



The Dover Church

"A Welcoming Community of Faith and Service since 1762"

March 27, 2014

Volume 5, Issue 3

News from Meeting House Hill

To the Church of Jesus Christ in Dover:

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus, who sets us free..." (Galatians 1: 3-5).

A number of people have asked me about the upcoming Boston Marathon, as I pledged last year after the bombing to run it this year. I have not spoken much about the training or my progress in the last year as I have been getting away from anecdotal preaching, even though I found abundant universally applicable spiritual lessons in the last months.

But the long and the short of it is I will not be running in April. For starters, I am not fast enough to get a number as a competitive runner. So I looked into getting a charity fundraising number. When I spoke with charities, they informed me that because of high demand there was a \$10,000 minimum fundraising commitment, and even then they could not guarantee a number. When I asked, "what do you mean by commitment?" They answered, "you give us your credit card number now." I quickly did the math and it came out to \$42 per stride to run down to Boston.

Not to be deterred, I asked the Athletic Association and local law enforcement about running without a number, what is know as a "bandit." They discouraged the idea. Law enforcement told me, "you will be removed from the race." And so, I will not be running as a "banditto" in that race, although I am still running and will perhaps just run down to Boston on my own or enter some other marathon.

Which, I guess, is a fine Lenten reflection. Life throws us curves, knocks us off our intended paths, disappoints and frustrates us. God is with us not just in the sunshine and roses days of our lives, but also in less cheerful to outright tragic times. Through faith, we are encouraged to pick ourselves up and strive on. Compared to the suffering of Marathon Day 2013, my running is just a walk in the park. I miss life before those bombs went off.

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

The Reverend Dr. C. Maxwell Olmstead, Pastor <max@thedoverchurch.org>



LOOKING AHEAD

April 6

Fauré Requiem

April 13

Palm Sunday

Children's Pageant

April 14 – 19

Holy Week Labyrinth

April 17

Maundy Thursday

Service at 7 PM

April 18

Good Friday

Service at 7 PM

April 20

Easter Services at

6 am, 9 am and 11 am

Special Offering for

Villa Clinic

May 4

Reception of New

Members and

Service Sunday

See inside calendar for more details.

Upcoming Services

Fauré Requiem at The Dover Church

The Dover Church Senior Choir will sing 'Requiem' by Gabriel Fauré during the communion worship service on **Sunday, April 6 at 10:00 am**. They will be accompanied by the C.B. Fisk, Opus 107 organ and two violins. Fauré composed the work in the late 1880s and revised it in the 1890s, finishing it in 1900. A short requiem, lasting 35 minutes, it is written for orchestra, organ, mixed chorus and two soloists, soprano and baritone, and performed in Latin. It consists of seven movements; most famous is the central soprano aria *Pie Jesu*.

The Gospel reading for the day is John 11, where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. The story teaches us a lesson about persevering through difficult trials. Fauré himself said of the work, "Everything I managed to entertain by way of religious illusion I put into my Requiem, which moreover is dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest."

Holy Week Services

Holy Week begins on **Sunday, April 13th at 10 am** with our **Palm Sunday Service**. This year, our Sunday School children will share with us their view of the events in Jesus' life ending with the resurrection.

During Holy Week, we will have a **labyrinth** set up in Kraft Hall starting on Monday, April 14th. Please stop walk and meditate on the events of this week. The labyrinth will be open Monday through Friday, April 14th to 18th, from 9 am until 3 pm, Tuesday, 4/15, Thursday, 4/17, and Friday, 4/18, from 5 pm until 7 pm and on Saturday, 4/19, from 6 to 8 pm.

In this issue:

Message from Rev. Max	p 1
Upcoming Services	p 2
Faith and Spirituality	p 2
Sermon Requests	p 2
Youth Programming	p 3
Fellowship Opportunities	p 3
Serving Others	p 5
Additional News	p 5
Assistant Treasurer News	p 6
Important Dates	p 6
Calendar	p 7

Join us on Thursday, April 17th for our **Maundy Thursday service at 7 pm**. This is a moving service that commemorates the 'Maundy' and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. Our confirmation class will lead this service.

Our **Good Friday Service, April 18th, at 7 pm** will be a reflective service featuring selected movements from "Stabat Mater" ("The sorrowful mother stood") by Giovanni Pergolesi. It is scored for soprano and alto soloists and is Pergolesi's most celebrated sacred works, written in 1736. The text is one of the most powerful and immediate of extant medieval poems, and meditates on the suffering of Mary, Jesus Christ's mother, during his crucifixion.

There will be three services on **Easter Sunday, April 20th**. Join us at **6 am** at Channing Pond, on Springdale Avenue, for a Sunrise Service co-led by our friends from St Dunstan's. Our **9 am** and **11 am** services will be in the meeting house.

Our special offering collected on Easter Sunday will support our Villa Clinic mission efforts. If you know you will be away on Easter Sunday, please consider sending in a donation beforehand.

We are looking for volunteers to provide coffee/breakfast for the choir on Easter morning. Our choir will be doing double duty, singing at both the 9 am and 11 am services. We hope you will help us say thank you to the members of the choir who give so much of their time to provide music each week.

If you are able to help with this breakfast, either by providing a breakfast dish, coffee cake, coffee and/or juice, please email Stacia Kraft who will be coordinating our breakfast. (sm.kraft@verizon.net) Many thanks!

Faith and Spirituality Exploration

Please joins us for "**First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God**" discussions on:

- March 30th- God's Great Cleanup,
- April 6th - Collaborative Eschaton and
- April 13th - The Lake as the World
- May 18th - Parables as Lures

Coffee will be served and these sessions will start at 9 am on the stage in Kraft Hall.

Also on Sundays, running through April 13, we will meet together to **explore the meaning of spirituality and spiritual formation in Christian faith and tradition**. Starting broadly with the text Jeremiah 29:11, we will follow the path led by

Jesus in his ministry as portrayed by the Gospel of Mark. We will spend time understanding Mark's Gospel, reflecting upon its meaning for us, and in prayer for one another.

Group facilitated by Rodney Petersen, PhD, a member of the church and of the choir, and an ordained minister. Working as executive director of the consortium of 10 theology schools in the Boston area, he comes with a rich background in ecumenical, evangelical and inter-faith practices. **We will meet in the library from 4:30-6:00 PM.**

"For I know the plans have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Sermon Requests

The Deacons' Congregational Survey and Focus Groups which so many of us have participated in over the last couple of months have been enormously informative and potentially transformative for our faith and fellowship here at The Dover Church. It has been, if you will, the renewal of a vibrant congregational way of being church and I thank God for Barry and Barbara's leadership.

While most of you find my preaching style and content helpful to your spiritual growth, some people feel that I do not address their concerns. Just fyi, I follow what is known as the Lectionary, which is a three year cycle of proscribed readings which all churches use. So, in some ways, I have perhaps not had the opportunity.

However, I would like to invite you to submit sermon requests: "I would like a sermon on..., I have always wondered about..." I think it will be a lot of fun, intellectually challenging, and, I think, "good pastoring" speaking with you exactly where you are. **So please drop us a line with your requests and we will put out a schedule so you will know when this will happen.** These requests can be either anonymous or not. Your choice!

-Max

Youth Programming

Confirmation

Our Confirmation class will meet on April 6th, 13th, and 27th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. They will also participate in our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

Sunday School

3

Our Palm Sunday Pageant on April 13th

is almost here! On Sunday, **April 6th**, the children will go directly to Sunday School at 10:00 am to rehearse. We will also have a dress rehearsal and microphone check on Saturday, April 12th at 5 pm. Watch for the Sunday School eNews for more information.

In Sunday School, we continue with our **special offering during Lent** (from Sunday, March 2nd to Palm Sunday, April 13th), to be donated to the Kiva international microloan program. **We ask that our Sunday School children bring in coins, in any amount, each Sunday, for our collection.** If you would like to lighten your pockets by getting rid of your spare change, please add it to the children's collection!

Children's Choir Rehearsal

Dear Parents, Mr. Keene will be working with the youth to present some wonderful singing for Mother's Day and Children's Sunday. We've had a great time so far but always welcome new singers! Please drop off children between 9:15 and 9:30 in Kraft hall on Sunday mornings, as we rehearse before the service each week. Thank you for your support, we're looking forward to making beautiful music together.

Youth Group

Our High School Youth Group continues to meet on Sunday nights at 7 pm. Our meeting on April 6th will be our second work camp meeting. We will be doing an exercise to learn how Appalachia Service Project decides who receives help. It is not an easy decision. We will have regular HSYG meetings on April 13th and 27th. All 9th through 12th graders are welcomed!

Fellowship Opportunities

Ladies Lunch Bunch

"The Butler" – Take Two! We really hope Mother Nature cooperates this month. We have rescheduled our **Movie Matinee and Lunch.** We hope you will join us for lunch and a movie, shown on the giant screen in Kraft Hall on **Thursday, April 3rd at noon.** We will be showing "The Butler."

Please RSVP to Beth Benjamin, 508-785-0957 or email Beth, beth@thedoverchurch.org by Mon-



day, March 31st. And please let us know if you'd like a ride.

New Members Reception

We will be holding a reception for new members on **Friday, May 2nd from 7 to 8:30 pm** at the home of Nancy and Jamie Simms. New Members will be received into the church during worship on Sunday, May 4th. Please speak with Max if you are interested in joining the church.

Ladies who Lunch

One of the many themes emerging from the recent member questionnaire and subsequent focus groups was the desire for more social and 'get-to-know you' events. Following up on that, and perhaps paralleling the men's breakfast and Dolphin lunch groups, a new women's group will have its first luncheon at the Wellesley College Club on **Wednesday, April 9th at 12:00 noon.**

This will be a purely social event, open to all ages, with any topic of conversation such as family, travel, gardening, current events, or whatever comes to mind. No obligations, just fun and fellowship. The college club is located on the left of the Route 16 (Washington Street) entrance to the campus, overlooking Lake Waban, and serves a buffet lunch with various salads, a soup, sandwiches and a dessert table, at the modest cost of \$15 (which includes a tip), with beverages and wine extra (\$20, which includes a tip). Please bring cash to lunch or drop a check by the church office.

We hope to have a good number at our inaugural event! Please let Beth Benjamin at the church office know that you are coming. If you would like a ride, please contact the office as we will arrange it. Please RSVP by Monday, April 7th.

The Dolphin Group

This month, the Dolphin Group will meet on **Wednesday, April 9th at noon.** If you are a retired or senior man who is looking for a fellowship group, please join us for lunch at 12 noon at the Dolphin Restaurant in downtown Natick Center. Please RSVP by calling the church office.



Dover Church Band

4

The Dover Church Band will be playing on **April 13th** for during our Palm Sunday Pageant. Rehearsals will be on Monday, **March 31st** and Monday, **April 7th at 7:30 pm** in the music room.



If you would like to join the band, we welcome you! If you would like to be included on the email to our musicians, please email Beth Benjamin, beth@thedoverchurch.org, or call the church office, 508-785-0957.

Join us for a night at the Pops

We have reserved 30 tickets for Cirque de la Symphonie, on **Friday, May 16th at 8 pm** and we hope you will join us for a fun night out. Tickets are \$64 and the seats are at tables located on the floor in rows P and Q. Tickets will be held on a first come basis. Please email Beth Benjamin, beth@thedoverchurch.org, by April 1st, to reserve your tickets. Please make checks payable to the church and mail or bring by the church office by April 1st.



About the show: The fusion of circus with orchestra is a magical combination, and we are pleased to present the first Boston appearance of Cirque de la Symphonie. Aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen are among the talented artists who will take the stage. Thrill to the musical acrobatics of the outstanding Boston Pops musicians as they synchronize their performance of spectacular classical music to the astounding feats of the circus performers. Cirque de la Symphonie performances have prompted such accolades as, "mesmerized adults and children," "wonder, surprises, and enchantment," and "a breathtaking display of agility and incomparable beauty."

Men's Breakfast Group

Our Men's Breakfast Group will meet in April. The group has decided it would like to have a floating meeting date. Each month a poll will be sent out to the men in the congregation asking them which dates and times works best.

Please respond as soon as possible so we can make sure to give everyone enough notice of the meeting date! So watch for the email with the meeting date poll.

Serving Others

Family Promise Update

Come join our team, the **Dover Church Strollers**, to raise funds for Family Promise Metrowest's Family Shelter and Transitional Housing Program!

The all-ages event includes many activities, including children's crafts, face painting, and a concert by the Stacey Peasley Band. The registration fee is \$10 for everyone over 13 and \$7 for kids, and all registered participants get a t-shirt and have a fun time while supporting of one of the Dover Church's longstanding community partnerships.

For more information and to join our team of Strollers, please go to the Family Promise website: www.familypromisemetrowest.org. If you have additional questions or suggestions, please contact Peggy Cross by email at: peggyfcross@gmail.com or by phone (508) 479-1432.

If you would like to get involved in our next hosting week in May and have not been through the **Family Promise Training**, there will be a training session on **Tuesday, April 1st at 7 pm** at the Unitarian Universalist Area Church at First Parish, 11 Washington Street in Sherborn.



Haiti

Our trip to Fond des Blancs, Haiti and the Villa Clinic was a great success. Many thanks to all of the donations. We filled several large suitcases. Thank you to Margi Derian for the suitcases!

We are planning a gathering for everyone who has made a donation to our Haiti efforts (the Villa Clinic and the Kids for Timoun),



those who have visited Fond des Blancs, and those who are interested in our trip this fall. Watch your mail boxes for the invitation.



Additional News and Information

Spring Clean Up!

Our first Spring Clean Up will be on **Saturday, April 12th**. Come at **9 am** to help us get the meeting house and our grounds ready for spring. (If you have a leaf blower, please bring it. We will be cleaning up the sand on the driveway and parking lot.)

Lay Leaders Needed!

Please help us with our Sunday worship! We need ushers, scripture readers and Sunday Fellowship hosts for the following Sundays:

- **Ushers:** April 13th (2), 9 am Easter service (2), 11 am Easter service (2), April 27th (2) and many dates in May and June.
- **Scripture Readers:** all Sundays, starting April 20th through June 22nd
- **Sunday Fellowship:** April 13th, and beyond!

If you are able to help, please contact Beth Benjamin in the church office, 508-785-0957.

Toiletry Collection

Do you bring home the travel sized shampoos and soaps when you travel? Don't know what to do with them? Bring them to the church! In April, Lizzie Simms, one of our high school students, will be collecting travel sized toiletry items: soap, shampoo, conditioner, etc. These items will be donated to the Women's lunch place, in Boston. Look for collection boxes outside of the music room and in the Kraft Hall entrance.

Easter Lily Orders

The order form for Easter Lilies is enclosed with this newsletter. Please return orders to the church office by Monday, April 14th.

Assistant Treasurer News

After almost twelve years of wonderful service to The Dover Church, Anne Carter, our Assistant Treasurer, will be retiring in April. Anne has been a wonderful steward of the Church and her guidance and knowledge of our operations will be greatly missed. More of our reminiscing and gratitude will come later!

As we have done for the Director of Congregational Life and Christian Education Administrator, we hope to find our next Assistant Treasurer amongst our membership. Below is a brief description of the job and time commitment. If you are interested in hearing more about the position and/or applying, please contact Dawn Fatore at dafatore@comcast.net. We look forward to hearing from you!

Assistant Treasurer Job Description

General Requirements:

- Be detail-oriented
- Have basic knowledge of accounting procedures and Excel
- Be able to maintain confidentiality

Duties:

- Pay all bills
- Receive all pledge payments, credit to accounts and deposit to bank
- Prepare Annual budget and monthly reports for Trustees
- Attend monthly Trustee meetings
- Submit CORI requests
- Prepare Payroll for outside payroll service.

Time commitment and Salary:

- Maximum of 15 hours per week
- December and January require more hours – summer less
- Flexible hours – you don't necessarily need to work during regular office hours
- Hourly wage to be negotiated based on experience.

Important Dates for Spring 2014

In an effort to keep everyone informed about our upcoming events, we have listed the current schedule of our upcoming Spring 2014 events. Mark your calendars! We will be adding dates as additional events become finalized.

Please watch for more details about each of these events which we will post in our Sunday announcements and our weekly eNews.

In May

Friday, May 2: New Member Evening Reception: 7 to 8:30 pm, 6 Sanger Circle, Dover,

Sunday, May 4: New Member Sunday*,

Sunday, May 4: Service Fair during Coffee Hour,

Sunday, May 4 – Sunday, May 11: Family Promise Hosting Week*,

Tuesday, May 6: Trustee Meeting, 7 pm,

Wednesday, May 7: Dolphin Group Lunch at noon,

Sunday, May 11: Mothers' Day Service, Dover Church Children's choir singing,

Tuesday, May 13: Leadership Potluck Dinner at 6:30 pm,

Thursday, May 15: Dover Lunch Bunch, at 12:15 pm,

Friday, May 16: Boston Pops Event at 8 pm,

Sunday, May 18 – HSYG talking about upcoming work camp trip during worship at 10 am, First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God at 9 am,

Tuesday, May 20: Deacons Meeting, 7:30 pm,

Tuesday, May 27: Church Council Meeting, 7:30 pm,

In June

Sunday, June 1: Confirmation Sunday at 10 am,

Tuesday, June 3: Baccalaureate Service for all DS High School seniors and families, 7 pm,

Sunday, June 8: Children's Sunday Special Offering for the Kids for Timoun,

Tuesday, June 10: Trustee Meeting, 7 pm,

Wednesday, June 11: Dolphin Group Lunch at noon,

Sunday, June 15: Fathers Day Service,

Tuesday, June 17: Deacons Meeting, 7:30 pm

Saturday, June 21 – Sunday June 29: High School Youth Group Work Camp,

Tuesday, June 24: Church Council Meeting, 7:30 pm,

Sunday, June 29: Summer Hours begin – Sunday Service at 9:00am,

Sunday, September 7: Welcome Back! Services at 10 am.

*For more information, contact Beth Benjamin at Beth@thedoverchurch.org or 508-785-0957.

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>(This calendar receives many updates after publication. The most up-to-date calendar is the electronic one on our website: www.thedoverchurch.org).</i>						
		1 7:30 PM BSA Philmont Planning Meeting	2 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	3 12:00 PM Ladies Lunch Bunch: Movie Matinee 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 Fauré Requiem Service 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM First Light Series 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Sunday School 4:30 PM Spiritual Formation 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM HSYG	7 1:00 PM Al Anon 7:30 PM Band Rehearsal	8 2:30 PM DSMS Drama Meeting 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting	9 9:00 AM Al Anon 12:00 PM -The Dolphin Group - Ladies Who Lunch 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	10	11	12 8:00 AM Family Promise Walkathon 9:00 AM Spring Grounds Clean Up 5:00 PM CE Rehearsal
13 Palm Sunday Pageant 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM First Light Series 10:00 AM Worship Service/ 1:00 PM Memorial Service 4:30 PM Spiritual Growth 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM HSYG	14 Labyrinth 1:00 PM Al Anon	15 Labyrinth 7:30 PM Deacons Meeting	16 Labyrinth 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	17 Labyrinth 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	18 Labyrinth 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	19 Labyrinth
20 Easter Sunday 6:00 AM Sunrise Service at Channing Pond 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service (Special Offering for Villa Clinic)	21 1:00 PM Al Anon	22	23 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	24	25	26
27 Worship 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service Sunday School 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM HSYG	28 1:00 PM Al Anon	29 7:30 PM Council Meeting	30 9:00 AM Al Anon 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	1 MS Play	2 MS Play 7:00 pm New Members Reception	3 MS Play

Join us for Holy Week.



Join us on Sunday, April 13th at 10 am, for our Palm Sunday service and the start of Holy Week.

Come walk our Labyrinth, April 14th to 19th.

We will hold Maundy Thursday, April 17th, and Good Friday, April 18th, services at 7 pm.

Our Easter Services are at 6 am, 9 am and 11 am.



THE DOVER CHURCH

P.O. Box 305 • Dover, MA 02030 • Tel: 508-785-0957 • Fax: 508-785-0957 • info@thedoverchurch.org

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Dover, MA 02030
Permit No. 4
Carrier Route Presort

NEWS from Meeting House Hill
THE DOVER CHURCH
P.O. BOX 305
DOVER, MA 02030