



THE STEEPLE BELL

OCTOBER - 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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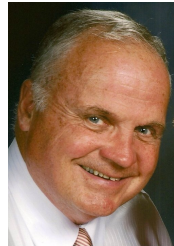
Gordon Bellemer

Finance officers

finance@duchurch.org

Dave Crocker

Sexton



How many churches are closer to you than Dennis Union Church? How many churches do you pass by on your way to Dennis Union? One church family said that there are a dozen or more churches closer to their home than DUC. Another family said they drive right by the front doors of six other churches as they come to DUC on Sunday mornings.

I wonder why so many folks choose DUC over the churches that might be closer to where they live? I wonder why so many folks drive right by other churches on their way to DUC?

There are a variety of answers to these questions, but I hope that your answer to the questions might be one or more of the following:

- "Dennis Union feels like home to me."
- "I'm fed spiritually by the preaching and the music during worship."
- "I love the fact that everyone is welcome at Dennis Union."
- "The church ministers faithfully and joyfully to the children and the youth of the church."
- "I like who I am when I am at church."
- "I experience great joy at Dennis Union!"

I hope that you also choose Dennis Union Church because it is making a difference in your life and because you want to make a difference in the lives of others.

Our stewardship theme this fall is: ***Dennis Union Church – Making a Difference.***

How does Dennis Union Church make a difference in your life? How does it make you a different person? How does Dennis Union Church make a difference in the community and beyond? I hope that you will ponder these questions as you consider how you will support the church in the year ahead.

Pledging is about your relationship with God and with Dennis Union Church. Pledging is different from the financial contributions you might make to your alma mater or charitable organizations. A pledge acknowledges that everything we have comes from God. It allows you to share your many blessings while furthering God's mission of love and compassion in the world. Pledging gives you an opportunity to put your faith in action and deepen your relationship with God.

I hope that you will join me in generously supporting the growing mission and ministry of Dennis Union Church.

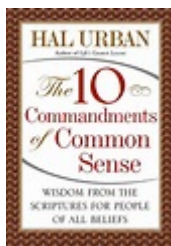
Faithfully,
Rev. Terry Martinson, interim pastor

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Oct. 2 *World Communion Sunday*
Sermon: One Bread, One Body
Text: Mark 9:38-50
New members will be received.
- Oct. 9 Sermon: Atonement
Text: Matthew 7:1-3
- Oct. 16 Sermon: The Art of Giving
Text: Acts 20:35
- Oct. 23 Sermon: Making A Difference
Text: Matthew 25:31-46
- Oct. 30 Rev. Connie Bickford, Preaching
Please remember your pledge card



- Oct. 2 Given by Paul & Barbara Gray
"In loving memory of our grandson,
Michael Grimm."
- Oct. 9 Given by Connie Bickford
"In loving memory of Arthur."
- Oct. 16 Given by Peter & Judy Berrien
"In memory of Edith and Edward
Derby, and Helen and Gordon
Berrien."
- Oct. 23 Given by Ralph & Judy Conrad
"In celebration of their 50th
wedding anniversary."
- Oct. 30 Given by Peter & Elaine Simoneau
"In loving memory of our cousin,
Beverly Daggett."



TUESDAYS WITH TERRY

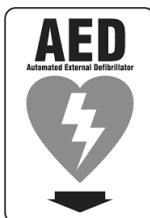
It's not too late to join our Tuesday Morning Bible Study which meets at 10:30 A.M. We are currently working with a book titled *The 10 Commandments of Common Sense* by Hal Urban

RAFFLE FOR COLOMBIA

If you are a dollhouse or model train aficionado, then this is the raffle for you! Two wonderful gifts were donated to be used as fund raisers for the school in Colombia library project. And they will make their debut at the APPLE FESTIVAL! The dollhouse is a Victorian style three-story house. It is 3 feet long, 4 feet high and 2 feet wide. The exterior is completely finished and is wired for electricity. The interior is just waiting for your finishing touches! It also comes with an array of furniture. The train is a German made Lehmann Gross Bahn (LGB) set with an engine and two cars. It is large gauge and comes with its own train station. It has never been out of the box! Tickets for each will be \$5.00 or 3/\$10.00. Bring family and friends to take a look! ALL proceeds go to help keep our little Colombian friends reading!

DEFIBILLATOR

We would welcome a donation of \$2,200 to purchase a defibrillator for the church.



Confirmation Schedule

October 2, 16, 30 – 12:30-2:00pm
Meet in the Sanctuary

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

We would like to expand our Welcoming Committee so that we can continue to offer an extravagant welcome to all who come through our doors on Sunday mornings. If you are willing to serve as a "back door greeter" or if you would like to serve on the Welcoming Committee, please be in touch with Susan Schofield, Betty Boothe, Karen Mutti, or the church office. Thank you!



MODERATOR'S CORNER

There's an air of excitement and joy at DUC - a sense of a "church in motion" (Cal Mutti). Those of you who have worshipped with us in recent months know what I'm talking about.

Many opportunities exist for fellowship, serving the community, caring for one another, supporting our youth and "making a difference" (Stewardship Committee). To keep this energy flowing, we need your participation. Without it - we will fritter away.

Deacons have arranged for the purchase of an AED (defibrillator) to be installed in our foyer. There will be a training session for us lay folks in how to use it. We were told not to worry - it is quite easy.

At our Special Congregational Meeting on September 11th, the congregation approved taking out a loan with Cape Cod 5 for the kitchen renovation. The contract has been awarded to Cape Associates. Work will begin October 4th and be completed by Thanksgiving (November 24th).

The Rally Day Service was exceptional. Thank you, Cindy and all who helped. Worship included a blessing of backpacks, distribution of new Bibles, skit with adult actors, introduction of Confirmands and adults working with our youth, and word for the young and young at heart. Special music was provided by our youth. Even Terry's announcements were a lot of fun. His "standup routine" was talked about for days afterwards.

A softball game and church picnic followed worship and congregational meeting. It was a lot of fun, even for me. Admittedly I am not a big fan of baseball. But I have to say I was impressed with the athleticism and grace on the field. Not unlike watching a ballet. The smiles on our younger players when they reached first base safely warmed my heart. The game went on

despite a downpour and the sprinklers turning on in the outfield. I'm looking forward to our next softball game and opportunity for fellowship. Really, I am.

Judy Berrien, Moderator

Usher's Ministry

SEPTEMBER USHERS

	9am	11am
10/2/16	Frank Corsini, Carlene Brown, Elsa Erickson	Bob/Joan Stout, Sue Day
10/9/16	Bill/Joanne Crowell Ken Mills	Dewey/Ruth Lund Bobbie Trepte
10/16/16	Richard/Jane Wilson Betsy Crowell	Peggy Mcaloon, Elmer Eschenburg
10/23/16	Mike/Cheryl Cerbone	Sandy Wiper, Elmer Eschenburg
10/30/16	Howard/Judy Chesley Carlene Brown	Midge Kuntz, Sandy Wiper

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Your Fellowship hosts, for the month of October, will be your Stewardship Committee.

THANKS FOR THE CEREAL!

Our September cereal drive for the Hands of Hope Food Pantry was a great success. Thank you for your generous sharing of over 200 boxes!

In October we will be collecting items to be donated to the Food Pantry for a **Thanksgiving Dinner**. Suggested items are: stuffing mix, gravy, boxed potatoes, cranberry sauce, canned corn, pickles, olives, relishes, crackers, cookies, corn muffin mix.

PARKING

We have been reminded that we **may not park** on the village green in front of the church. Parking damages the sprinkler heads and creates holes that folks have tripped in.

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.



After viewing the Visioning Committee's presentation, *Capturing the Vision*, Cal Mutti commented, "The verbs really jumped out at me! It shows a church in motion, not just being. It shows the church evolving."

Perhaps Cal has truly captured who we are and what God is calling us to be – a church in motion... a church that is doing... a church that is evolving.

If you have not seen *Capturing the Vision*, we can send you a link to the presentation by email. Please feel free to request the link.



Fall is Apple Festival Time!

Our Eighth Annual Apple Festival comes to Dennis Union Church on Saturday, October 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tell your friends!

See You There!



If you would like to receive a pastoral visit from our interim pastor, please do not hesitate to call the church office with your request. Terry enjoys visiting, but only visits by request.

If you are unable to attend worship, Terry is willing to serve you communion at home.

Visits are also made to local hospitals when we are made aware that our church members and friends have been admitted.

PRAYER CARDS

There are new prayer cards in the pews. Your prayer requests will be shared with the Deacons. They will not be included on the weekly prayer list unless you request it to be included



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Ken Mills	Oct. 1
Dewey Lund	Oct. 2
Sarah Carpenter	Oct. 3
Kevin Peirce	Oct. 3
Paul Knell	Oct. 4
Gayle Williams	Oct. 5
Leslie Prouty	Oct. 6
Dada Springer	Oct. 8
Sue Day	Oct. 11
Terry Martinson	Oct. 12
Rita Farup	Oct. 13
Ralph Conrad	Oct. 14
Linny Clancy	Oct. 16
Andrew Herwig	Oct. 19
Russell Gillis	Oct. 19
Elaine Simoneau	Oct. 21
Nate McCarthy	Oct. 29
Emily Woudenberg	Oct. 31

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS FOR 2016

Oct. '16	Stewardship
Nov. '16	Social Concerns
Dec. '16	Trustees

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Doug & Elaine Hill	Oct. 4
Frank & Beverly Larson	Oct. 5
Carole Bohn & Robert Furman	Oct. 10
Terry & Marcia Martinson	Oct. 16
Lloyd & Ann Swaim	Oct. 18
Ralph & Judy Conrad	Oct. 22
Sue & Jack Martin	Oct. 23
Scott & Amy Vandersall	Oct. 29



Our 3rd, and final, photography opportunity (for folks to be included in the 150th Pictorial Directory for members and friends of Dennis

Union Church) will be: Wednesday, October 5 and Thursday, October 6. Both days are 1:00 – 8:00. Scheduling can be done online—go to the DUC website, or on Sunday during fellowship hour, or by calling Karen Mutti, 508-896-9780.

Remember, in return for having your photograph taken, you receive a copy of the directory and an 8x10 print free. No pressure to purchase any additional material.

If you wish your photo to be included and have been unable to schedule your session for some reason during our allotted 9 days, you can submit a photo to Cal Mutti, either in person or by sending it to him at 119 North Pond Drive, Brewster, MA 02631. A \$10 charge covers processing and entitles you to a copy of the directory.

The deadline for submitting photos is October 15. (This charge is waived for military and other special circumstances.) Additional copies of the pictorial directory will be available for \$5.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has participated. It looks like this could be our largest level of participation ever!

Karen and Cal Mutti,
Project Coordinators



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Apple Festival, October 1

Face Painting and fun arts & crafts in Lower Hall

Family Halloween Costume Party

Saturday, October 29, 12-2:00pm
with **MARCUS the Magician**

Skit Sunday

October 30, at the 9:00am service
Please go directly to class at 9:00am to prepare!

Youth Fellowship

Sunday, October 23, 4:30-6:30pm

Normally, our meetings are 12:30-2:00pm but we would like to attend our annual Haunted Hayride at Tobey Farm.

All students 5th grade and up are welcome!

Confirmation Schedule

October 2, 16, 30 – 12:30-2:00pm
Meet in the Sanctuary

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Rehearsals will be held on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room on Oct. 2, 16, 23 and 30.

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!



AUCTION THANKS

The Pick-Up Crew wants to say thank you to the church, as a whole, for your support. Your contributions of items was wonderful. We want to say thank you to some of our members who worked behind the scenes this year.

First, thank you to our storage folks who let us use their homes and properties for storing collected items. Midge Kuntz, Carol Bohn, Rita Farup and Barbara Wells...thank you! Thank you to Ken Mills who prepared and stored the bikes for the auction. Thank you to the people in the barn who spent a lot of time preparing items for sale. Dick Powell and Jim Van Baalen...thank you for your work on the men's items. John Livingstone and helper Cy Johnson...thank you. Thank you to our "On Call" group, Jim Van Baalen, Dan Roberts, and Peter Berrien. Thank you, Nancy McKiernan. She receives the calls for pick ups. Thanks to Dave Crocker who sets up the church for our use.

Thank you to the chairs of the auction, Lloyd Swaim and Debbie Clemence. Lloyd is now an honorary member of the pick-up crew. We now look forward to working with the chairs of the 63rd auction, Ralph Aceti and Joanne Ashby.

Yes, we are united once again for Auction 63! We have just started pick ups. As you know, we are responsible for collecting items. Setting up for the auction beforehand and cleaning up afterwards takes about four weeks! We are recruiting new members. We had four new members this year, but we lost three. It should be noted that we meet every Tuesday morning year round. The pay is good, benefits are great, and the fellowship tremendous! Our Tuesday mornings start at 8:45 a.m. at the Mercantile for coffee. We also receive our orders for the morning...then to the barn, and we start collecting. We are finished by 11:30. To join us, please tell Henry Fuller or Nancy McKiernan.

This is a great team...don't be afraid to ask about us if you think you might be interested! There are no rules...no requirements...just show up when you can on Tuesday mornings!

(When you call Nancy (508-385-3543) for a pick up, please keep in mind that we are looking for NICE items...ones that will easily sell. We don't take yard sale leftovers or items in need of repair. There is a complete list of what we do and don't take on our bulletin board, or you can ask when you call. We also welcome drop offs on Tuesday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Special thanks to the Pick-Up Crew for 2016: Ralph Aceti, Bill Boothe, Ed Brink, Seth Crowell, Mike Cerbone, Bob David, Wilfred Diaz, Bob Eldred, Henry Fuller, Dennis Goyette, Richard Hammond, Clark Jamison, Mike Rilea, Jim Stamboni, Bob Waldo, Skip Walsh and Sandy Wiper. Congratulations Men!!!

P.S. There is a picture of our Pick-Up Crew (the Quackers) and also our logo on the bulletin board. Business cards are in the church office!



OUR OPEN AND AFFIRMING JOURNEY

The September *Steeple Bell* introduced you to our ONA (Open and Affirming) Journey. A bulletin board has been placed in the church foyer to keep you in step with the journey.

On September 20th our ONA Task Team showed the movie *The Bible Tells Me So*.

On October 18 (Tuesday) at 7:00 P.M. we hope that you will join the Task Team for a panel discussion featuring several folk from the LGBT community.

Our Task Team is creating a booklet which we hope will address any concerns or questions members of our church may have.

In the September *Steeple Bell* we addressed several FAQs. We will continue to do that each month.

Will our ONA covenant be limited to “sexual orientation and gender identity or expression?”

Answer: Most ONA churches expand their extravagant welcome to persons of every race, ethnicity, age, economic circumstances, ability, gender, etc. Some congregations also include a welcome to single parents and their families, to military service members and veterans, and to persons living with mental or physical illness or disability. Our DUC covenant will be all encompassing.

Won't we become a “gay church?”

Answer: Unlikely. There are perhaps six or seven ONA churches with primarily LGBT membership – out of more than 1,100 ONA churches in the United Church of Christ. When ONA churches publicize their welcome effectively, new members include both LGBT seekers and straights. Young heterosexual couples who are looking for a church family with the values an ONA covenant represents are typically part of the growth curve for new ONA churches.

Will members leave our church if we become ONA?

Answer: That depends on whether the congregation has carefully planned its ONA process. An ONA experience that is not hurried, that treats everyone with respect and is a safe place for all members of the church, will usually help a congregation grow in numbers, enthusiasm, generosity and passion for the Gospel. We feel that our ONA process at DUC is carefully planned and designed to unite rather than divide the church.

What might our covenant or welcoming statement be like?

A neighboring church created this simple Statement of Welcome:

“As a congregation which covenants to walk together in Christian love, believes that all persons are created equal before God, and affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ, we welcome to our work and worship all people regardless of race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, or economic circumstance.”

(West Parish of Barnstable)



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