



First Congregational Church

“Old South”

United Church of Christ

September 2019 Telstar

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

Rev. Marraine's Musings

As we turn our calendars over to September, we begin our new journey into the 2019-2020 program year at Old South. It is hard to believe that a year ago we were preparing for my candidate weekend. What a glorious journey it has been to begin our relationship together over the past year as minister and congregation. What a joy to consider how we will continue to be church together in the coming year. Come join us September 8th as we kick off the program year and celebrate being together as a church family.

Four years ago I started a journey on the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, Spain also known as the Camino. The first time I walked from Saint Jean Pied de Port, France to Sarria, Spain during my sabbatical from my last church. My father joined me a year later to walk from O'Cebreiro to Sarria, Spain to finish the official pilgrimage. My dad was so enamored by the experience that we have been talking about going back ever since. Because of my search process and a number of other life detours, we hadn't been able to go back. As the Holy Spirit would have it a dear family friend announced that she was planning to go in September and needed traveling companions. My dad told me that evening that he'd be going even if I couldn't do it. I accepted the challenge and will be catching up to the band of Pilgrims September 12-26. The journey continues.

I have learned through my time as a pastoral minister and during my time on the Camino that our journeys are often fluid. We mark the milestones of the beginning and ends of the path on the map or the highlights on the calendar, but there are lessons and relationship that continue our spiritual growth on an ongoing basis. What a great joy to begin the program year with Old South. I look forward to rejoining you on the path when I return from Spain.

Blessings,
Rev. Marraine

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

Communications

Kate@FarmingtonUcc.org

Deacon of the Month

Shelley Griffith

Old South Church

235 Main Street

207/778-0424 and 207/778-4438

Farmington, ME 04938

Find us on Facebook at:

Old South First
Congregational Church

Find us on the web at:

www.FarmingtonUCC.org

Subscribe to receive the Old South weekly email and monthly newsletter via email on our website today!



Would you like to meet with Rev. MARRAINE? Rev. MARRAINE is often in her office during the week. She will maintain regular office hours on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. While she may be in meetings during this time, it is a time to drop by if you would like! If you would prefer to schedule a different day and time to meet with her, please call her (207-778-0424) or email (RevMARRAINE@FarmingtonUCC.org).

Please note, Rev. MARRAINE will be on vacation September 12 through September 26. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Deacon Shelley Griffith at sgriffith875@gmail.com or 639-2013.

Executive Council

Minister:	Rev. MARRAINE KETTLE
Moderator:	Chris Magri
Treasurer:	Amanda Adams
Clerk:	Shannon Munro
Financial Secretary & Fundraising:	Brenda Scribner
Director of Children and Youth Ministries:	Jodie Gunther
Chair, Christian Ed:	Arin Hilton
Chair, Diaconate:	Shelley Griffith
Chair, Financial Trustees:	Marilyn Hylan
Chair, Outreach, Justice & Witness:	Randy Oakley
Chair, Property Trustees:	Daniel Bachelder
Member at Large:	Robin Beck
Member at Large:	Wendy Huish

The deadline for submissions for the October Telstar is September 10. Please submit all articles to the church office (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) no later than September 10. Thank you!



From The Moderator

At the start of a new program year I find it instructive to review what happened at Old South during the past twelve months. Some of it was joyous, some it was frustrating, so I guess “instructive” is as good an adjective as any for describing the whole.

When I composed last September’s article we were still looking for a settled pastor. That search was completed not long afterwards – and it was a rousing success, don’t you agree?

It’s tempting to stop right there on a high note, but in the interest of balance I’ll point out that a year ago there was only a vague notion, held by a very few in the congregation, that we had a very few pigeons that needed to be evicted. It turned out that we were underestimating the number of animals *and* the number of species. Yet we finally got rid of our numerous flying guests and their numerous, um, calling cards, even if it took until just a few weeks ago to complete the task.

Members have come, members have gone. The Property Trustees fixed old problems, and new ones cropped up. Several members put in the time and effort to apply for new funding to repair an old stained glass window, and there’s another grant application to come this fall. Our ministries have thrived, but we won’t have the homeless shelter in the Holman Mission House. We’ve already started to investigate other potential uses for HMH, and on September 29 we’ll have an Our Turn discussion on that subject. Nor is that the only major item on this year’s agenda, for at our May annual meeting we suggested creating a columbarium, a concept that will be fleshed out and further discussed in the months ahead.

The phrase that comes to mind to describe last year, and my expectations for the coming year, is “in flux.” That’s just how it goes in the 21st-century church, I suspect. Would it be better if everything were settled, secure, and sedate? Better for my stress levels, perhaps; but probably not terribly interesting or terribly conducive to personal / spiritual growth.

It also wouldn’t require us to work together, and that would be an enormous loss, for we have worked on remarkable things together. Last year we were bold in the service of God. My favorite novel, Mikhail Bulgakov’s *The Master and Margarita*, tells us that “cowardice is the worst sin of all.” Bulgakov was nominally referring to the moral cowardice of Pontius Pilate, and in reality talking about his own society under Stalin – but the sentiment is timeless. Well, we were guilty of no such sin last year, and I look forward to another year of speaking up for our faith, though we be in flux with multiple concerns and multiple projects. My prediction is that some of it will be joyous, some of it will be frustrating, and all of it will be instructive.

From the Treasurer

As I write this, Mary and I just returned from being out of town. I've only called Maine "home" for a few years, but I have to say there is something about coming back to this great state after being away even for a few days. At one point Mary asked me if I was okay because I kept taking these really deep breaths and I said, "Yeah! It's just good to breathe in this air!" Likewise, when my mother visited in June, she commented that people in Maine seemed different...as in happier. I said, "Yeah, it's the fresh air."

Anyway, much has happened over the summer and I won't recap those things because I know they will be covered elsewhere. That being said, we are always in need of financial support. Our building is beautiful but isn't what it used to be. As it ages, it finds itself in need of more and more repairs. These are difficult conversations we will inevitably find ourselves in having in the near future. But for now, continue to enjoy Maine's beautiful summer as it comes to a close.

As of the printing of the Telstar, our year to date income is \$154,205.83 and our expenses are \$158,371.90.

News and Upcoming Events

Committee and Group Meetings

Christian Ed:	To be announced
Deacons:	Sunday, Sept. 8, Matthew Room at 11:00 am
Exec Council:	Thursday, Sept. 5, Church Office at 6:00 pm
Financial Trustees:	Tuesday, Sept. 10, Church Office at 5:30 pm
O, J, W:	Tuesday, Sept. 10, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm
Pastoral Relations:	To be announced
Property Trustees:	Tuesday, Sept. 17, Church Office at 6:00 pm

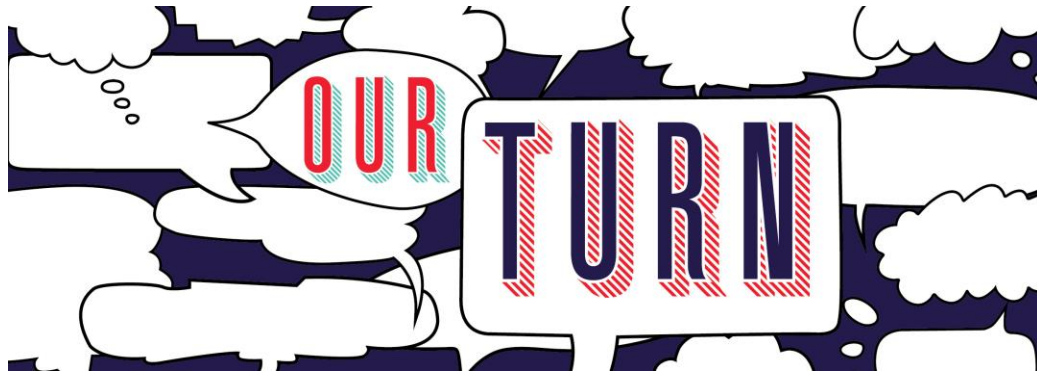


The elevator lift in the Newman Wing is temporarily out of order. We have a few repairs that need to be scheduled and a license application that needs to be completed before the lift can be used again safely. We apologize for this inconvenience and ask for your patience as we are all on a learning curve with the regulations around the operation of the lift. Thank you.

The E-Waste collection of broken and old electronics is Saturday, September 21, from 8:00 am to Noon in the Hannaford Parking lot in Farmington. Accepted items: TVs, monitors, computer and gaming related components, phones, stereos and components, printer/scanner/fax, dvd/vcr players, record players, wiring. NO appliances, light fixtures bulbs, batteries. Financial donations to benefit outreach ministries at Old South Church accepted. Early drop off and pick up of items NOT available. Volunteers are needed! Please contact Randy Oakley at roakley@roadrunner.com if you can help!



September 21, 2019
8:00am-12:00pm
Hannaford Parking Lot
hosted by Old South
First Congregational Church



All members and friends of Old South are invited to an **Our Turn discussion in the vestry on Sunday, September 29**, immediately following worship. The topic of discussion will be potential future uses for the Holman Mission House. A group of people, including but not limited to our Executive Council, will present ideas that have been explored behind the scenes; and you are welcome to present ideas of your own.

This is not a formal business meeting and no voting will take place. The goal is to share possibilities and to provide an opportunity for the congregation to weigh in on our future. We hope that you can attend this important discussion.



Old South Church

235 Main St, Farmington

Saturday, October 5th, 10am

All animals (and their people) are welcome to join us on the lawn of the church for a service of blessing of the animals .

If it is raining cats and dogs we will have a tent to cover us



Retirees' Lunch: October 7

Mark your calendars and join us for lunch on October 7 for the next Retirees' Lunch. Bring a dish to share if you would like and join us if you are able! For more information, contact Dick Giard at 897-6228.

Old South Concert Series



CONNLA at Old South Church, Thursday, September 5, at 7:00 pm

Join us for a performance with CONNLA, multi-award winning 5-piece band from Northern Ireland on Thursday, September 5th. Doors open 6 pm, jam session 6:15 pm and concert 7 pm. Adults \$15, students \$5-\$10 (current college student id required) Videos and more information about the band www.connlamusic.com

If you would like to help with the concert or if you can contribute food donations, please contact Debbie Davis Robinson.

With the exception of the December concert which benefits EcuHeat, concert proceeds benefit Old South Capital Campaign projects. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Upcoming concert dates: Archie Fisher on November 7, EcuHeat Benefit Concert with Còig on December 12, High Time on March 1, and Réalta on March 8.



*Archie Fisher
November 7, 2019*



*Còig
December 12, 2019*



*Realta
March 8, 2020*

2019 Women's Retreat at Marie Joseph Spiritual Center



Eighteen women from Old South enjoyed the 2019 Women's Retreat at Marie Joseph Spiritual Center at Biddeford Pool, August 24th – 26th. We explored the meaning of "Sanctuary" and how we experience sanctuary and share it with others. We had deep and meaningful discussions together in addition to singing, making a "sanctuary reminder", doing some contemplative drawing, swimming in the ocean, walking the beach, enjoying the tides, the beautiful weather, great meals, and shared snacks.

We are already looking forward to the retreat in 2020 which will be August 29th to 31st, a Saturday afternoon through Monday morning. It's not too early to "save the date" and start making payments (twelve month plans beginning now are available). The retreat costs \$245 for 2 nights and 6 meals, a private room, and lots of fun and spiritual re-kindling. Save your space today, with a \$40 deposit or begin your payment plan today! Confidential scholarships are available. Please see Phyllis in the church office to learn more about payment plans and scholarship and please join us!



Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford, Maine



HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES

Gathering together in the Vestry after worship is a special time of fellowship at Old South. We are grateful for the volunteers who provide the refreshments each week. The church provides the coffee and tea. The hosts provide simple snacks for young and not-so-young. If you are able and willing to take a turn at hosting coffee hour in October through December, or need more information, please contact Karyl Condit (778-3722) or Donna Wheeler (778-3652).

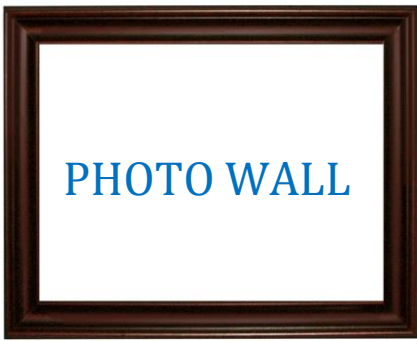


Would you like to have a meal with six-to-eight other Old Southerners once a month or so? Sign up on the sheet posted in the Vestry, and the church office will be in touch with you! We will put the groups together and let you know who is in your group. The groups meet either at Church building or in your home. The Holman Mission House is also currently available for use. The host provides the main course and the others bring side dishes and dessert. This is a great way to get to know some of the church family in a casual setting and all about fellowship! If you have questions or want to sign up by e-mail (Phyllis@farmingtonucc.org) or by phone (778-0424) please be in touch. Or, just sign up on Sunday! The “deadline (though we always take *latecomers!*)” is *Tuesday, Sept. 24*. Please sign up for this fun activity!



Fair Trade Coffee Ordering

Old South members and friends may join in the group ordering of fair-trade certified, wholesale coffee, tea, chocolate and food items from Equal Exchange. If you would like to be notified via email about future order dates, Myrna will be happy to add your name to her distribution list. Call Myrna at 778-4387, or send her an email (myrna.vallette@gmail.com), to order or to get more information.



New photo wall brightens the Matthew Room. Stop by the Matthew Room to see a new photo display. Gil Riley and Roy Scribner are our “inaugural” photographers. The long term vision is a changing display every few months. Watch Telstar for further news about how you as a photographer can participate in the rotation of photos.

With Our Sincere Gratitude

The Fundraising Committee extends their thanks to all who helped the FRC during the summer at events including the plant and yard sale; strawberry picking, prep work, and the July 4th strawberry shortcake event; and Pie on the Porch. We also thank you for your donations of plants and items for the yard sale and pies for Pie on the Porch. Your support and helping hands are very much appreciated and make a difference to the programs and ministries at Old South Church



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!

Worship & Music



Welcome Home Sunday and Blessing of the Backpacks: Sept. 8

Please join us Sunday, Sept. 8 as we joyfully come together for the start of the programming year. On this day, Sunday School lessons resume, our Senior Choir returns, and more. To celebrate our kids' returning to school, **we invite everyone to bring in their backpacks for a "Blessing of the Backpacks"** during The Time with the Children. Adults are warmly invited to bring along their backpacks, briefcases, and bags, too!



Revised Common Lectionary

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. Marraine will be following the Revised Common Lectionary each week. You will find the lectionary readings below for September.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost September 1, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 2:4-13</u> <u>Psalm 81:1, 10-16</u>	<u>Sirach 10:12-18</u> <i>or</i> <u>Proverbs 25:6-7</u> <u>Psalm 112</u>	<u>Hebrews 13:1-8,</u> <u>15-16</u>	<u>Luke 14:1, 7-14</u>
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 8, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 18:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18</u>	<u>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</u> <u>Psalm 1</u>	<u>Philemon 1:1-21</u>	<u>Luke 14:25-33</u>
September 14, 2019	<u>Numbers 21:4b-9</u> <u>Psalm 98:1-5</u> <i>or</i> <u>Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38</u>		<u>1 Corinthians 1:18-24</u>	<u>John 3:13-17</u>
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 15, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28</u> <u>Psalm 14</u>	<u>Exodus 32:7-14</u> <u>Psalm 51:1-10</u>	<u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u>	<u>Luke 15:1-10</u>
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 8:18-9:1</u> <u>Psalm 79:1-9</u>	<u>Amos 8:4-7</u> <u>Psalm 113</u>	<u>1 Timothy 2:1-7</u>	<u>Luke 16:1-13</u>
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15</u> <u>Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16</u>	<u>Amos 6:1a, 4-7</u> <u>Psalm 146</u>	<u>1 Timothy 6:6-19</u>	<u>Luke 16:19-31</u>



Worship Service Leader: An Opportunity for You

If you were with us during during times when our minister has been away, you know that we are very fortunate to have strong lay leaders at Old South who have stepped into the role leading worship and sharing their personal faith journeys or reflections on the lectionary readings. If you are interested in serving in this way, please let us know by contacting Phyllis in the church office (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org). We are able to provide support by either putting the full order of worship together for you and allowing you to focus solely on your reflection or you can do as much of the order as you want! During these times, the Revised Common Lectionary may be followed or not. Perhaps you have a Bible reading that particularly speaks to you and you want to share your insight and thoughts on it. Our own faith journeys have been enriched by this sharing and we are grateful to each person who has been called to nourish our spirits in this way.



Join the Choir! If you enjoy singing, we invite you to join our Adult Choir for our first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 PM in the Matthew Room! You don't have to be an opera star, all you need is a pleasing voice, a love of good music, and a willingness to commit to a rehearsal on Wednesday evenings and our Worship Service on Sunday mornings! Come along and give us a try. We're a fun group, and we need you!

For more information, come to our first rehearsal or contact Phyllis (207/778-0424 or Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) in the church office.

Join InnerRhythm! Are you interested in drumming? Old South's women drummers, InnerRhythm, invite you to join them at their rehearsals on Tuesdays and at upcoming performances. Previous experience is not necessary.

For more information, please contact: Karyl Condit (krcondit2@gmail.com)





Flowers for the Altar

Flowers beautify the altar of our church and are a gift to God and those who attend our services. A contribution of flowers or other appropriate altar arrangements such as a fall harvest display is a meaningful way to honor someone special or to remember a loved one. Flowers can mark the anniversary of a birth, baptism, or anniversary, or simply be used as an expression of joy or thanksgiving at any time. At the end of each service, sponsors may either take their arrangement home to enjoy or elect to share with others at the Pierce House, or perhaps an Old South friend who is not getting out as much.

Anyone who would like to sponsor or donate a floral arrangement, please contact Cheryl McCleery at church on Sunday, at telephone number 207-491-6004, or through email at alchmc@yahoo.com Flowers may be purchased, but we also love to see your flowers from your home gardens too. Acknowledgment for each sponsorship will be written in that week's bulletin.



The Deacon's Corner

SANCTUARY

As I am writing this, preparations are in the works for Old South's Annual Women's Retreat. This year the retreat is entitled "Seeking Sanctuary--Encountering the Holy". At the retreat, we will explore the nature of sanctuary, a word that calls to mind both sacredness and safety. We will have thoughts to share when we return!

Providing sanctuary has been an important role of the diaconate since the first deacons were named by the Apostles to look after the needs of the early church community. Now, at Old South, the deacons play important roles in assuring that all who come through our doors experience sanctuary, in other words, that each person will feel loved and valued in our community and will experience the powerful presence of God among us.

Since I have had "sanctuary" on my mind, I have been aware of the subtle shift that takes place in our church sanctuary over the summer. Things slow down; it's quieter; the congregation is smaller; we spend time with our beloved summer residents. It is a nice balance to the wonderful busy-ness of our church's program year. There's time to breathe in, breathe out and remember that "surely God is in this place" in both the busy times and the quiet times of our life as a church.

During the summer, the deacons have continued to help provide worship every Sunday. Some of our new deacons have had opportunities to serve communion and to begin to see the many ways that the diaconate serves our church. We have savored the quietness of summer and now we look forward to the fall and working with Rev. Mairaine to discover new ways the deacons can contribute to Old South's identity as a safe and holy space: a sanctuary.

Welcome back to all who have been away! Keep your eyes and ears open for new happenings as Old South begins another program year.

Finally, with joy, I would like to introduce our Diaconate for the coming year!

Roger Condit
John Demers Lindner
Margaret Gould Wescott
Shelley Griffith (chair)

Brent Laflin
Christine Merchant
Karen Paul

Michelle Scribner
Mary Sinclair
Carole Trickett

We are here to serve you! Thanks be to God!
Shelley

Mission & Outreach



REACH OUT

Outreach, Justice & Witness

Outreach, Justice and Witness will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 10. 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.



Food Closet Items of the Month: Canned Soup and Toilet Paper

Your donations of this and other nonperishable food and toiletry items are welcome. Toilet paper is an ongoing need. You may bring items to the church, and donations will be delivered to Care and Share. Thank you for your continuing support of this ecumenical ministry.



We are getting ready to start our Community Luncheon ministry for another year. The first meal of the program year will be on September 14, 2019. As has been our tradition for the past several years, the menu will feature roast pork loin, rice pilaf, green beans and biscuits. Toward the end of last year it was determined that God's Kitchen Crew would no longer be able to provide us with desserts. However, Jodie Gunther will be providing the cakes for our September meal. Thank you, Jodie! Desserts for the remaining luncheons will be determined at a future date.

We choose this particular menu because it is fairly easy to prepare, and because we don't really need to have much in the way of food donations from the congregation. However, we will still very much need help from folks to set up, serve and clean-up. Please look for the sign up poster on the door to the kitchen. Please come help us, if you are able. But, even if you're not able, please come join us for a good meal and good fellowship around the table.

Stan Wheeler

Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. This year's theme is Love of Children.

We will receive this special offering on **October 6, 2019**, as part of World Communion Sunday observance.



Called to Serve

Here are just a few of the opportunities to lend a helping hand to ministries and program needs of Old South:

Annie's Beanpole – medical equipment loan program

Community Lunch – free monthly meal for the community

Food Closet (an ecumenical ministry) – help distribute food to our community

Kitchen Crew – help to keep the church kitchen in tip top shape!

Coffee Hour – host coffee hour

Sign Board – be a substitute helper to maintain the event calendar in front of the church

Concert Series – Help distribute promotional material, providing and serving a meal for the performers, provide refreshments, cashier, greeters, clean up and more. Contact Debbie Davis Robinson to sign up.

Coat Closet – Donate your gently used jackets, coats and hats to help provide warmth to another

Prayer Shawls – knit or crochet prayer shawls, throws or lap blankets for the Old South Prayer Shawl Ministry

Service Recordings – Plan to be in church most Sundays? Volunteer to learn how to use the sound equipment to record the services for uploading to the church website.

Warming Centers (Farmington Area Ecumenical Ministry sponsored event) – In January and February, there are countless ways to help at the Warming Center. Volunteer to provide a pot of soup, or be a greeter or other helper on Thursdays.

Committee Work or Serving as a Church Officer: Various positions are open on committees. Please contact Chris Magri or the church office for more information.

If you would like to know more about these and other programs and ministries of Old South, please contact Phyllis in the church office.

Children and Youth

Welcome Home! As summer draws to a close, Old South's youth programs and activities rev up for another year of learning and growth, worship and service. We are grateful to renew some of our favorite programming, and excited to introduce new ones, too!

Special note: We ask all families to complete the annual Sunday School Registration form, and return it to us as soon as possible. The Registration form follows this article; you should have also received a printed copy in your mailbox last week. You can mail your forms to us (235 Main Street, Farmington 04938) or drop it off at church on Sunday mornings.



Sunday School & High School

Lessons, activities, programs, and more begin Sunday, Sept. 8. We offer traditional Sunday School for children, as well as classes for middlers and high school students. Once again, three Teacher Assistants from the University of Farmington will help facilitate crafts, games, and activities. These TAs work under the guidance and leadership of our Sunday School Superintendents. In addition, we're planning a few "special project days," which will enable us to explore our faith through seasonal mission projects.

High school students will begin the fall session by reviewing foundational Old Testament stories. Once again, we'll explore each lesson with Sharpie markers to create a one-of-a-kind video retelling.

Old South Movie Studio

One Sunday each month, kids in grade school create a video episode for our Old South Movie Studio series. With colorful props and costumes, the kids have a starring role to retell a Bible story in an engaging and memorable way. Once finished, the videos are posted on YouTube for the entire congregation to enjoy. You can check out past episodes here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9e7SMHQqvg4&t=20s>



Acolytes: Carrying the Light of God into the Sanctuary

Children in grades 3 - 6 are invited to help participate in each Sunday's worship service by serving as acolytes, carrying the light of God into the sanctuary at 9:25 am. We will be posting a new fall schedule soon---if you'd like to be included, but need training, please contact us! We'll arrange a training session for our "new recruits" early in September.

Old South's Nursery

Infants and toddlers are always welcome at our Nursery. Clean, safe, and comfortable, the Nursery is staffed from 9:20 am through 10:45 am, September 8 through mid-June. Our Nursery staff provides a professional, nurturing environment; all staff members are background checked for safety.



Youth Group

Guided by our fundamental passage from Matthew 25:35— *'for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,'* the high school Youth Group offers two highly successful mission projects each year, Coat & Cupboard and the Thrifty Santa Toy Sale. In addition, this fall we will undertake a new project, a simple outdoor Vesper service; we hope this will provide an inviting worship experience for our UMF neighbors and community. These three services will be during the Youth Group hours on Sept. 22, Sept. 29, and Oct. 6. The services will begin at 7:00 pm.



The Pancakery Cafe

Who can't resist a hot, fresh—and FREE--pancake? This fall, our students in grades 5 - 9 create a "pop up cafe" to serve delicious free brunch to our community. On the second and fourth Sundays of each month, the "staff" of The Pancakery Cafe sets up in the Vestry for one scrumptious hour. We offer homemade soups and quiches, as well as muffins and specialty coffee drinks—and, of course, pancakes. Plus, live music! The fun begins Sunday, Sept. 22 at 11:00 am.

Bread for Benefit

It's one of the youth group's tastiest assignments—selling freshly baked bread after the worship service on Sunday mornings. Our sales are intermittent throughout the year—please check the Youth Program Calendars for dates. As always, we rely on our youth group members to lend a hand to keep this highly successful program running smoothly. Look for a complete assignment schedule—sent via email and posted on Facebook—soon!

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. We also post regularly on Facebook ("Old South First Congregational Church").

Questions? Concerns? Would you like to learn more about Old South youth programs? Please contact me via email or by phone at 778-8515.

Warm Regards,

Jodie Gunther

The First Congregational Church of Farmington, UCC
"Old South Church"
Sunday School Year 2019 - 2020

Personal Contact Details

Family Name/s: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Alt. Phone _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Child/Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name of Child/Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name of Child/Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name of Child/Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name of Child/Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Alternate emergency contacts/authorized pick up :

Name: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Phone: _____

Are there any family situations we should be aware of (Eg: custodial issues, other matters)?
Please specify/

Please list any physical or special needs: (eg. allergies, medical/mental health, medications)

Permission to Participate in Program Activities/Photos/Video

I consent to my child taking part in the approved program of activities, including activities and events at Old South as well as at other locations.

I give my permission for my child to be photographed or videotaped. I understand that the image may be displayed in the church publications, church buildings or website—and also on YouTube and other internet sites. I understand that as a precaution my child's name will not be published or linked with photographs.

I authorize the leader/s in charge of the above mentioned group where it is impractical to communicate with me, to arrange for my child to receive such medical or surgical treatment as the leader/s may deem necessary at any time during the activities of **First Congregational Farmington Church, Old South Church**

I further authorize the use of Ambulance and/or anaesthetic by a qualified medical practitioner if in his/her judgement it is necessary. I accept responsibility for payment of all expenses associated with such treatment. I appreciate that every care will be taken by the leaders and those connected with that group cannot be held responsible for personal injury, loss or theft of property affecting my child.

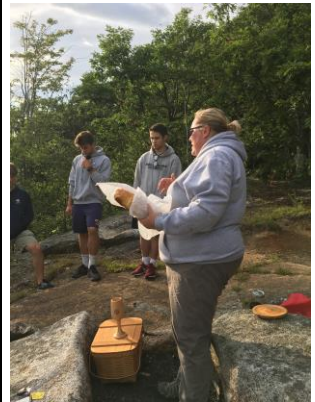
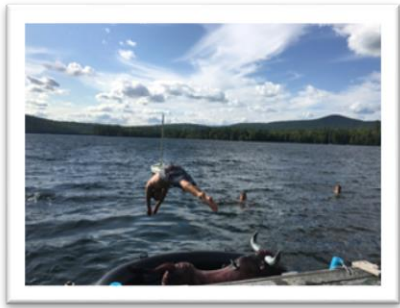
Privacy Information

All the information recorded on this form is collected and managed for the primary purpose of, and may be used for any activities conducted or promoted by, **Old South Church, UCC First Congregational Church Farmington**. If you do not want this information to be used for purpose other than children's programs, please notify us by email : jodie@farmingtonucc.org

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Name: _____ Date _____

Scenes from the high school youth group “mini retreat” in August on Clearwater Lake



From the Property Trustees

Summer finally arrived and seemed to go into full activity mode quickly.

The young crab-apple, planted in the memory of Kären Williams Jordan and donated by her family, took hold well and bloomed gloriously!

Our children and choir took well deserved vacations but were much missed. Though at the same time, we hope they enjoyed their break.

All American Wildlife Control has completed their work and our young female hawk discovered in the church during the work has taken up residence nearby to continue to assist in pest control.

Some of the Property Trustees have begun requesting bids and estimates for metal and shingle roofing for the original church building. The reason for this is several people have noted and brought to our attention shingles torn from the roof or simply missing after snow melt and have voiced concerns regarding the new insulation being damaged by leakage.

We are also asking for updated bids for four components of the next step (repair brickwork on the church's north face) in the Capital Campaign prioritized list of projects. The work would entail four components: all mortar joints must be inspected and repointed as required; all flashing must be inspected and replaced as required; all capstone fittings will be inspected; and the entire chimney needs external repair.

We have entered into a maintenance contract for the HMH boiler as well as signed a contract to keep our oil deliveries at a set price for that property. Both of these contracts are with Down East Energy. A. Maurais & Son will continue to service the church pellet boiler.

The gas stove/oven in the church kitchen has been causing us some difficulty. The latest discovery is that there is a large hornet's nest in the exhaust fan attached to the roof above the church's kitchen. We will have to have this removed, and then we will have to address an electrical problem with the stove/oven functioning correctly.

We apologize for the inconvenience of the lift being out of order but we are seeking to remedy the situation as soon as possible. The doors on the lower level are not functioning and cannot be used but we also are waiting to receive our updated operation license from the state. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Adams, John McKim, Alton McCleery, Donna Wheeler, and Daniel Bachelder (chair)



The Living Water Association, Maine Conference and the United Church of Christ

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



Living Water Association Honduras Partnership Potluck

The Living Water Association Honduras Partnership invites you to come celebrate the joys of partnering with the Evangelical and Reform Church of Honduras at a potluck at Pilgrim Lodge, Saturday, Sept. 7, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. For more information, please contact Craigen Healy (bandchealy@gmail.com).



Living Water Association Outdoor Worship

The Living Water Association will hold a worship service in Jackman, Maine, at 1:30 pm, Sept. 15*. If the weather is good, the service will be held outdoors on the Moose River. If the weather is uncooperative, the service will be held at the Moose River Congregational Church. Lunch will be served by Moose River Congregational Church beginning at 12:30 pm. Old South members and friends who plan to attend lunch are asked to bring a dessert to share with the other churches in our Association. All are welcome! Please note, we will be holding 9:30 am worship at Old South on Sept. 15 too.



If you would like to receive monthly communication from the Maine Conference office, please subscribe to the A.C.E. (Maine Conference UCC All Conference Email) here:

https://visitor.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001WY46HL75sRR8ugU-gynzwIRrhzosImGndFmB2smmp0bq75gY9p8awUyU2Y3ZgqXJLfYmHJA9E429CcYLI986ORfoelx6_i-2B0x3JDub2BqZMuvjRCxq4Z4ri-irjIOwKX400xuKkQu0gFsk1T-oW-zU5wSkbOg5oEAdd5nqrLiQzxdAH5D0h34ysAPJlhPs



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/>



www.facebook.com/OldSouthFarmington



[TWITTER.COM/FARMINGTONUCC](https://twitter.com/FARMINGTONUCC)



[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.

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary)	2 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	3	4 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	5 6:00pm Executive Council (Church Office) 7:00pm CONNLA (Sanctuary)	6	7 12:00pm Living Water Association Honduras Partnership/ CEVER (Pilgrim Lodge) (Offsite)
8 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks (Sanctuary) 11:00am Middler mini retreat (Old South Church) 11:00am Deacons (Matthew Room)	9 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	10 5:30pm Financial Trustess (Church Office) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Matthew Room)	11 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	12 3:00pm Just Friends (Chapel) 6:00pm Climate Crisis Coalition (Vestry)	13 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	14 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry)
15 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary)	16 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	17 6:00pm Property Trustees (Church Office)	18 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	19	20	21 8:00am EWaste Recycling (Hanna ford Parking Lot) (Offsite)
22 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Pancakery (Vestry) 7:00pm Outdoor Vesper Service (Holman Mission House grounds)	23 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	24	25 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	26 1:00pm Farmington Area Ecumenical Ministry (Trinity United Methodist Church) 7:00pm The Open Circle, LGBTQ+ Support Group (Matthew Room)	27 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	28
29 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Bread for Benefit (Vestry) 7:00pm Outdoor Vesper Service (Holman Mission House grounds)	30 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)					