men who are members of the Dover Church. It meets for lunch the first Wednesday of every month at 12 noon at the Dolphin Restaurant in downtown Natick Center.

If you are interested in finding out more about this group or would like to join us on **Wednesday, October 9th at noon**, please RSVP by calling the church office. **(We are meeting on the second Wednesday this month due to a conflict.)**





### Our Organ - C. B. Fisk Opus 107 - Built in Gloucester MA

Our lovely organ is called a mechanical action or tracker organ. Mechanical action organs have been built essentially the same way since the end of the fifteenth century. At that time people worked bellows by hand or by walking up and down on long levers so that air could get into the wind chest to blow into the pipe when called for. Today we have a fan blower in the basement that sends air into the bellows. Then when a key or pedal is pressed a series of mechanical links opens a valve at the foot of the pipe for that individual key or pedal. Considering that we have two manuals of 56 keys each and 30 pedals you can imagine the number of links in the organ.

*(Our Organ, continued)*

But this is just the beginning. There also are fifteen stops on the organ. These are the little nobs you see on the side of the organ console. When pulled out some of the stops combine to produce foundation sounds. Some of them represent individual instruments such as a flute, oboe, trumpet, and string. Each of these stops requires a pipe for each note so we have 996 pipes, each made by hand, and voiced individually and then collectively in our organ. And the pipes are each linked mechanically to their corresponding stops and keys. As part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the organ we will open up the back of the organ case in the narthex so you can see the mechanical links. We'll also open up the back of the case in the balcony so you can see the pipes. There may be a little surprise in there too.

### Were You Here In 1993?

In November, we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the installation of our C.B. Fisk organ. We are looking for photos that our members may have taken during this time. Do you have any photos you would be willing to share with us? Please contact Beth Benjamin, [beth@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:beth@thedoverchurch.org), or the church office. Many thanks!



### Coffee & DVD Viewings

Are you interested in viewing the 250th Anniversary DVD? Come for coffee and we will watch the DVD produced for the 250th Anniversary of the church. We will show the *Dover Church's 250th Anniversary DVD* on the following dates:

- Monday, October 7th at 10 am
- Friday, October 18th at 10 am
- Monday, October 21st at 10 am

We will also be showing a special DVD called *Perfect Harmony* which shows how C.B. Fisk builds organs. *Perfect Harmony* will be shown on the following dates and times:

- Sunday, October 27th at 11:30 am
- Friday, November 1st at 10 am
- Sunday, November 2nd at 12 noon.

## Other Events of Interest

### **Tee Off To End Homelessness**

November 2-3, 2013

Tee Off to End Homelessness is a two-day event to raise awareness of family homelessness in our communities as well as funds for the Family Promise Metrowest Shelter and Transitional Housing Program.

Saturday evening, from 7 to 10 p.m., will be adults-only, featuring mini golf, appetizers and beverages from area restaurants, a silent auction and swing analysis by a Golfer's Warehouse golf pro.

Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., is open to all ages and will feature fun family activities like face painting, crafts, raffles, mini golf, and big screen demonstrations of new Microsoft gaming toys. Join the fun while raising money for a great cause!

To purchase tickets visit the Family Promise website at [www.familypromisemetrowest.org](http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org)



### **Lifetime Learning Friends of Dover COA**

The Highlights of New England History and Culture lecture series starts October 21st with a lecture on Colonial Church Silver. For more information visit [www.coafriends.org](http://www.coafriends.org) and click on "Events".

### **Trip to Spain and Morocco**

Dave Tiedman of the Pilgrim Church is leading a trip to Spain and Morocco in May, 2014. If you are interested in finding out about this trip, there is an informational meeting on Sunday, October 20th at 6:30 pm at Pilgrim Church. There are flyers in the church office for anyone interested.

# October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:30 AM DSHS Peer Workshop 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	3 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 6:00 PM Private Event (KH)	5 11:00 AM Private Event (KH)
6 <b>World Communion Sunday/Family Promise</b> 8:30 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Sunday School 6:30 PM OWL Class 7:00 PM HSYG	7 10:00 AM 250th DVD Viewing/ Coffee 1:00 PM Al Anon 7:30 PM Band Jam!	8 7:30 PM Trustees' Meeting	9 9:00 AM Al Anon 12:00 PM The Dolphin Group 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	10	11	12
13 <b>Worship</b> 8:30 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Sunday School	14 Columbus Day Church office closed 1:00 PM Al Anon	15 7:30 PM Deacons' Meeting	16 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	17 9:00 AM Noanett Garden Club 12:15 PM Ladies Lunch Bunch (Library) 4:15 PM Boston Assemblies	18 10:00 AM 250th DVD Viewing/ Coffee	19
20 <b>Family Promise Hosting</b> 8:30 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Sunday School 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting/Lunch 6:30 PM OWL Class 7:00 PM HSYG Meeting	21 <b>FP Hosting</b> 10:00 AM 250th DVD/ Coffee 1:00 PM Al Anon 7:30 PM Band Jam!	22 <b>FP Hosting</b> 7:30 PM Council Meeting	23 <b>FP Hosting</b> 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	24 <b>FP Hosting</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 <b>FP Hosting</b>	26 <b>FP Hosting</b> HSYG Haunted Event
27 <b>All Saints Sunday</b> 8:30 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Sunday School 11:30 AM Perfect Harmony DVD Viewing 6:30 PM OWL Class 7:00 PM HSYG Meeting	28 1:00 PM Al Anon	29 7:00 PM Defibrillator Training	30 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	31	1 10:00 AM Perfect Harmony DVD/ Coffee	2 Organ Rededication Weekend 5:30 PM Annual Fall Social

(This calendar receives many updates after publication. The most up-to-date calendar is the electronic one on our website: [www.thedoverchurch.org](http://www.thedoverchurch.org)).

# Family Promise

## October 6th at 10:00 am

### Come Hear Their Story!

On Sunday, October 6th, we will welcome members of the Family Promise community. Case Workers, individuals who have been helped by the Family Promise Network and church volunteers. Come hear their heartwarming stories.

There will be a special offering which will go to support the Family Promise Metrowest Mission.



#### THE DOVER CHURCH

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