

The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 27, 2024 - 10:00 AM
All Saints Sunday

Welcome to The Dover Church. Sunday morning worship is perhaps the only occasion where people of all generations spend time together in the same public place. This is one of our great joys. Different people at different ages worship in different ways. Some are bouncy and some are silent. We ask that everyone welcome each other and embrace these differences.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

WALKING IN MUSIC

WORDS OF WELCOME

All are invited to join in speaking or singing when bolded words appear.

If you have a prayer request card, the ushers will come by after the sermon to collect them.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Welcome to this holy place.

People: We come to feel God's embrace.

We come to be touched by the Spirit.

We come to meet Jesus.

To learn new ways of thinking and being, of seeing and loving.

To be renewed and refreshed.

To be comforted and challenged.

We come to learn how to love and be loved.

To serve and be served.

All: We come to celebrate God's steadfast love and glory.

PRAYER OF INTENTION

Holy God, Source of All Goodness, we come into the shelter of your healing love this morning to remember with thanksgiving those whom we have loved who have gone before us into your eternal embrace. We come with memories of grace and goodness, joy and smiles, hugs and happiness, the taste, smells, sights, sounds and feels of loving lives lived together. Because every one of us makes mistakes, however, we also remember harder places and times, times of tears and heartbreak, times of anger and hurt, times of loss and leaving. Help us, God Most Merciful, to find our way into wholeness as we light our candles, celebrating the very good and forgiving all else, that we might live in this moment towards the future rather than bound to the past, bearing spiritual fruits of the light and the darkness so that we live ever fuller and richer lives of love to your glory. For whether we live or whether we die, we belong to Christ who is Lord of both the dead and the living. Amen.

TIME FOR REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

RESPONSE

God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it!
God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it!

CHILDREN'S SERMON & CANDLE LIGHTING

HYMN

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

S 58

CHILDREN MAY LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

GOD'S WORD FOR US

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord our God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we May hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

from the PROPHETS OF ISRAEL

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

from the GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 6: 14-15

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

ACT OF PRAISE

**O bless the Lord, my Soul!
God's grace to thee proclaim.
And all that is within me join
To bless God's holy name. Amen.**

SERMON

"The Good in Good-bye"

LIGHTING OF MEMORIAL CANDLES

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.**

HYMN **Precious Lord, Take My Hand** 470

EXCHANGING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

RECEPTION OF OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF PARTING **When the Saints Go Marching In** **Insert**

.....When the saints go marching in
.....When the sun refuse to shine
.....When the trumpet sounds the call
.....When the band begins to play

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HAP HACKNEY
BY HIS SON HAM

The Meeting House Hill Blues Blowers

Mike Benjamin, trumpet

Bob Cocks, banjo

Bill Dube, clarinet

Bill Kane, drums

Jeff Petersen, trombone

Michael Touloumtzis, tuba

Christine Hogan, piano

Max Olmstead, guitar

LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

DEACON ON DUTY: Glenn Jensen

USHER: Beth Benjamin & Linda Pettit

SCRIPTURE READER: Ham Hackney

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: Beth Benjamin

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshment in Kraft Hall
following this morning's worship service.*

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Katie Engle, Lynne Hong, Kyle McBurney, Amanda Dickerson and Dottie Rother.**

Birthday wishes are for October 27, 2024 to November 2, 2024. Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!

Announcements

Interested in The Dover Church?

One of our great joys here at The Dover Church is welcoming new people into our faith and fellowship, because we believe that every new person is a gift from God. With every new person who comes to be with us, God is doing a new thing. For that, we rejoice.

But what does it mean to join the church?

What more do I need to know about The Dover Church?

What's this congregationalism thing all about?

What is the United Church of Christ (the denomination (what's a denomination) of which we are part?

What does membership in The Dover Church entail?

Can't I just come to church without joining?

If you're interested in joining The Dover Church or finding out what this is all about, Max or Kayla would love to talk with you. **We are receiving new members into the church on November 3 in worship**, the 262nd birthday of the church.

You have plenty of time to get together with Max or Kayla, but don't wait too long. September and October fly by in Dover and November will be here before you know it.

Whether you join as a member or continue as a participant, we are so excited to see what God has in store for all of us.

Peace,

Max and Kayla

max@thedoverchurch.org (508-982-0422)

kayla@thedoverchurch.org (508-269-8406)

Donation Collection for CityReach

Our SHYG will be attending CityReach with Common Cathedral November 15th and 16th. We are hosting a clothing drive and collecting the following items:

- All kinds of gently used carrying cases such as backpacks, tote bags, fanny packs, small suitcases with wheels.
- Travel-size toiletries (nothing containing alcohol)
- New white socks
- New underwear for both men and women, and bras
- Gently used and clean sleeping bags & blankets
- Gently used and clean, sweat shirts, sweat pants, outerwear (especially hooded sweatshirts)
- Monetary donations to be used to purchase clothing

Folks sleeping outside are looking for loose, sturdy, and warm clothing and tend to prefer larger sizes - think L-XXXL. Please keep this in mind when donating. We do not need any dress clothes, tightly fitted clothing, children's clothing, etc. Think about what you might want to go winter camping with.

Donations can be dropped off in the church office or left in the collection bin outside of the Office Wing door. Donations accepted through **Sunday, November 3.**

High School Youth Group France Info Session & Party

Join us tonight from 7-8:30pm in Kraft Hall for a French-themed meeting in honor of our group's upcoming trip to France!

This meeting will be part info session for the trip (parents are invited to attend as well) and part French celebration! We'll play trivia, eat French pastries, and watch a video or two about Taize. Because of a change with our travel agents, we no longer need firm commitments until November. Please come and have fun - if you are committed to the trip, if you're on the fence, or if you know you can't make it to France but want to enjoy time with the group anyway! All are welcome!

Please RSVP to Kayla so we have enough snacks.

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. All are welcome.

Volunteer on Sunday Mornings

Are you 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. 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, look for the sign up sheet in Kraft Hall during coffee hour, or sign up online using the link in the e-News.

Saging

Our "Saging" group will gather on the **1st Sunday** of the month, except in November when we will meet on the second Sunday (11/10, 12/1, 1/5) from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM and the **second Wednesday** of the month (11/13, 12/11) from 9:30-10:30 AM. We will meet in the Church Library unless otherwise noted. This group is going to help each of us develop our innate spiritual wisdom, as well as tap into the spiritual wisdom of our tradition.

CityReach with common cathedral November 15th & 16th

All students in 8th grade or up are invited to attend the SHYG's trip to common cathedral with City Reach!!

CityReach is an overnight urban outreach program begun in March 1996 for youth (with accompanying adults), young adults, and college students from churches of any denomination. The program gives these young people the opportunity to learn first hand about homelessness from people who have experienced it. During the 20 hour session, participants join CityReach staff in street ministry and offer hospitality, food and clothing. This is followed by times of sharing and reflection. We will host a clothing drive in the weeks leading up to the event, then travel downtown on Friday night to meet CityReach staff and other youth from around the state. We'll do a guided late night tour of downtown, from the perspective of someone who sleeps out of doors.

On Saturday we'll welcome the community in to "shop" through all the donations that we've brought and organized. Our group arrives back in Dover/Sherborn by late afternoon on Saturday. This long-standing program gives young people the opportunity to learn first hand about homelessness from people who have experienced it, and to make a direct impact in the lives of people who are so often overlooked or pushed aside. Please reach out to Kayla if interested in attending.

Upcoming Publication about The Dover Church

In 2018 Beth Benjamin and Sally Shoemaker started to write a booklet about many of the interesting facts about our church that we learned from building the archive of The Dover Church. As Beth's retirement approached, we decided to get busy and finish, and so we have. The title is *Buildings, design, artwork, provenance at The Dover Church*.

In this booklet you will find information about many aspects of our church. Did you know that, at one time, the church was three separate buildings, or that the sanctuary floor was once painted black, or where the furnishings came from? Did you know that the chancel has been re-configured at least three times or that the church has had four different organs? You'll find answers to these questions and more now that the booklet is finished. Stop by the church office or reach out to Martha at martha@thedoverchurch.org to receive a hard copy. Find your digital copy in the weekly e-News.

Grounds Clean Up

Our Men's Breakfast Group invites all of our members, young and old, to join us on **Saturday, November 16th at 8:30 AM** for our fall grounds clean up. Bring your rakes, leaf blowers and tarps. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.