



THE STEEPLE BELL

JULY - 2016

Dennis Union Church Dennis, Massachusetts

**WITH JESUS AS OUR ANCHOR AND COMPASS,
GOD BIDS US TO BE A BLESSING IN THE WORLD**

The Dennis Union

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508-385-3543

WEBSITE

www.duchurch.org

Rev. Terry Martinson

Interim Pastor

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Organist & choir director

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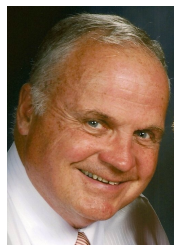
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Dave Crocker

Sexton



I'm quite excited about our plans for worship this summer. From July 3rd through September 18th, the Sunday we bless the animals, there will only be one service (**10:00 A.M.**) on Sunday mornings. We are adding a new service on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 P.M. beginning on July 6th.

The five Sunday morning sermons in July will be based on texts from scripture and on texts from "Negro spiritual." A spiritual is a song that expresses faith in God. "Negro spirituals were the first uniquely American music to come out of this country." They have had a great impact on American music. "Spirituals were created over a 200 year period, but not until after the Civil War were most Americans aware of their existence." The songs created and sung by the slaves expressed their great desire for freedom and their hope for a better future.

"The slaves led very difficult lives. They were forbidden many things, but they were allowed to go to church and to play music. Because they had so few things to enjoy, they put a great deal of energy into their music. Combining African rhythms and harmonies with messages of hope from the Bible, they created what are called 'Negro spirituals. This music, so rich and varied, so deeply emotional and expressive, is a testament to the strength and the tenacity of the African people who adapted to and enriched all American culture."

"Music, especially in the fields during long hours of physical toil, was encouraged. The slaves worked harder and longer when they sang and the music seemed to keep up their spirits... the wide range of expressive lyrics gave vent to the slaves' desires for a better life in this world and the next." Some of the lyrics were used to convey "coded" messages: "*Follow the drinking gourd*," "*Wade in the water*," "*Steal Away*,"

"Slaves used spirituals to affirm their humanity and to give them hope, faith, and courage to go on living when life seemed to be nothing but endless physical toil, punishment, and deprivation."

"The slaves identified with biblical figures who suffered and overcame adversity. The Jews were slaves in Egypt, but with God's help they gained their freedom. Jesus, Moses, Samson, David, and Joshua were real people with real problems. Might not history repeat itself? How long would oppression be allowed to triumph?"

I hope that you will join us on Sunday mornings at 10:00 to hear and to sing some truly inspiring music, to hear what God's message is for us in scripture, and to be fed and challenged by the sermons that will focus on the lyrics of the spirituals.

Blessings for a great summer,
Terry

Note: Quotes are from *Negro Spirituals: Songs of Survival* by Tom Faigin



WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP **6:30 P.M.**

Everyone is invited to join us for worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 P.M. beginning on July 6th. You are invited to come in your golfing or gardening clothes, on your way home from the beach or on your way to dinner. The "30 minute" services will be informal, but meaningful. They will include music, prayer, scripture and a message. The messages will be "life lessons" drawn from some of my favorite stories, some you may know, like *Stone Soup*, and some you may not know, like *Where Do the Mermaids Stand?* We hope that you will bring your whole family, anyone who might be visiting with you, and even a neighbor or two. On some of the Wednesday evenings, if you sing really well, we may end with a time of fellowship with some sweet treats!

Please note that the Wednesday evening services are not replacing our Sunday morning worship services.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR JULY

July 3 – *The Welcome Table*
Text: Luke 14:1, 7-14

July 10 – *Poor Man Lazarus*
Text: Luke 16:19-31

July 17 – *Deep River*
Text: Ezekiel 47:1-12

July 24 – *The Whole World* – **"Jazz Sunday"**
Text: Psalm 24:1-3; Matthew 25:14-25

July 31 – *Balm In Gilead*
Text: Jeremiah 8:18-22



The church office will be closed, from now on, at 12:00 noon on Fridays. It will still be open until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The office will be closed on Monday, July 4th.



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| July 3 | "In honor of Dave and Dolores Ahern's 75 th birthdays, with love from the Clancy family." |
| July 10 | Given by Gary and Debbie Anderson
"In loving memory of James and Kathleen Meade." |
| July 17 | Given by Liz Cross
"In loving memory of my husband, Harry King Cross." |
| July 24 | Given by Skip and Nancy Walsh
"In loving memory of Charles and Margaret Walsh." |
| July 31 | Given by Patti and Dennis Goyette
"In memory of our loving parents, Anita and Victor Goyette, and Dorothy and Sonny Lewis." |



HELP WANTED

On Sunday mornings, we are looking for a few more volunteers for four assignments:

- (1) We would like to add a few more names to our list of ushers. If you can volunteer, please be in touch with Earl Springer or Kent Whitcomb.
- (2) The Welcoming Committee needs a few more greeters to offer an "extravagant welcome" to our worship services. Sue Schofield would love to add your name to the list.
- (3) Cindy Fiscus and the Christian Ed. Committee need a few more volunteers to help with our lively Sunday School program. If you are willing to assist once every six weeks or so, please speak with Cindy.
- (4) It would be helpful to train a few more volunteers on our AV equipment in order to record and stream our worship services. Please speak with Sue Martin, Brad Crowell, Deb Anderson or Peter Berrien to volunteer.



UPDATE



• We are creating a new church pictorial directory to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dennis Union Church. We hope that all church members and friends will be photographed. Our goal is 250 photographs. Nine days of photography have been scheduled: 3 days in July, 4 days in September, 2 days in October.

There will be a sign-up table during Fellowship Hour for you to schedule your appointment or go to the church website (www.duchurch.org) and under "schedule your portrait" click "**sign up today.**" You can also call Karen Mutti at 508-896-9780 during the week to schedule your appointment with the photographer.

AuctionNews

The Auction Pick-Up Crew will still pick up truly exceptional pieces for our August 13th Auction! The men are still looking for someone to help with electrical items. No experience needed! We will start sorting items on Tuesday, June 28. We will sort every Tuesday until August 13. The men also need help setting up on Thursday and Friday, August 11 and 12. Please call Nancy in the office or talk to one of the Pick-Up Crew men if you can help out!! Also, importantly, please only bring items to church on Tuesday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30. Please do not drop off items any other time! Thank you!!

AUCTION SORTING

Auction sorting begins on Tuesday, June 28th, from 9:00 – 11:00. Many hands make light work, so please join us as we enjoy fellowship and work toward the success of our 62nd Annual DUC Auction. Also, if you have not yet signed up to help on Auction day, August 13, we have a spot for you! For more information, contact Debbie Clemence at debbieclemence@gmail.com

JOINING THE CHURCH

We look forward to welcoming new members into our church family on October 2nd, World Wide Communion Sunday. If you are interested in joining Dennis Union Church, please speak with Terry Martinson.



SILENT AUCTION

As you know, the Dennis Union Church will be celebrating its **62nd Auction year!**

Last year we held our second Silent Auction, and thanks to all of YOU, it was, again, a huge success!

In order to continue this great event, we kindly ask our members for help. Your donation of sporting tickets, cottage rentals, gift cards, boating trips and any type of service would be very helpful. Any donation that you can make or acquire would be greatly appreciated! If there is a local business that you know or patronize, please visit them and ask for a donation!

Silent auction items do not have to be limited to gift cards or retail items. Some other ideas include asking a business that performs a service like a landscaper, carpenter or hairdresser, to donate a few hours of their time; these services would also make wonderful auction items.

The Auction Committee is again asking that each church committee or board make up a gift basket that can be offered at the silent auction. Last year, these committees made beautiful baskets and were a big hit!

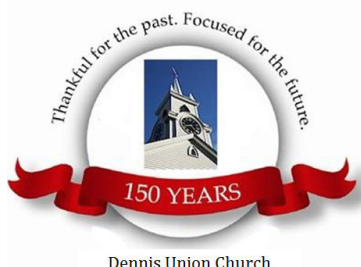
I have a list of businesses that we have solicited in the past that could be called or visited as well. Any gift, donation or ideas are welcome! As they say "Many hands make light work"!

If you could please contact me by email, phone, text or come see me at church, it would be much appreciated!

Luke Furey, 774-212-3459
LFurey@todayrealestate.com

HYANNIS SOUND

Hyannis Sound performs at Dennis Union Church on Thursday evenings at 7:00 P.M. through August 18th. Tickets are purchased at the door: \$15/adults and \$10/children. Join us for an enjoyable evening of song!



Many thanks to all who made the 150th Anniversary Worship Service such a memorable experience. Special thanks to Bette Anne Crowell, Josh Crowell, Margaret Bossi, all the members of our church choirs, and the Board of Deacons. It was a great Sunday in the life of our church.



MODERATOR'S CORNER

It is with a grateful heart I inform you that we have a team of passionate folks to guide our church to becoming officially "Open and Affirming" (ONA). In light of the atmosphere of hate permeating our nation, Council agreed that the sooner we get on with this, the better. Our goal is to present this for a vote before our congregation at the Annual Meeting in February 2017.

The Visioning Team is ready to wrap up their meetings and make a final presentation to the congregation this summer. Many thanks to the team that has worked so hard on this endeavor.

The Search Committee for a Settled Pastor has completed our church profile and will soon be submitting this to MACUCC.

Sue and John Schofield were our delegates to the MACUCC Annual Meeting in Amherst on June 17 and 18. We look forward to their report.

If approved by the congregation at our special meeting on June 26th, kitchen renovations should begin in the fall, after the Apple Festival.

Judy Berrien,
Moderator

Usher's Ministry

JULY USHERS

July 3 at 10:00 Wilfred & Adele Diaz, Sue Day

July 10 at 10:00 Nancy Aceti, Priscilla Hutchinson,
Francis Sellers

July 17 at 10:00 Jim & Joan Van Baalen, Gary Forrister

July 24 at 10:00 Earl Springer, Lois Andre,
Linda Gillespie

July 31 at 10:00 Elmer Eschenburg, Midge Kuntz
Carlene Brown

BELL CHOIR

We have opportunities in our Bell Choir for interested ringers (new or experienced). Call Barbara Wells at 508-385-3168 or let Nancy know (in the office), and we'll talk!



APPLE FESTIVAL

Apple Festival News! Dennis Union Church's Eighth Annual Apple Festival is coming on Saturday, October 1, from 10 am to 4 pm. We feature fresh apples for purchase, baked apple goods, fresh and frozen apple pies, local crafters on the Green, food, children's crafts and face painting, a boutique, and live music. It's a lot of fun and promotes great outreach into the community. Bakers and Pie-Makers, start dusting off those recipes. You will be hearing more from us in September!

~ Your Apple Fest Committee: Maggie Bossi, Emily Woudenberg, Sue Schofeld, Peter and Judy Berrien



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 2	Bill Boothe
July 8	Nancy Beimler
July 8	Elaine Hill
July 10	Clave Springer
July 12	Gregory Roughan
July 13	Ellen Clancy
July 13	Mary Crowell
July 14	Connie Rosenberger
July 15	Jerilyn Chinault
July 16	Mark Roughan
July 17	Bill Tucker
July 21	Betty White
July 22	Phyllis Horton
July 23	Barbara Mabee
July 25	Loretta Norton
July 26	Eileen LePain
July 27	Mike Cerbone
July 29	Carole Bohn
July 31	Betty Bartlett

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Bill & Betty Boothe	July 11
Jeff & Julie Drake	July 30



During the month of June, we had a very successful collection of jars of peanut butter to be donated to Hands of Hope Food Pantry.

In July we will be collecting new and gently-used backpacks. Our goal is 75!

In August we will collect school supplies: pencils, erasers, pens, etc. It's difficult to set a goal, but it would be great to collect 3 or 4 huge boxes.

In September we will collect boxes of cereal to be shared with Hands of Hope Food Pantry. Our goal is 200 boxes. We can do that!!!



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Sunday School all Summer!

This summer I mix *Habitat for Humanity* with Bible stories with MINECRAFT! How will I do that?? Come Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to find out!

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Summers on Cape Cod are very busy, but I would like to meet for lunches, ice cream, trips to mini golf....stay tuned for an agreed-upon schedule.



JAZZ IN JULY IS COMING! JULY 24TH

The Chancel Choir will be joined by a Dixieland Jazz Band for a morning of music in the New Orleans style. We will sing Dixieland versions of "Jesus Loves Me" and "Give Me That Old Time Religion" as well as some thumping hymns. After the service, the band will play an extra set outside, weather permitting, and we'll have coffee hour on the front lawn.

BEADS OF NOTE

Beads of Note is creating ANNIVERSARY BEADS from the church bulletins from our special and memorable service. Place your orders by calling: Ruth Lund at 508-394-1714; or Betty Boothe at 774-330-2191.

HANDS OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY
A program of the Cape Cod Council of
Churches
49 RT. 28 PO BOX 387
WEST HARWICH, MA 02671
churcheshoh@comcast.net

Summer 2016

Thank you for your Food Collections!
We appreciate all of your support.

The Following Foods are greatly needed in the
Pantry:

Cereal
Juice Boxes for Kids
Jelly or Jam
Chef Boy R Dee
Jell-O or Pudding
Baked Beans
Pasta Sauce
Pasta or Spaghetti
Coffee
Mustard, Ketchup, Mayo, Relish

We also welcome cold and frozen foods in code, if
you have extra after family and summer guests
leave.

Please call if you cannot make it to our pantry, we
will do our best to collect your donation

NAMETAGS

Please remember to wear your nametags at
worship. Introduce yourself to those sitting around
you. Welcome visitors as you would like to be
welcomed. Abundant hospitality will help the
Dennis Union Church to grow!



FELLOWSHIP HOSTS FOR 2016

July '16	Christian Ed.
Aug. '16	Deacons
Sept. '16	Music
Oct. '16	Stewardship
Nov. '16	Social Concerns
Dec. '16	Trustees



If you know of church members and friends who
might like a visit from Rev. Martinson, please don't
hesitate to call the church office. Terry regularly
visits with shut-ins and with church members and
friends in area nursing homes.

If requested, communion can be brought to those
who are homebound.

Also, it is helpful to inform the church office when
members of our church family are hospitalized.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The minister, officers and congregation of Dennis
Union Church offer their sincere sympathy to the
family and friends of Jerry Guy who died on June 2,
2016. The family held visiting hours from 2:00 to
4:00 followed by a Memorial Service at 4:00 p.m. at
Hallett's Funeral Home on June 7.

PARKING

Parking perpendicular to the cemetery fence on Old
Bass River Road is helping us to increase our
parking capacity on Sunday mornings. If you are
able, please leave the parking spaces closest to the
church for visitors and for those who have difficulty
walking.