

The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, March 16, 2025 - 10:00 AM
Second Sunday in Lent

*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

PRELUDE

Dominus Regit Me

Charles Callahan

WORDS OF WELCOME

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

This service was put together and will be led by the church's Women's
Spiritual Friendship Group in honor of International Women's Day on
March 8th.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come with us into an ancient land!

People: We come to gather in the gleaning of the harvest!

Come, assemble, and gather up our abundance!

We are here to collect with love and gratitude.

Let us grace those who have suffered loss and hardship.

We are here to embrace one another with hope.

We wish all women the support from other women, the courage to face life's
difficulties, and the strength to persevere throughout their lives.

We are strong, we are brave, we are worthy, we are loved.

HYMN OF ADORATION

God Is Working In Our Midst

357

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 attend to your word as our lesson is shared this morning. Amen.

A dramatization of RUTH 1

Performed by Leslie Decker (Narrator), Martha DePaola (Boaz), Linda Means (Ruth), Carol Patey (Naomi), Ana Sanchez (Orpah), Nancy Simms (Candle Lighter).

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN MAY LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

A dramatization of RUTH 2 & 3

REFLECTION

Nancy Simms

A dramatization of RUTH 4

REFLECTION

Martha DePaola

HYMN

My Life Flows On In Endless Song

427

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT & THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Responsive intercessory prayers followed by:

One: In your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

**O God, our Help through the Ages, we thank you for the gifts of wisdom
and insight brought to us through the lives of your saints, those named
like Ruth, and the many left unnamed. Inspire us by their witness as
we continue their legacy of faith. In your mercy, Hear our prayer.**

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

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| | | 5 |
| HYMN OF PARTING | Wherever I May Wander | 64 |
| COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION | | |
| POSTLUDE | Prelude and Fugue in g minor | JS Bach |

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN APPRECIATION OF
THE WOMEN’S SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP GROUP
AND THEIR LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S WORSHIP
 BY BARBARA BAKER

LAY LEADERS IN TODAY’S SERVICE
 DEACON ON DUTY: David Mahr
 USHERS: Women’s Spiritual Friendship
 LITURGIST: Women’s Spiritual Friendship
 SCRIPTURE READER: Women’s Spiritual Friendship
 SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: Women’s Spiritual Friendship

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship
 in Kraft Hall following our service this morning.*

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: Mitsy Baranello, Freddy Be-dard, Flo Revers, Caroline Simms, Amy Barnett, Nancy Simms, Taylor Malm, Janine Everts, John Gilbert and Zebbie Mathis.

Happy Anniversary to Dick & Janie Sylte.

Birthday and Anniversary wishes are for March 16, 2025 to March 22, 2025.

Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!

Announcements

Men's Spiritual Friendship Group

March 28th, 2025 at 7:AM

In March, we'll have the third meeting of the Men's Spiritual Friendship Group. This is a more structured men's fellowship that actively tries to involve men who are newer to our congregation. The great joy of a church like ours is that people connect with others outside their age group or friend group.

We use a texting platform to easily reach out to the men in our congregation. If you have not received a text from The Dover Church inviting you to join the Men's Spiritual Friendship Group, please let our DCL, Ana, know: ana@thedoverchurch.org.

Our next meeting will be on March 28, 2025 at 7:AM. We hope you can join us.

True North VBS

August 4, 2025-August 8, 2025

It's time to hit the trail...for adventure! This August we invite you to join us for True North VBS!

You can expect a week of epic adventures filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids will see, hear and touch, hands-on science experiments, team building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats!

Get Ready for the summer event that points kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust in a wild world! Please reach out to martha@thedoverchurch.org with any questions.

Register using the QR code below:



Intergenerational Dinner

On Sunday evening, **March 30th, from 6-8pm**, our Youth Group will be meeting at The Dover Church for an Intergenerational Dinner! Elders from both Dover and Sherborn communities have been invited to attend. This is a beloved event and a great opportunity to connect with and serve the older members of the church and wider community!

Please RSVP to Kayla@thedoverchurch.org. We hope to see you there!

Family Promise Metrowest - Shelter Program Hosting Week March 16 - 20

The Mission in Action Committee is seeking volunteers to assist with our upcoming 3/16-20 hosting week at Family Promise's day center in Natick. The Dover Church is fortunate to partner with St. Mary's Church in Holliston with our effort.

Please contact Peggy Cross at peggyfcross@gmail.com if you'd like to help with purchasing and delivering groceries or providing dinner on Tues. March 18 or Thurs. March 20. (Family Promise will update us a few days in advance with a groceries list and meal info about the families in residence at that time.)

Candles for our Teen Pilgrims

Our High School Youth Group has crafted some beautiful candles, using dried flowers, that are for sale in support of our teen pilgrimage this coming summer. You can see the candles for sale in coffee hour or by stopping by the church office during the week. Suggested donations are \$5 + per taper candle, \$10 + for a 3 inch pillar candle or \$15+for a 6 inch pillar candle. All proceeds will mitigate the costs for our teens traveling to the Taize monastery. Thank you for your support!!

Tents for Taizé

We need your help in securing tents for our Youth Group Pilgrimage to Taizé this summer. We are specifically looking for:

- 3-4 multi-person tents
- sleeping pads
- In addition we welcome any donations of hiking backpacks to borrow.

If you have any tents that you can lend us from June 20th-July 10th, or if you know of someone who might, please let us know! Thank you for supporting our youth on this journey!

The Dover Church's New Family Playgroup

You're invited to join the Family Playgroup at The Dover Church on Thursdays through March 28th. **Our new meeting time is 9:00-10:30 AM.** This is a free playgroup

for parents/caregivers and littles (babies & toddlers). Littles can burn winter energy with toys, slides, climbing structures and a little bounce house while adults enjoy coffee, treats and connection.

While this group is sponsored by The Dover Church, it is not a religious offering. Caregiving to young children is an incredibly important vocation, but it can be isolating. Our hope is that this group will be a gift to all in the community, providing young families with a place to connect and to blow off steam, especially during a long New England winter.

Please spread the word about this exciting new group! All are welcome. No fee, registration, or RSVP required.

Wonder Wednesdays

We had a great time during our Wonder Wednesday session on February 5th diving into the themes of the story of Moses found in the book of Exodus!

This semester we are exploring God's creation, focusing on the wonder and abundance of the watery corners of creation - oceans, lakes, rivers, and streams. If you know of a K-5 student at Chickering or Pine Hill, spread the word! We have some additional spots open.

Wonder Wednesdays, which runs from 11:45-2:15, is a faith formation experience focused on the goodness of creation, the call to serve, and the never-ending love God has for each of us. Each day we'll explore Bible stories, play games, get crafty and creative, and run around outside.

We are looking forward to gathering again on **April 2nd and May 5th!**

Register on our website or through the e-news. Contact Kayla or Martha for more information.

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.

2025 Offering Envelopes Available

If you would like a boxed set of weekly offering envelopes for 2025, please let Nancy know and she will set them out for you in the narthex. Each set is numbered to make record keeping clear and convenient and to save you the time it may take to write your name and date on the general envelopes found in the pews. Nancy's email address is nancy@thedoverchurch.org, or she may be reached by phone at 508-785-0957.

Lenten Study Series Hosted by St. Dunstan Episcopal Church **Tuesdays, 8-9 PM on Zoom**



White Christian Nationalism: How Did We As a Nation Get Here and What Can We Do About It?

*A Lenten Study Series Hosted By St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Tuesdays, 8-9 pm, on Zoom*

March 11 at 8 pm - White Christian Nationalism 101: What is it and how did our country get here?

March 18 at 8 pm - White Christian Nationalism By the Numbers

March 25 at 8 pm - How Is the Faith Community Responding to White Christian Nationalism?

April 1 at 8 pm - The Episcopal Church's Response to White Christian Nationalism

April 8 at 8 pm - What Can We Do to Push Back Against White Christian Nationalism?
Featuring Aaron Scott and his book, [Bring Back Your People: Ten Ways Regular Folks Can Put a Dent in White Christian Nationalism](#)

Register at <https://bit.ly/LentStudyWCN> or use the QR code.
Upon registration, you will receive a syllabus with background info for each session. Although doing the prep work is encouraged, it is not required, and we welcome all who want to learn more to join us for any or all of the sessions. Come be part of the conversation!



St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 18 Springdale Avenue, Dover, MA 02030
www.saintdunstansma.org www.facebook.com/saintdunstansma

A Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a pledge— via the mail, email, or online— for our 2025 Stewardship campaign. As of Friday, March 14, 2025, we are \$52,983 shy of our goal. We have received 126 gifts totaling \$364,017 (87.3% of our \$417,000 goal) from:

- Caroline Abernathy
- Victoria Babcock
- Brad & Barbara Baker
- Paul & Mitsy Baranello
- Keith & Amy Barnett
- Judith Barr
- Bill Barrett
- Ben & Lana Beal
- Mike & Beth Benjamin
- Bob & Sandy Boynton
- Bob Brace
- Betty Brady
- Terry & Cindy Brennan
- Judith Bursiek
- Dale Cabot
- Jim Cardell
- Matt & Alison Carothers
- Jeff & Anne Carter
- Joe & Soo Chang
- Jerry & Rui Chen
- Paul Cichocki & Cindy Ostrowski
- Pam Clayson
- Melvin & Marian Clouse
- Bob & Susan Cocks
- Ken & Ginny Colburn
- Mark & Valerie Constant
- Peggy Cross
- Tom & Maggie Danielski
- Bob & Judy Davis
- Sarah Decker & Luis Camilo Novelo Rosas
- Scott & Leslie Decker
- Ed & Kristen Dennison
- Steve & Heather DePaola
- Margi Derian
- Tom & Carolyn Develin
- Burley & Amanda Dickerson
- Darin & Christina Dougherty
- Walter & Kayla Edstrom
- Charlie & Katie Engle
- Bob & Janine Everts
- Romeo Filip & Alina Gavrila-Filip
- Edie Forrester
- Chip & Liz Gibson
- Bob & Lee Graham
- Scott & Kristen Griebel
- Ham Hackney
- Betty Hagan
- Bruce & Linda Hain
- Jimmy Hain
- Jon & Liz Hartnett
- Kevin & Stephanie Hedrick
- Gunnar & Vida Heskestad
- Dick Hodgson
- George & Lynne Hong
- Leah Hoover
- Gene & Mary Hornsby
- Jack & Laury Hunt
- Drew & Karen Hussar
- Glenn & Cynthia Jensen
- David Jimerson
- Chad & Lori Johnson

A Stewardship Update (*continued*)

- Karl Johnson & Mary Yanke
- Bill & Victoria Kane
- Steve & Beth Karlson
- Mike Kendall & Alida Coo-Kendall
- George King & Diana Eng-King
- Joan King
- Laura Kunkemueller
- Tom & Wendy Leeds
- Sam & Val Lin
- Gerald & Whitney Loehr
- Tom & Lynn Lonabocker
- Charlie Long
- Paul & Gail Lopez
- Mike & Elizabeth Lynch
- Nancy Mackay
- David Mahr
- Eli & Anne Manchester
- Jim & Sara Jo Marble
- Roger & Dottie Mark
- Kyle & Heather McBurney
- Beth McGaw
- David & Callie McOsker
- Linda Means
- Jane Moore
-
- Doug & CynDee Novitch
- Don & Jane Ocker
- Max Olmstead & Marie-Laure Grillet
- Bradley & Kimberly Paster
- Dave & Carol Patey
- Alexia Pearsall
- Greg & Mary Petrini
- Bob & Linda Pettit
- Craig & Jeanne Rafter
- Flo Revers
- Hadley & Jeannette Reynolds
- Greg Rice
- Sue Rice
- Toni Richards
- Anne Robb
- Olga Robinson
- Dottie Rother
- Doug & Jan Scott
- Sally Shoemaker
- John & Jody Shue
- Nancy Simms
- Dickson & Monica Smith
- Ford & Chip Spalding
- Payson & Janie Swaffield
- Daniel Swayne-Gerrish
- Connie Sweeney
- Dick & Janie Sylte
- Nancy Taber
- Nakhle & Randa Tarazi
- Ben & Kelly Taylor
- Newton & Kathy Thompson
- Lawrence Tsen
- Rein Uritam & Justine Kent-Uritam
- Jeanne Waldinger
- Trudy Walsh
- Dave & Sheryl Weden
- Ellen Weinberg
- Steve & Gina White
- Gunnila Whiting
- Eli Willems
- Eileen Wong
- June Wright

Thank you for your continued support of our church.