

# The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, April 14, 2024 - 10:00 AM  
Third Sunday of Easter



## CONFESSION

**Holy God, we come before you this day, desperate for peace. We yearn for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, and around the world. We find ourselves adrift in a storm of anxiety and discontent, conflict and animosity, and we know in our hearts that this is not your will for us. Yet too often, we fail to reach for the peace you offer. We choose other things instead: productivity, convenience, apathy, or power. Help us, not only to trust in your promise of peace, but to answer your call to build that peace in all that we do. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.**

GOD'S WORD FOR US

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**O Lord our God, you offer us in scripture words of life, which, through faith, become our word of life. Help us to listen for that word in our lesson this morning. Amen.**

from the GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

Luke 24:36b-48

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Peace Be With You"

REFLECTIONS ON PEACE

HYMN **This Is My Song** 515

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT & CALL TO OFFERING

RECEPTION OF OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF PARTING	<b>Let There Be Peace on Earth</b>	512
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## COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE	Fanfare for the Common Man	Aaron Copland arr. Hogan
	<i>dedicated to Jimmy Hain for his 92nd Birthday</i>	

## THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN HONOR OF

**WESTELL NORMAN**

CELEBRATING HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY

BY HIS DAUGHTER

LINDA HAIN

## LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

DEACON ON DUTY: Leslie Decker

USHERS: Bill Barrett & Jen Thomson

LITURGIST: Ham Hackney

SCRIPTURE READER: Linda Means

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## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Gene Hornsby, Bo Pettit, Amanda Reinemann, Dietrich Schultze, Livi Arnold, Jane Moore, Mark Bedard, Steve Karlson, and Harper Pazdan.**

Birthday wishes are for April 14, 2024 to April 20, 2024. Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!

## **Announcements**

### **Birthhday Wishes for children who are homeless**

Our High School Youth Group will be putting together Birthday-In-a-Box kits in May. The Birthday-in-a-Box program was created in 2005 to serve homeless children in domestic violence shelters, scattered sites, motels, and other locations which cannot accommodate Birthday Wishes Party Coordinators. The BIAB Program allows Birthday Wishes to reach homeless children in almost any living situation.

Party supplies are carefully packaged inside a brightly wrapped box and delivered to the program, agency, motel, or other facility for distribution to families, along with a bag of wrapped gifts for the birthday celebrant. Each birthday box contains everything necessary for a great birthday celebration. This program empowers and bonds families, helping them maintain this important tradition while in a shelter.

We have put together a wish list of needed items and hope that our church community will help us put together 25 boxes. If you would like to help us, please use the link found in the e-news to purchase items from our wish list. Items will be shipped directly to the church office.

Thank you for your support of our high school youth group mission efforts.

### **Make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

Sanctuary Choir - Rehearsals on Mondays, 6:30-8:00 PM and Sundays at 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to join us.

Chapel Bell Choir – New Time! Rehearsals on Tuesdays 1:00-2:30 PM  
New members welcome. Please speak to Christine if you are interested in our Chapel Bell Choir.

### **Middle School Youth Group**

All meetings on Sundays, 5 to 6:30 pm, unless otherwise noted, and feature a program, games and a snack. Open to 6-8th grade youth from Pilgrim Church, the Dover Church and the community

4/28 – TBD

5/5 – Celebrating God's Creation

5/19 – Outside Local Service project

6/9 – Final meeting before summer – Bowling and Pizza party!!!!

We hope you are excited as we are to continue to nurture the spiritual and community lives of the young people we serve at our two churches and from the wider area. As always, bring a friend!

In Peace and Hope For the Days Ahead,  
Pastor John Hudson, Victoria Gaisford, Eric Brooks and Dan Hartman

### **Women's Spiritual Friendship Group:**

Our Women's Spiritual Friendship Group will be meeting on **Wednesday, April 17th at 9:15 AM** in the Church Library. We'll be discussing a (short) chapter from a new-to-our-group-book, "Room to Grow" by Martin B Copenhagen. All are welcome to join us, whether you have joined us before or not. If you would like a copy of the chapter, or have any questions, please reach out to Kayla (kayla@thedoverchurch.org) or Leslie Decker.

### **Men's Breakfast Group**

Our Men's Breakfast Group will meet on **Friday, April 19 at 7:30 AM** at the home of Steve Karlson, 7 Adams Lane, Dover. This group is open to men of all ages. They meet monthly for community building and to socialize. All are welcome. If you are interested in learning more about joining this group, please contact Glenn Jensen, glenn.jensen@ne-rc.com.

### **Mother's Day Cards Support Women's Lunch Place**

Each year, WLP commissions a guest of Women's Lunch Place to design a Mother's Day card, which they then sell to raise funds for their Healthy Meals program. Every card provides a week of meals for a woman in need. They are the perfect way to honor a special woman in your life.

This year's card was designed by Marlo. Marlo grew up in foster care and has experienced homelessness on and off for over a decade. Recently, she



moved to Boston and began visiting the WLP community. She enjoys their scratch-made meals, shower facilities, and therapeutic art classes.

"I've been working as a cashier, but I'm looking for a change," said Marlo, who can use WLP's Resource & Empowerment Center to build her skill set and search for jobs.

"I am always inspired by everyday life. I think life is beautiful and I want to turn that into a lasting, lingering feeling. You can do that through art because art is timeless."

If you would like to support the Women's Lunch Place, cards can be purchased online at: <https://womenslunchplace.org/mothers-day> or by using the link in the e-news.

### **March 29, 2024 Update on Guatemalan Family**

Our sponsored refugee Alvarez Marin family from Guatemala is settling well into life in the United States, despite our chilly, rainy New England weather these past several days. Peggy Cross recently accompanied parents Zuly and Alejandro on a groceries shopping excursion to Market Basket in Ashland. The family has been approved for Massachusetts WIC funding (Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program), and their shopping cart was full of vegetables, fruits, dairy products, baby formula and other healthy products covered by this program.

Our intrepid volunteer team of Max and Lucas Olmstead and Liz and Chip Gibson also delivered more furniture to the Eagle Rock Apartments complex on Friday afternoon. Truly Mission in Action!

Please contact Peggy Cross at [peggyfcross@gmail.com](mailto:peggyfcross@gmail.com) if you'd like to volunteer to help support this lovely family.

### **Acolytes and Readers**

Every Sunday we love to see children in our congregation participate in worship by being an acolyte and/or a reader. An acolyte's responsibilities are ringing the church bell before the service, leading the pastor down the aisle to the chancel and lighting the candles on the altar. A reader's responsibility is to practice their reading slowly and clearly during the week so they will be ready

and confident to read on the lectern by Sunday. The readings may vary from scripture from the bible, a prayer, announcements or “call to worship”. Please email Martha DePaola, [admin@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:admin@thedoverchurch.org), if your child is interested in participating as a reader or an acolyte.

### **Prayer Chapel**

Meets on zoom **Wednesday from 12:30 to 1:00 PM** . It’s a time to check in with church family, share joys and sorrows, and be in prayer together. Zoom links for meetings can be found on the church's website calendar of events.

### **Tea and Check-In**

We meet **Thursdays, at 3:00 PM** in the library. A time to check in on your friends and to hear the news of the parish.

### **Volunteer on Sunday Mornings**

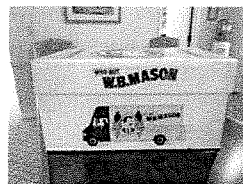
Are you are able to help on a Sunday morning with ushering, being our liturgist, or scripture reader, or by hosting our coffee hour? To volunteer you do not need to be a member. Use the link in the e-News, sign up during coffee hour or contact the church office [admin@thedoverchurch.org](mailto:admin@thedoverchurch.org). Please sign up as you are able.

### **Dedicate Flowers on Sunday Morning**

On Sundays we have a beautiful flower arrangement on the altar that is dedicated to a loved one. If you would like to dedicate flowers for Sunday morning, please speak with Betty Brady on Sunday morning to claim a date, or look for the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in Kraft Hall during coffee hour.

### **Paper Boxes**

We are saving boxes from a case of paper (see image) for a HSYG project in May. If you have a box, or 2, to donate, please drop it by the church office. Many thanks!



**The Dover Foundation – College Scholarships**

The Dover Foundation is excited to help the High School Seniors in Dover with college scholarships. Applications due by **April 15**. Visit [TheDoverFoundation.org](http://TheDoverFoundation.org) for the application and more information.