

The Dover Church

"A Welcoming Community of Faith and Service since 1762"

July 3rd, 2014

Volume 5, Issue 6

News from Meeting House Hill

To the church in Dover:

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

By the time you read these words, Beth Benjamin, Chris Newport, Kitty Daly (adults), Lizzie Simms, Graydon Wood, Mary Newport, Teddy DeBevoise, Andrew Mallett, Seth Novitch, Scott ("Hammy") Hackney, Scott Fallon, Sam Law, Michael Daly, Max Petersen, Reed Mitchell (teens), and me (adultish) will be in the town of Oak Hill, Fayette County, West Virginia repairing homes with Appalachian Service Project, a 50 year old home repair ministry that draws thousands of young people of faith from around the country every summer to the most impoverished counties in Appalachia. In Fayette County, for example, the median family income is \$13,000/year. The only employment is big retail (i.e., Walmart) or convenience (7-Eleven), now that coal mining is either done or largely mechanized. The peoples' homes we will be working on will probably be in grievous states of disrepair or outright collapse: fixing leaking roofs, replacing walls and floors, building foundations. This is not cosmetic work we will be doing.

In addition to working 8 hour days, Monday – Friday, on some family's home, we will be staying in the Oak Hill School with 60 other volunteers (adults and teens). They have graciously installed air conditioning for us, so sleep will be restful. There will be daily devotions and group reflection times. With a 13 hour each way road trip in 2 12-passenger vans, we will be staying at Zion Reformed Church, United Church of Christ, in Chambersburg, PA, on the way down, and The Community Church of Mountain Lakes, NJ, United Church of Christ, on the way back. Both churches have offered to make us breakfast and would like our youth group to get together with their youth groups.

We hope you mark your calendars for September 14, 2014. We will be in church that Sunday morning to share with you what happened. Although I cannot even begin to predict what will happen or who we will meet or how we will come together as a Beloved Community, one thing is sure: God is going to be all over this adventure.

In faith, hope and love,

Max – your pastor



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



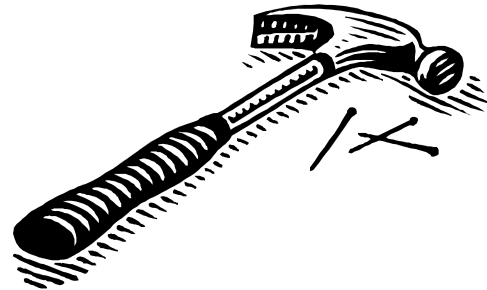
LOOKING AHEAD

**Summer Services
at 9:00 AM
in Kraft Hall**

**Sanctuary Project
Begins July 7th**

**July 13th and 20th
Rodney Petersen,
preaching**

See inside calendar for more details.



Pastoral Coverage

Max will be away with the SHYG (Senior High Youth Group) on our work camp trip to Oak Hill, West Virginia, from Saturday, June 21 to Sunday, June 29. Then Max will be on vacation in France. In case of a pastoral need, please contact the Reverend John Hudson of the Pilgrim Church in Sherborn, (508) 655-1667 ext. 11, or the Reverends Amy and Peter DeSanto of Grace Church in Dover, 508-785-3500. We will also have a Deacon on Call to answer any phone calls that we receive during the time the church office is not open. Max will be back in the saddle on July 21.

May your summer be happy, healthy and full of peace and joy!

Sanctuary Project to Begin Shortly

The wait is over! The contract has been signed and all the work we have been planning for the last several years is happening this summer. The Trustees approved a budget of approximately \$360,000 which includes reinforcing the roof trusses in the front of the Church, interior plaster repair and painting of almost every square inch, new lighting, a new and updated sound system with recording and hearing enhanced capabilities, carpet and part one of our window restoration.

As we mentioned in April, different strategies were being explored for the windows. With many options in hand, it was decided to proceed with the one that not only restores the original windows (not replace) but greatly improves the energy efficiency. Part one referred to above includes fabricating and installing removable interior storms. These will keep the cold drafts out of

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the sanctuary during the winter months and make the Sunday services a little warmer. In addition, they will provide for 99.9% ultra-violet blocking and a temporary replacement for the windows once part two begins. Each original window will be removed and completely restored offsite. This flexibility allows us to perform part two as quickly or as slowly as we would like.

A pre-construction meeting was held last week with Murray Brothers Construction and Don Mills from Mills Whitaker Architects. Murray Brothers will be using the right front sanctuary door as a construction entrance and will seal off the rear door to the elevator and admin area. They will cordon off a section of parking lot nearest the church towards the front for their use. They will position a lift for use to get the steel up to holes that will be opened in the roof. In addition, they will have a dumpster, trailer, porta-potty, and a staging area for lumber.

Work will commence on July 7th with the positioning of staging within the sanctuary. Work on the plaster ceiling will start soon thereafter. We are reminded that this will be a hard hat only area, so we would want to resist the temptation of all to "check out" the progress.

The timeline has the sanctuary ready for use no later than September 27th (a wedding is scheduled) but hopefully ready for a ribbon-cutting ceremony mid-September. Stay tuned!

This investment will be a wonderful 250th (plus a year or two) facelift for the sanctuary. The funds to cover the work are coming from several different sources. We are using the remaining allocated monies from the 250th Renovation Fund (approx. \$70,000), a recently received \$200,000 bequest (which enabled the work to begin this summer) and the remaining balance from our endowment fund. We plan to hold a future fundraiser to replenish funds used from the endowment; it will be a wonderful celebration!

Enjoy the summer and please feel free to contact the Trustees with any questions on the work at hand.

Bob Cocks,
Dawn Fattore and
Steve Karlson,
Board of Trustees

From the Stewardship Team

Last month we told you that we were going to put together profiles in giving to the Dover Church. Here's the first one as a result of an interview with Sara Jo Marble and her husband, Jim.

Sara Jo grew up in New Jersey with parents from the Midwest and joined The Dover Church community in 1969. She was exposed early to a community that gave generously to their church, through time and effort as well as financially. In fact, "most people tithed to the church", she said. That experience laid the foundation for her generosity to The Dover Church.

Sara Jo has been involved in many aspects of the church over the years. She's a long time member of the choir and worked with the group to prepare the sanctuary for the arrival of the C.B. Fisk organ to the church 20 years ago. She has also played important roles in redoing the Sunday school (3 times!), renovating the kitchen, the renovation and addition to the parsonage, and she currently serves on the design committee that is guiding the renovation of the sanctuary and the administrative offices. She also works regularly on updating the church archives.

Her children loved the youth group experience at the church. "That experience has shaped who they have become," she said.

She cares deeply about this church. "Someone took care of this church for us before we arrived and now we have the responsibility to take care of it for those to come after us," she said.

In addition to supporting the church itself, Sara Jo and Jim are concerned about youth education and hunger around here and in Maine, where they have a summer place. Through the church they supported the Eliot Church and a summer program for kids at the Covenant Church. They also support the library and a community meal program in Maine.

She and Jim are surprised that in a town like Dover the church struggles to meet its operating expenses. "If people knew the numbers, the costs, and understood the work of the church, they would give more to their potential," they agreed.

Sara Jo sees the church now moving in a good direction. More people are involved and caring for the church. "What I want for the church is for it to be vibrant and full of people who care about each other," she said.

Many of Sara Jo's friends and acquaintanc-

es are a result of the community that is The Dover Church. She has been, and continues to be a wonderful steward of this church.

With continued thanks,

Glenn Jensen Steve Karlson
Chris Newport Lisa Procter
Tara Spalding

Upcoming Services

Christianity, Revolution, and Nation-Building is the theme of worship on Sunday, July 13 and 20. We will be led in worship by (Rev.) Rodney Petersen, Historian (PhD) and Dover Church Deacon. These service dates roughly coincide with the American Revolution (7/4) and Bastille Day (7/14) and Swiss Independence Day (8/1). Among the patriotic anthems sung during the American Revolutionary War, only *Yankee Doodle* was more popular than William Billings' *Chester*:

*Let tyrants shake their iron rod,
And Slav'ry clank her galling chains,
We fear them not, we trust in God,
New England's God forever reigns.*

*What grateful Off ring shall we bring?
What shall we render to the Lord?
Loud Halleluiahs let us Sing,
And praise his name on ev'ry Chord.*

Fellowship Opportunities

We continue our afternoon movie matinee during the summer. **Join us on Thursday, July 3rd and again on Friday, August 15th both at 1 pm.** We invite all to join us and we will have refreshments. We hope to see you this summer at the movies!



Summer Schedule

Summer Worship is at 9:00 am in Kraft Hall.

Church Office -The church office will be open on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon**, during the summer.

July 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	2 9:00 AM AI Anon	3 1:00 PM Movie Matinee	4	5
6 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	7 1:00 PM AI Anon	8	9 9:00 AM AI Anon	10	11	12
13 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	14 1:00 PM AI Anon	15	16 9:00 AM AI Anon	17	18	19
20 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	21 1:00 PM AI Anon	22	23 9:00 AM AI Anon	24	25	26
27 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	28 1:00 PM AI Anon	29	30 9:00 AM AI Anon	31	1	2

August 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	2
3 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	4 1:00 PM Al Anon	5	6 9:00 AM Al Anon	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	11 1:00 PM Al Anon	12	13 9:00 AM Al Anon	14	15 1:00 PM Movie Matinee	16
17 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	18 1:00 PM Al Anon	19	20 9:00 AM Al Anon	21	22	23
24 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	25 1:00 PM Al Anon	26	27 9:00 AM Al Anon	28	29	30
31 Worship 9:00 AM Worship Service	1 Labor Day Office Closed 1:00 PM Al Anon	2 Office returns to regular hours	3 9:00 AM Al Anon	4	5	6

Summer Services at 9:00 am in Kraft Hall.



Sanctuary Project to begin July 7th.

THE DOVER CHURCH

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