



First Congregational Church
"Old South Church"
United Church of Christ

Telstar, February 2019

Rev. MARRAINE'S MUSINGS

Officially the season of Ordinary time begins on Epiphany Day and ends the day before Ash Wednesday. There is no first Sunday in ordinary time. Epiphany and Ordinary time share space on the calendar for a bit. As a congregation as on top of things as you are, several people asked when we would change from the white paraments and choir collars to the green. After the festivities of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany we are in the midst of the season of Ordinary time.

During the stretches of Ordinary Time in the winter and the summer the temptation may be to reflect on the high holy days behind us as we gear up for those ahead of us. Certainly a lot of that will be happening as the church prepares for Lent in the next month. The danger is to lose the gift of Ordinary Time as we respond to the seasons on either end. The gift of Ordinary Time is to live into faith as fully as possible. It is a time for fellowship and discussion. It is a time for visitation and caring. It is a time to be the church and live out the message of the Gospel.

We began our relationship as minister and congregation in the throes of Advent and Christmas. I look forward to the gift of ordinary time to continue to deepen our relationship. May it be blessed with rich opportunities for conversation, mission, and worship.

Blessings,
Rev. MARRAINE

Would you like to meet with Rev. MARRAINE? MARRAINE will be in the office when she doesn't have appointments or meetings and will keep open office hours on Thursdays in February for drop ins during the Warming Center. Please feel free to contact Rev. MARRAINE at RevMARRAINE@FarmingtonUCC.org or 778-0424.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Executive Council

Minister: Rev. MARRAINE KETTELL	Clerk: SHANNON MUNRO
Moderator: CHRIS MAGRI	Financial Secretary & Fundraising: BRENDA SCRIBNER
Treasurer: AMANDA ADAMS	Director of Children and Youth Ministries: JODIE GUNTHER
Chair, Christian Ed: ARIN HILTON	Chair, Outreach, Justice & Witness: RANDY OAKLEY
Chair, Diaconate: SHELLEY GRIFFITH	Chair, Financial Trustees: MARILYN HILAN
Chair, Property Trustees: DANIEL BACHELDER	
Member at Large: ROBIN BECK	Member at Large: WENDY HUISH

Rev. MARRAINE KETTELL
Minister
revmarraine@FarmingtonUCC.org

Jodie Gunther
Director of Children and
Youth Ministries
Jodie@FarmingtonUcc.org

Phyllis Pederson
Church Office
Phyllis@FarmingtonUcc.org

Kate Clark
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Find us on Facebook at:
Old South First
Congregational Church

Find us on the web at:
www.FarmingtonUCC.org

NOTICE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, OF FARMINGTON, MAINE:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Church, the FINANCIAL/BUDGETING ANNUAL MEETING thereof will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2019 in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service.

The purpose of the meeting is:

1. To receive and review Financial Reports from 2018;
2. To receive a Pledge Report for 2019;
3. To approve the 2019 operating budget;
4. To receive a report on the progress of the pest control project, and to consider voting to allocate additional funds towards this project.
5. To transact such other or further business that may properly come before said meeting.

Dated at Farmington, Maine, January 17, 2019

Shannon Munro, Clerk

Please note, due to the scheduling of a Pancakery in the Vestry on the same date as the Annual Meeting, our meeting will begin immediately after worship in the Sanctuary. There will not be a regular coffee hour on Feb. 10 as we will not want to bring food items and beverages into the Sanctuary during the gathering. Thank you!





From the Moderator

The feeling is coming back to my fingertips, so it's time to type. The temperature outside is 3°F and falling, and I just returned from an evening excursion to the Holman Mission House to loan a shower chair and a cane to a young woman on behalf of her grandfather who's recovering from an accident. Annie's Beanpole is a ministry that chills my extremities but warms my heart. Earlier this weekend there were other ministries on display: at minimum, there was a Community Lunch; there was the hospitality and spiritual comfort of the memorial service for Elaine Wing; there was a Pancakery brunch; and there was a wondrous display of prayer shawls across the back of the sanctuary during worship. There's a lot of good stuff going on around here.

It strikes me, though, that I should highlight a ministry that isn't usually thought of as such: the never-ending business of keeping our buildings maintained and our physical systems running smoothly. Yes, the Property Trustees. The huge irony of their charge is that the more effectively they carry out their many duties, the less anyone else notices. For example, when the pellet boilers are working properly and the building temperature is comfortable, I don't actually notice my comfort or think about the effort that went into it, any more than I give thanks each morning for the oxygen in the air. It's just *there*, right? Until it's not.

The big "not" of late has been that the spaces above the sanctuary and vestry were *not* uninhabited and *not* sanitary. Apparently Old South has had a five-star rating on Verminbnb for a good many years. Call me theologically conservative but I think the whole "All are welcome" thing can be taken too far.... But a gung-ho contractor, guided by our Property Trustees, has just about cleared up the problem, with the finishing touches to be applied in the spring. Granted, the price isn't pleasant to contemplate, particularly since it was discovered that the spaces above the robing room and (especially) behind the organ were also bat-infested. Yet we'll survive, just as we survived the expenses of fixing the belfry and bell and the most prominent stained glass windows.

And even when we're not in the midst of a crisis, we can thank our Property Trustees for faithfully tending to our buildings so that the rest of us are free to carry on all of our other marvelous ministries.

Chris Magri



The Deacon's Corner

Dear Old South Family,

A big "thank you" to everybody who helped with the "Hanging of the Greens" this year! The Sanctuary looked lovely as always. Thank you, too, to Betty Carrier of Phillips who makes our outdoor wreaths and to Joanne Smith who makes the bows.

We are gradually upgrading the storage system for our Christmas decorations--moving them into plastic totes which will help keep them in good condition from year to year.

With the Christmas decorations tucked away until next year we are now in the season of Epiphany which lasts until the beginning of Lent in March. The Epiphany season is known as a time of new beginnings and it seems to be alive and well at Old South this year. New ideas are beginning to "pop up" all over the place! This definitely was true at our last Diaconate Meeting.

Please share your own inspirations and ideas and keep your eyes open for new things happening!

Blessings to all in the year to come,
Shelley Griffith (Diaconate Chair)

Your Deacons: *Roger Condit, Mary Sinclair, Michelle Scribner, Wendy Huish, Margaret Gould Wescott, Carole Trickett, John Demers Lindner and Shelley Griffith*



From the Property Trustees

As many of you know Shannon Francis, head of All American Wildlife Control (the company contracted for the pest removal and clean-up), had some health problems recently. As he'd had heart trouble in the past, that was first suspected, and I reached out to many of you for prayers for he and his family. Fortunately, tests proved it was not his heart and further tests are being done. He, his family and I would like to extend our grateful appreciation for the thoughts and prayers sent to them. The day after his release from the hospital Shannon returned to work. He has finished the clean-up, disinfecting, and installing the insulation. Shannon and crew extend their apologies for the delay and thank everyone for their co-operation and patience during this time. On the last day of cleaning Shannon accidentally slipped and made a hole in the Sanctuary. It was unintentional, he apologized. Special thank you to Eric Gunther and his assistant for the project, Jodie Gunther, for the excellent repair work and for the gift of time and talent. We hope the completion of the insulation portion of the project will lead to a warmer sanctuary, however we also continue to experience issues with all of the boilers being operational.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Bachelder, Chairperson
John McKim, Barb Fortier, Fred O. Smith, Cassidy Munro, Donna Wheeler and Wendy Morrill

From the Financial Trustees

The Financial Trustees are working with our treasurer, Amanda Adams, on the 2019 church budget. Our Stewardship campaign for 2019 is off to a good start. We have received 58 pledges for a current total of \$112,151.00. Stewardship pledge cards may be mailed, deposited in the Sunday collection, or turned in at the church office during business hours. Thank you to all who have pledged.

We are now in year three of our three-year capital campaign. Reminder letters have been mailed to our church congregants who have not yet given to this campaign. Thank you letters have gone to those who have completed or partially completed their pledges. Our first project-handicap accessibility-has been completed. In November we voted to change our priority list, moving the insulation project ahead of the brickwork on the north face of the church. This change was due to the removal of pigeons, squirrels, and bats from above the vestry and sanctuary. Current insulation in this area needs to be removed and replaced. The current funds available in the Capital Campaign is \$32,389.12. Our next project will be the brickwork on the north face of the church.

Please plan to attend the church's **annual financial meeting on Sunday, February 10, 2019** following worship.

Respectfully,

Marilyn Hylan, Ed David, Shirley Waddell, Amanda Adams, Brenda Scribner, Daniel Bachelder, Chris Magri,

From the Treasurer

Happy February! Since it is February, it means we are the upside of daylight hours and should be seeing more and more of our little yellow friend in the sky. It also means it is time for our annual finance meeting. There is still time to turn in a pledge card! To be honest, at no point will we ever turn down a pledge card. However, having them before the annual meeting helps us create a more accurate budget and also helps my heartburn when I'm looking at the numbers.

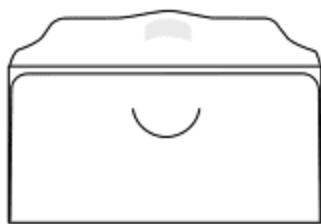
Currently, as of January 8, 2019, our total for 2019 pledging is approximately \$112,000. Unfortunately, this will not cover our expenses for 2019. This is my least favorite part of being Treasurer or a part of Financial Trustees. I honestly hate talking money in church. I hate asking for donations. It's not in my wheelhouse. However, whether I like it or not, we need money to operate, plain and simple. On the other hand, one thing I do like about Old South practices is our transparency. If you have questions about our expenses, just ask. Obviously, information about donors, etc, is confidential, however.

I'm looking forward to our meeting and hope to see you there.

Peace,

Amanda Adams
Treasurer

As of the printing of the Telstar, our income is \$25,021.15 and our expenses are \$21,387.17.



A reminder from the Financial Secretaries

We are no longer providing offering envelopes. Many people have stopped using them, especially if paying by check, and have asked why we continue to provide them. You may have noticed boxes of unclaimed envelopes in the vestry for months after they have become available; in years past they have ended up in the recycling bin! In an effort to reduce expenses and to live into our vision to become more environmentally responsible, the Financial Trustees have agreed to stop providing these to Old South members and friends, saving between \$300 and \$400 annually.

For those preferring to give by cash rather than with a check, we suggest that you use a plain envelope and write your name on the outside so we can identify your gift. If you wish, we have sets of unused offering envelopes from previous years which we can provide. For those giving with a check, you may simply place them in the offering baskets without an envelope. Please speak to either Brenda Scribner (299-3686) or Rina Bardo (778-9978) if you have any questions.

News and Upcoming Events

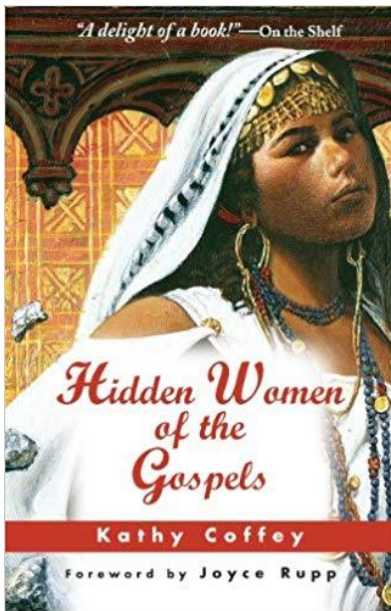
Committee and Group Meetings

Christian Education	Thursday, February 14, Matthew Room at 10:00 am
Deacons' Meeting	Sunday, February 3, Matthew Room at 11:00 am
Executive Council	Wednesday, February 6, Church Office at 6:00 pm
Financial Trustees	Tuesday, February 12, Church Office at 5:30 pm
Property Trustees	Tuesday, February 19, Church Office at 6:00 pm
Outreach, Justice, Witness	Tuesday, February 19, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm
Staff Meeting	To be determined
March Telstar Deadline	February 12, Noon

February 4 at Noon in the Vestry!

The February Retirees Lunch will be held at Noon in the Vestry on Monday, Feb. 4. The menu includes chicken stew over biscuits. Please bring a dish to share and join the Dick and Linda Giard for this monthly gathering. If you are a retiree and would like to know more about this meal, please contact Dick at dickgiard@msn.com





Book Group Opportunity

Explore the Hidden Women of the Gospels through the book by the same name! "A look at some behind-the-scenes characters from the Gospels that raises some key issues in spirituality, for women especially, and helps us all to confront the challenge that the gospel message presents." (Amazon summary) As the writer of the foreword declares, "I couldn't stop reading it. In every hidden woman I found a part of myself." The author, Kathy Coffey, tells the stories of Magda, Salome, Anna, Deborah, Mari and others through their voices. Who were these women behind-the-scenes in the Gospel stories we know so well? How do they speak to us? Do we see parts of ourselves in their stories?

Open to ALL of course! Thursday nights starting February 21-March 28. 6:30-8:00(ish) in the Matthew Room. Patty Schoen will be facilitating discussion and exploration. Sign up via email with Phyllis (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) or put your name on the list in the vestry by Feb. 10th. If you want to purchase your books through the church office, the cost for a new paperback is \$16.19.

However, you may find your own copy of the book online in used condition beginning at 75 cents to new copies for \$8.50 (amazon). If you wish to order through the office at the full price with free shipping, please bring your payments to Phyllis no later than noon on Feb. 7.



Women's Retreat 2019

The 2019 Women's Retreat will take place Saturday, August 24 - Monday, August 26 at Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford Maine. The retreat is limited to 20 participants, though we will keep a standby list in case of cancellations. The cost is the same as last year: \$240 for two nights and six meals.

This will be our 3rd retreat at this beautiful location. Things we love about the Marie Joseph Center:

- Everyone has their own room. Bathrooms are shared. Some of the rooms have sinks in them.
- The four-story building has an elevator.
- A short walk takes you to the beach where you can walk for miles (literally) when the tide is out. Just get back before it comes in!
- Meals are communal and delicious with plenty of choices.
- Our meeting place has room for singing, sharing, crafts, snacks, and communing with one another.

If you are ready to take the plunge, Phyllis is collecting deposits, full payments and monthly payments already. There is some scholarship money available.

We are also looking for women who would be interested in being on the planning committee. Last year a committee of four planned the retreat with input from Rev. Linda Hatch. Fresh ideas are always welcome. Please tell Phyllis if you would like to take part in planning this time of retreat, renewal, and spiritual togetherness.



Old South Concert Series: GoldenOak performs on Feb. 15

GoldenOak is an Indie Soul-Folk band fronted by brother-sister team Zak and Lena Kendall. Originally from the Sandy River Valley of Western Maine and now based in Portland, they began to write music and perform in 2014. GoldenOak released their first album, Pleasant St., in 2016 an album they co-wrote with cellist Seth Wegner. The full length album painted a landscape of the duo's childhood and their experiences growing up and leaving home. The original album with beautiful instrumentation and voice solidified the band as ambassadors of the Maine Folk Scene and earned them praise such as a nomination as "one of Portland's most important upcoming bands" by Dispatch Magazine. In October 2017, GoldenOak released Foxgloves, which was voted "EP of the Year" by the Portland Music Awards. Doors open at 7 pm. Concert begins at 7:30 pm. There will be no jam session. Refreshments will be available during intermission. Admission: Adults \$15, Students \$10/\$5 Ticket reservations recommended by calling 207-491-5919. Like the Old South Concert Series on Facebook. Subscribe to the e-newsletter at oldsouthchurchconcerts@gmail.com



Opportunities Abound!

Are you finding that you want to be more involved in some way at Old South but also feeling like you don't have time to commit to serving on a committee? We have several programs and ministries that you could devote four hours to once a year or that you could volunteer at for one hour ten times a year! Want to know more, check with Phyllis to learn more about volunteering at Old South. Helping hands are welcome at Annie's Beanpole, Warming Centers, Community Lunches, Boiler Cleaning, and with many other ministries that don't involve serving on a committee. Please be in touch! (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org and 778-0424).



Mission and Outreach

Outreach, Justice and Witness will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 12. This is an open ministry with no fixed membership, and we encourage you to stop in, see what plans are in action and help us to serve God's people both locally and globally.



Movie Night with Outreach, Justice & Witness

Outreach, Justice & Witness will be hosting a movie presentation and discussion on **Tuesday evening, February 12 at 6:30 in the Chapel**. The movie is a documentary entitled "**America First: The Legacy of an Immigration Raid**". It is intended to shed perhaps a different light on the Immigration story in our country. The movie is about 40 minutes long and will be followed by a time for discussion afterwards. All are invited so please join us.



Care and Share Item of the Month

Outreach, Justice, and Witness invite you to support the local nonprofit, Care & Share Food Pantry. The Care & Share item of the month for February is toilet paper. You are invited to bring this and other non-perishable goods to the church, and we will deliver them. Donations may be dropped off in the bin just outside the Sanctuary doors and your donations will be delivered to the food closet. Thank you for your ongoing support of this charity.

★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

Special United Church of Christ Offering: The Christmas Fund

For over a century, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world. Year after year, United Church of Christ members and congregations have reached out in kindness, compassion, and gratitude to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church in the past and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs. On behalf of the hundreds of clergy, lay employees, and their families whose lives were touched by your support of the Christmas Fund Offering, we offer our sincere thanks for your generosity! Thank you for your gifts to the Christmas Fund. We received \$310 for this special offering of the United Church of Christ.



Coat & Cupboard

We are now accepting your donations of gently used, clean coats, blankets, and boots for distribution at Coat & Cupboard. Donation boxes are located by most entrances to the church building or may be brought to the church office during office hours (Tues-Thur, 8:00 am-4:30 pm). Thank you for your donations to this youth ministry.

Medical Equipment Ministry

This ministry is a very well utilized program in our wider community. It is very gratifying to help people with their needs and allow them to avoid the cost of expensive medical equipment. If you would like to take a turn overseeing the medical equipment ministry, shifts are approximately 2 ½ weeks long (beginning of the month to mid-month and mid-month to the end), please contact Randy Oakley at:

roakley@roadrunner.com





Warming Center News—Thursdays, through Feb. 28

At the Warming Center at Old South Church on January 17, local artist Paula Widmer led an activity "Art for the FUN of it!" Participants created "shoe polish" prints. Creative projects will be offered each Thursday in February at the Old South Warming Center, free of charge. The public is invited to the Warming Center to join the activity "for the FUN of it!", play card games, do puzzles, socialize, and enjoy a lunch of home-made soup.



Our January Luncheon was another success. We served about 170 meals! The menu was meat loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, biscuits, and cake for dessert. Special thanks go to Jodie Gunther because the regular God's Kitchen Crew meeting day was cancelled due to the snow, so Jodie made (and decorated) ALL the cakes for our meal. Thank you, Jodie!

We also tried a new technique for preparing the meat loaves and found that it worked quite well. Instead of making LARGE loaves that would just fit in our pans, we used a meat loaf pan as a mold, made 20 individual loaves and then put three loaves into each of the large pans. It made it much easier to prepare the loaves, as well as cook them.

Our February Luncheon will be on February 9th, and the menu will feature American Chop Suey, tossed salad, garlic bread and cake. We hope you will be able to join us for this perennial favorite meal. As always, we are in need of volunteers who can come set the tables, serve the meals and clean up afterward. And if you are not able to come and help, please come just to share in the meal and the good fellowship around the table.

Stan Wheeler
 Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs

Worship and Music



Revised Common Lectionary for the month of February

The Revised Common Lectionary is a list of Bible passages followed by the majority of mainline Christian churches, including the United Church of Christ. Rev. Mairaine will be following the Revised Common Lectionary most weeks.

Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2019	<u>Malachi 3:1-4</u>	<u>Psalm 84</u> or <u>Psalm 24:7-10</u>	<u>Hebrews 2:14-18</u>	<u>Luke 2:22-40</u>
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany February 3, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 1:4-10</u>	<u>Psalm 71:1-6</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 13:1-13</u>	<u>Luke 4:21-30</u>
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 10, 2019	<u>Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)</u>	<u>Psalm 138</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</u>	<u>Luke 5:1-11</u>
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany February 17, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 17:5-10</u>	<u>Psalm 1</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:12-20</u>	<u>Luke 6:17-26</u>
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 24, 2019	<u>Genesis 45:3-11, 15</u>	<u>Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50</u>	<u>Luke 6:2</u>



Church Service and Office Cancellation Information

We make every effort to hold worship and other scheduled events in inclement weather, but we may cancel in the event of dangerous road conditions. Should this happen, we will update the church Facebook page and announce it on WKTJ-FM 99.3 and seek to have a notification listed in the Daily Bulldog cancellations section.

The church office will close if RSU 9 cancels school due to weather.

Children and Youth

Sunday School

Perhaps we should nickname February as “Miracle Month,” with lessons on Lazarus and also ten lepers who are healed. Due to the school vacation week, we will not have children’s programs on February 17; on February 24, we’ll offer a simple activity for children during the worship service.

God’s Kitchen Crew

We revisit our scavenger hunt game, which was postponed when a snowstorm cancelled our January meet-up. Plus, we’ll be making “triple chocolate” cakes—so very appropriate for Valentine’s day. Yum!

For children in grades 2 – 5

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 3:00 - 4:45 pm



BBC (High School)

We return to Coat & Cupboard on February 3. Here are our season totals, as of mid-January:

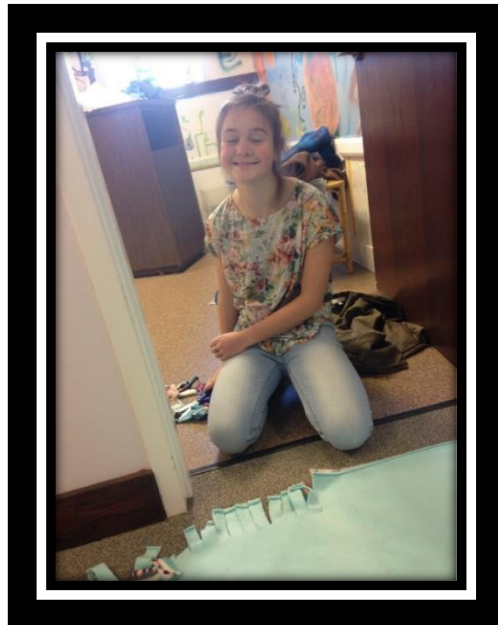
220 coats	29 blankets	46 ski pants
39 hats	65 pairs of mittens	93 pairs of boots
63 sweaters/fleece jackets		

We’ll meet in the Matthew Room on Feb. 10 for “regular” lessons. Because of the school break, there will be no lessons on Feb. 17 and 24.



The Pancakery Cafe

We're thrilled to report that our free brunch cafe is growing steadily. We now typically serve 60 meals each session! Plus, we've welcomed some fabulous musicians to our "Hour of Deliciousness," including folk legend Bill Berlinghoff and Celtic champions Donna and Peter Campion in January. This month, we'll be treated to some acoustic rock favorites by our very own Shepherd's Pie. The Pancakery Cafe offers free brunch to our community on February 10 and 24. Everyone in grades 4 - 9 is warmly invited to don an apron and help serve up a little bit o' love!



How Do I Find Out More?

Don't miss a single youth activity! Sign up for our email newsletter, "*Old South Kids This Week*," to receive updates, news, photos, and more. Just send a note to Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org.

Old South Youth Programs: February 2019

February 3: Sunday School; Coat & Cupboard open today

Wednesday, February 6: God's Kitchen Crew 3:00 pm

February 10: Sunday School; BBC; Pancakery Cafe; youth group 6 - 8 pm

February 17: *School vacation week--no Sunday School or children's programs*

February 24: Special activities with Children; Pancakery Cafe

Fundraising Group News and Updates

Have you heard the news? Credit Cards are now being accepted at the Fundraising Committee Table on Sundays before and after the church service to pay for Hannaford cards and merchant gift cards. If you forgot your checkbook but need a card for a gift, come on over!



Hannaford and Merchant Gift Cards

Hannaford cards and merchant gift cards may be purchased on Sundays before Church and during coffee hour and at the church office during office hours. Check out the selection of ready to use gift cards of local, regional and on-line merchants at the Fundraising Committee Table or in the church office! On Sundays, you now have the option of using a credit card to make your purchases at the Fundraising Committee Table. Fees apply. Check with Brenda Scribner for more information.

Purchase gift cards for holiday giving. Old South receives a percentage of the cost of the card. A wide selection of on hand gift cards are available for immediate purchase at the Fundraising Table but did you know that you can order from an even greater assortment? Check out the full list of available cards in the church office or at the Fundraising Committee Table on Sundays or at:

<https://www.scripzone.com/certificatelist.aspx>

The Living Water Association, Maine Conference

and the United Church of Christ



Would you like to know more about the Living Water Association and Honduras Partnership? Please contact the church office (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org), to learn about our connections with other UCC churches in Maine.

The Maine Conference office has moved. Their new location in Augusta is 337 State Street, Suite 3, Augusta, ME 04330. Please make a note of this if you correspond with the Maine Conference office or plan to visit them. To learn more about the Maine Conference UCC, visit www.maineucc.org



The Rev. Darren L. Morgan cordially invites you to join him on his sabbatical Pilgrimage to: The Holy Land

*A Contemporary Studies Pilgrimage in Israel, the West Bank, and Jordan
The Holy Land, The Holy People June 20-29, 2019 \$3,340 Roundtrip from Boston
Optional 4 Day Elective the Wonders of Petra & Jordan Returning July 3, 2019 \$1,449*

This pilgrimage will acquaint participants with the geographical and cultural settings of the New Testament and relate historical studies to contemporary dynamics in Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. The pilgrimage will include morning and evening discussion groups on the historical and contemporary themes and visits with indigenous people. This pilgrimage is designed to introduce participants to the state of the art of biblical studies in the Holy Land. The learning process will be contextual and experiential. We will endeavor to examine the moral dimensions of biblical learning and teaching. We are particularly interested in understanding how biblical studies and the biblical faith relate to the context of the Holy Land.

Included in the Price: • Round trip airfare (Boston – Tel Aviv) • Faculty escort from the faculty of The Society for Biblical Studies • Overnight lodging (price based on double occupancy, single room supplemental optional), meals (breakfasts & dinners) at comfortable hotels • All transfers and ground transportation in First class coaches from arrival in Tel Aviv throughout the journey • All entry fees for sites in itinerary – no hidden costs for “optional excursions” • Price guaranteed based on 15 in group, not subject to any adjustment for currency fluctuation

Group Leader: Rev. Darren L. Morgan dmorgan207@roadrunner.com



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Would you like to learn more about the United Church of Christ? Please check the United Church of Christ website for more information about our denomination: <http://www.ucc.org> On this site, you may sign up for “Weekly Seeds” a reflection based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings for each Sunday of the year. There is also a link to an electronic daily devotional called, “The StillSpeaking Daily Devotional.”

Get Connected and Stay Connected!

OLD SOUTH CHURCH

First Congregational Church of Farmington
235 MAIN STREET
FARMINGTON, ME 04938
TEL: (207) 778-0424

WORSHIP: 9:30 AM SUNDAYS

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Tuesday through Thursday



<http://www.farmingtonucc.org/>



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[INSTAGRAM.COM/OLDSOUTHLOVE](https://www.instagram.com/OLDSOUTHLOVE)



[PINTEREST.COM/OLDSOUTHCHURCH](https://www.pinterest.com/OLDSOUTHCHURCH)

Old South Statement of Identity

"In Christ there is no longer Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one..."

(Galatians 3:28)

Walking toward God, we, the members of (Old South) First Congregational Church United Church of Christ, Farmington, Maine, seek through God's Grace to be a congregation that includes all persons who desire to live God's Love, as shown to us through the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. We respect and embrace differences of gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identification, mental and physical ability, as well as racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic background. We welcome all to share fully in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation. We are an open and affirming church: open to all, and affirming of all God's beloved children. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 11:30am UMF Volunteer and Organization Fair (Offsite) 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	2
3 8:30am Coat & Cupboard (HMH Carriage House) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Deacons (Matthew Room)	4 12:00pm Retirees Lunch (Vestry) 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	5 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	6 3:00pm God's Kitchen Crew (Kitchen, Vestry) 6:00pm Executive Council (Church Office) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	7 6:30pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	8	9 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry)
10 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Financial Annual Meeting (Sanctuary) 11:30am Pancakery (Vestry) 6:00pm Youth Group (Matthew Room)	11 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	12 5:30pm Financial Trustess (Church Office) 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Matthew Room)	13 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	14 2:00pm Just Friends (Chapel) 6:30pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	15 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room) 7:00pm Golden Oak (Sanctuary)	16
17 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary)	18 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	19 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Property Trustees (Church Office)	20 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	21 6:30pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	22	23
24 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:30am Pancakery (Vestry)	25 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	26 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	27 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	28 1:00pm Farmington Area Ecumenical Ministry (Trinity United Methodist Church) 6:30pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)		