

# Old South Church

United Church of Christ

## March 2018 Telstar

### *Rooted in faith, Growing in love, reaching for justice*

Our current walk together through this interim time and the season of Lent have some interesting similarities. We have left something behind, and we are following a path that moves toward a bright light at the end. Easter will come the first day of April this year. A new settled pastor will take a bit longer, but will come in God's time. As the author John O' Donohue writes in a poem called *For the Interim Time*:

The path you took to get here has washed out;  
The way forward is still concealed from you...  
The more faithfully you can endure here,  
The more refined your heart will become  
For your arrival in the new dawn.

The Transition Team has worked diligently through much difficult work. They care deeply for this congregation and have worked to represent it well in the written work. Something within the advertisement and then the prospectus is meant to speak to someone who is longing for a change in church leadership to a new and differing place. The church profile will be sent by you to only those you wish to be candidates for the position. There is still some work to be finished. Then it will be time to let go and know your search is in greater hands to reach the person who fits the ways and the needs of this congregation. As the Transition Team's work is being completed, we thank them for all they have done carefully and well.

The Pastoral Search Committee will be commissioned on March 4<sup>th</sup> in worship. That group will gather itself together and have a different focus than the Transition Team. They will meet with Rev. Darren Morgan, Associate Conference Minister to orient them to their focus and work. They will also do some work with the "Guidelines for Communal Discernment", which is pertinent to the work they are about.

Discerning God's will in seeking the person called by God to pastor to this congregation means listening deeply and becoming open to the work of the Holy Spirit. One question asked in such work is, "Are we willing to let something die to give God room for something new?" There is similarity between those words and our Ash Wednesday words, which speak to our having room for something new to grow within us after our confession and

### **Rev. Linda Hatch**

Interim Minister  
Linda@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

### **Old South Church**

227 Main Street (office)  
207/778-0424

235 Main Street (church)  
207/778-4438  
Farmington, ME 04938

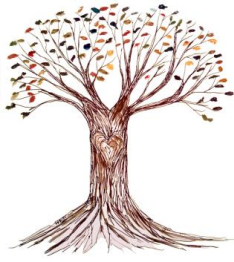
### **Find us on Facebook at:**

Old South First  
Congregational Church

### **Find us on the web at:**

[www.FarmingtonUCC.org](http://www.FarmingtonUCC.org)

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



letting go of much into God's love and mercy. We always must make room for the new to be created and at work within us and among us as God's people walking in God's ways.

May God bless our Lenten walk together and the next steps you take in your process toward a new time of ministry.

*Linda*

Interim Time Pastor

**Would you like to meet with Rev. Linda?** Linda will be in the office when she doesn't have appointments or meetings. In general, Linda is in town Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday. Please feel free to contact her at 356-7573 or by email at [Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org](mailto:Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org)

### **Transition Team**

Rina Bardo  
Jen & Gabe Civiello  
Karyl Condit  
Shelley Griffith  
Roy Scribner  
Mary Sinclair  
Donna Wheeler

### **Search Committee**

Jen Civiello  
Ed David  
Amanda Hilton  
Marilyn Hylan  
Sherry Jenckes  
Wendy Oakley  
Jane Parker  
Roy Scribner  
Mary Sinclair  
Stan Wheeler

### **Executive Council**

Interim Minister: Rev. Linda Hatch  
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: Barb Fortier  
Member at Large: Robin Beck  
Member at Large: Wendy Huish

***The deadline for submissions for the April Telstar is March 10. Please submit all articles to the church office ([Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org](mailto:Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org)) no later than March 10.***



## From The Moderator

I hate being patient.

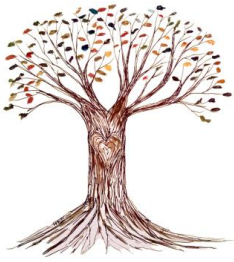
But patient is what I'll have to be all the same. This is a time of hope and concern and uncertainty and transition for Old South. We just held our annual budget meeting, at which we approved a budget that includes a substantial projected deficit, knowing all the while that the numbers could change drastically by year's end depending on what happens with finding our next settled pastor and what happens with the Holman Mission House. And those two things could also strongly affect our future direction as a church.

At the meeting we thanked the transition team that has taken us halfway to finding that settled pastor, and we approved a search committee that will take us to the finish line. The search committee is composed of ten dedicated individuals who have stepped up to serve all of us by putting in copious time and effort in the months to come, looking over job applications (a.k.a. ministerial profiles) and discussing them and Skyping promising candidates and discussing *that* and listening to sermons and. . . . Calling our next pastor could certainly affect our bottom line in terms of salary; but more importantly, it will determine who leads us spiritually as we take the next steps along Old South's path, who works with us to help us become the congregation we want to be in the coming decade.

In response to various questions at the meeting I also offered an impromptu update on housing the town's homeless shelter in HMH. This is where patience is really needed, because it seems that every time we try to get firm information on some aspect of this project, two new questions arise. As I recall from Greek mythology, this is what the Hydra was like. But Hercules eventually prevailed over the Hydra, and I have faith that we'll eventually prevail and have answers to all of our financial/logistical questions. Then we'll simply have to discern the best course of action based on this information. No sweat.

As one of you said at the meeting, once we know what we'll be doing with HMH, we'll have in effect "a whole new budget" to consider. Just now I started to type something about this new budget having no major uncertainties, but then I deleted it, because while the short-term uncertainties will have vanished, we'll still have the long-term uncertainties to contend with. These are the things that can't be quantified, that can't be graphed in a spreadsheet budget projection: how will our choices regarding our pastor and our mission *inspire* people to join this congregation, stay involved in it, and give generously to it as a vital component of their lives? I'm not sure, but I'm patiently and eagerly waiting to find out.

Chris Magri



## From the Treasurer

The Annual Financial Meeting was held on February 11, 2018. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. I appreciate, as always, your patience and your interest in our financial well-being. The questions that arise in these meetings are very beneficial to me and the other Financial Trustees. It is always helpful to have another insight or perspective.

At the meeting, those in attendance voted to move forward with our proposed 2018 budget with an approximate \$39,000 deficit. I know that seems ludicrous. Believe me. However, please keep in mind that much of this could change depending on the status of renters for Holman Mission House as well as our search for a settled pastor.

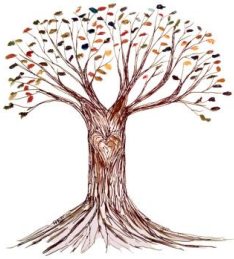
I often rack my brain about our finances. Where will the money come from? Are we being wise with our investments? I want to assure every one of you that the Financial Trustees are doing our very best to be good stewards of our finances.

The issue of the Holman Mission House arose again in the meeting. I know this is still a very sensitive subject in our church family. However, no matter where you fall on this subject, I want to emphasize there is validation on every side. There is no “right” or “wrong” opinion in this matter. Everyone is entitled to how they feel and, to be honest, there is more playing into our financial situation than just the Holman House. That is not a statement in support of keeping or selling the house – just a fact.

I prepared a much longer article, but decided to spare you my ramblings. In closing, (and maybe in the spirit of Valentine’s Day?), I’ll leave you with this. When I first came to Old South, I did not fall in love with the buildings, with the minister, or the music. I fell in love with Old South because for the first time in a long time, I felt loved and accepted in a church. As time progressed, I saw you show that love and acceptance to everyone you encountered, no matter who they are or where they are on life’s journey. If we are going to leave a legacy for future generations, *that* is the Old South we have to look to preserve.

Amanda Adams  
Treasurer

*If you missed the Financial Annual Meeting and would like a copy of the Annual Meeting Report, please contact Phyllis in the church office ([Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org](mailto:Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org)) or Amanda Adams.*



## Financial Trustees

The Financial Trustees assisted Amanda Adams in finalizing the budget for 2018. This was presented at the annual Financial Meeting on February 11 following church.

Our investment accounts have been transferred to Maine Conference investment firm, Head Invest.

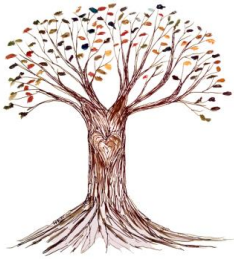
We would like to remind our Old South congregation that 2108 pledges are still being received. Please put your pledge card in the Sunday offering, mail it to the church office, or leave it at the church office during office hours. Thank you for your continued support of our church, its staff, and our missions.

We have entered the second year of our capital campaign. The lift is operational. Automatic door openers are in place. We will celebrate this first project very soon. In order to continue with our other projects, we need the Old South congregation to submit their pledge for year two of the campaign. Projects still to be completed in order of priority are brickwork on the north face of the church, insulating and rewiring in the vestry, work on the belfry interior wall, brickwork on the front and south faces of the church, flooring in the Newman Wing, and last, but not least, repaying the endowment fund for the pellet boiler. Thank you again for supporting these projects which have been approved by the congregation.

We are still working with the homeless shelter board to address their desire to move into the Holman Mission House. An information session was held for our congregation in January. There was a great turnout for this meeting. Please continue to ask questions and offer suggestions as we explore this option.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Hylan, Chair



## Deacons' Corner

Dear Old South Family,

Between Christmas with the Hanging of the Greens and assembling a search committee for your approval, it's been a busy three months for the Diaconate!

Yesterday, at the Annual Financial Meeting, the membership gave unanimous approval to the Search Committee that we presented. This group will be composed of the following people: Marilyn Hylan, Wendy Oakley, Jane Parker, Jen Civiello, Sherry Jenckes, Roy Scribner, Mary Sinclair, Ed David, Stan Wheeler and Amanda Hilton. We are thankful to all of these folks for being interested in taking on this tremendous service to our church.

The Search Committee will receive the Congregation's blessing at a committal service in the near future and will begin their initial work with Rev. Hatch and Rev. Darren Morgan, our Associate Conference Minister. Unlike previous years, the Search committee will not put together our Church Profile. Due to a change in the UCC regarding the way Interim work is structured, this job is being done by the Interim Transition Team and is based on congregational feedback obtained from the small group discussions we held last spring and fall.

Finally, a note about confidentiality regarding the Search Committee. Once they begin, the Search Committee will have to keep their work in strictest confidence. They will not be able to answer questions but will give periodic updates to the congregation regarding their progress. It will be our job to put our trust in them and have faith that the Holy Spirit will guide them in their work.

Meanwhile, the Diaconate will return to other projects that have been temporarily set aside. At the top of the list, we will resume our discussions about how to better serve the congregation through our Deacon Groups (formerly known as "Flocks") We will look at your responses to the questionnaire that we sent out in the fall and discuss how we might better tailor our system to meet individual needs and we will look at some other ways to make the program more responsive.

If you haven't filled out a questionnaire yet, it isn't too late! If you need a new one, please see one of the deacons.

Blessings to all during this Lenten season,  
Shelley

(your deacons: Rina Bardo, Roger Condit, Linda Fournier, Shelley Griffith (chair), Wendy Oakley, Michelle Scribner, Mary Sinclair, Fred O. Smith, Carole Trickett, Ryan Westbrook-Vigue, Grace McIntosh (Jr Deacon))



## News and Upcoming Events



**DON'T  
FORGET...**

### Committee and Group Meetings

<b>Christian Education</b>	Tuesday, March 6, Matthew Room at 9:30 am
<b>Deacons' Meeting</b>	Sunday, March 11, Matthew Room at 11:00 am
<b>Executive Council</b>	Wednesday, March 7, HMH Meeting Room at 6:00 pm
<b>Financial Trustees</b>	Tuesday, March 13, HMH Meeting Room at 5:30 pm
<b>Outreach, Justice, Witness</b>	Tuesday, March 20, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm
<b>Property Trustees</b>	Tuesday, March 20, HMH at 6:00 pm
<b>Search Committee</b>	To be determined
<b>Staff Meeting</b>	Tuesday, March 14, HMH at 10:15 am
<b>Transition Team</b>	To be determined



### Retirees Lunch

Mark your calendars and join us for lunch on March 5 for the next Retirees Lunch. Bring a dish to share if you would like and join us. For more information, contact Dick Giard at 897-6228.

Daylight savings time begins on March 11. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before you go to sleep!





# News and Upcoming Events

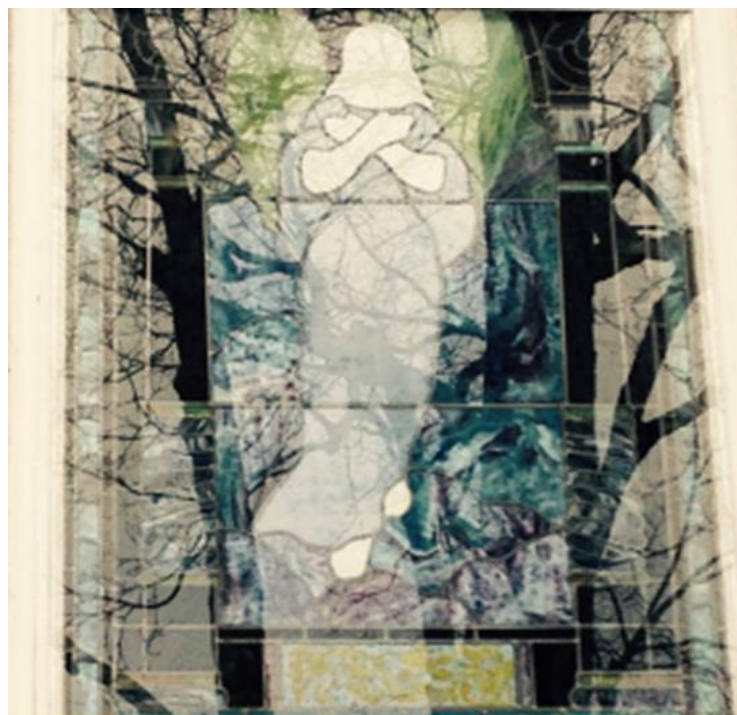
## The Lenten Expressions Project

How do you express your faith journey? How do you translate your faith journey into: visual art, photography, or words, or dance, or music, or clay?

**The Lenten Expressions Project is an invitation to share your creativity -- and your faith journey -- with the members and friends of Old South.** On Palm Sunday, March 25, we'll transform the downstairs Chapel and classrooms into a place to share works of art by our congregation and friends. The evening will include live **acoustic music** and **poetry readings**; a "**big**" art project by "little" Sunday School artists; as well as participatory art experiences for all ages, offering an opportunity to reflect on the spiritual journey of Lent. We warmly invite you to share your own faith journey creativity. Open from 4 pm to 7 pm, the Lenten Expressions Project will also include simple light refreshments.

**Please note: this isn't a contest!** Nor will art be for sale. This simply an opportunity to share your talents, creativity and faith in a non-judgmental setting.

Questions? Comments? Want to sign up? Please contact Jodie ([Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org](mailto:Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org)) or Cherie Giampietro ([cherieg71@gmail.com](mailto:cherieg71@gmail.com)). Please sign up by Sunday, March 18 in order for us to prepare.



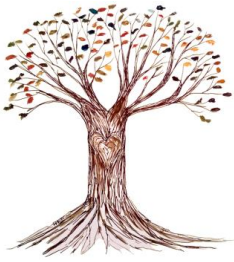
The  
**Lenten**  
**Expressions**  
Project

Palm Sunday  
3.25.18

4 pm - 7 pm

Old South  
1st Congregational Church UCC





## News & Upcoming Events

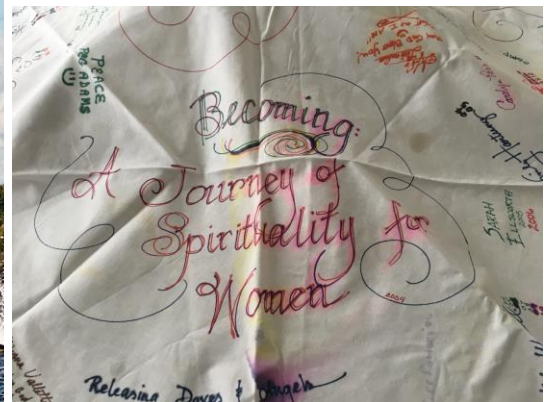


### Easter Lily Order Form

You are invited to remember and celebrate your loved ones by providing lilies for the altar on Easter Sunday. You may place this order form with your payment in the offering basket, drop off or mail to Phyllis in the church office (227 Main Street, Farmington) or give your order to Carolyn Parr. Plants are \$16.50 this year. The deadline for orders is Monday, March 19. Checks may be made out to: Old South and marked for Easter Lilies.

Number of Lilies \_\_\_\_\_ Ordered by \_\_\_\_\_

Given in memory/celebration/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

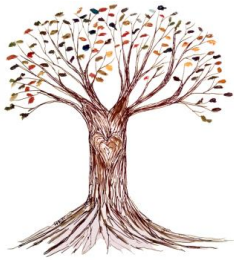


### Old South Women's Retreat 2018

We have reserved the Marie Joseph Spiritual Retreat Center in Biddeford Pool for the 2018 Women's Retreat Saturday, August 25 – Monday, August 27 (Saturday afternoon through Monday mid-day). The retreaters in 2017 loved this beautiful, seaside facility, and we look forward to being there again. You can check it out at [www.mariejosephspiritual.org](http://www.mariejosephspiritual.org). The cost for the retreat is \$240. Reserve your space today with a deposit of \$35.

Confidential scholarship assistance and payment plans are available now through the church office. Payments may be made on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis in varying amounts. Please contact Phyllis ([Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org](mailto:Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) or 778-0424) as soon as possible to make arrangements.

If you are interested in working on the retreat committee, please let Rev. Linda Hatch know.



## News & Upcoming Events



**Pilgrim Lodge**  
Maine Conference, United Church of Christ



Registration for Pilgrim Lodge is now open. Camps are not just for youth! Check out “Vintage Ventures” for campers age 55 and older; “Women at the Well” for ladies; and “Family Get Away Weekend” for all ages. Information about the different programs may be found at: <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/camps/> and registration is online at: <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/register-for-camp/> Scholarship is available through the Maine Conference. Please contact Phyllis in the church office if you need additional information.



### **Church Service 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 voicemail (778-0424) and Facebook page, and announce it on WKTJ-FM 99.3. If Sunday school is cancelled, but worship is not, we will update our answering machine and Facebook. The church office will close if RSU 9 cancels school due to weather.



## News & Upcoming Events

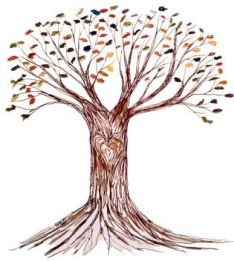
### Concert Schedule



The 2018 Old South Concert Series kicks off at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 22 with Indie-Soul-Folk band, Golden Oak, formed by former Mt Blue High School brother-sister duo, Lena and Zak Kendall. The performance will include fellow musicians Max Eddington (piano), and Jackson Cromwell (percussion), and Mike Knowles (bass). Tickets will be \$15 adults, students \$10/\$5. More information about the Kendall siblings can be found at [GoldenOakband.com](http://GoldenOakband.com).

On Thursday, April 12, at 7:00 pm the dynamic group of Seattle-based The Gothard Sisters come to the stage at Old South. Over ten years of playing together has brought sisters, Greta, Willow and Solana, international recognition providing high energy musical entertainment steeped in Celtic roots, featuring classical violin chops, and champion Irish step-dancing. Tickets will be \$15 adults, students \$10/\$5. More information about The Gothard Sisters can be found at [Gothardsisters.com](http://Gothardsisters.com). Home hosting is available for interested volunteers.

On Thursday, May 1, at 7:00 pm. childhood friends, Jennifer Austin, Kristan Harvey, Jeana Leslie and Catriona Price, known as “Fara” will be creating a fiery sound steeped in the music of Orkney with three fiddles and piano. These four musicians have taken their place at the forefront of today's Scottish folk scene. Fara has performed across the UK and Europe. The ladies of Fara incorporate a mix of original compositions and traditional Orkney tunes creating a diverse, but individual sound. Tickets will be \$15 adults, students \$10/\$5. For more information go to [Faramusic.co.uk](http://Faramusic.co.uk). Home hosting is available for interested volunteers.



## News & Upcoming Events

At 7:00 pm on Thursday, June 7, the Tannahill Weavers, one of Scotland's premiere traditional bands, will bring their 50th anniversary tour to Old South as they promote the release of their newest album, "Orach". The Tannahills have received decades of worldwide recognition for their "exuberant and humorous performances" demonstrating to all ages the richness and musical heritage of the Celtic people. Vocals, guitar, flute, whistles, bodran, fiddle, highland bagpipes and Scottish small pipes round out their diverse repertoire, a beautiful blend of old and new. Tickets \$20 adults, students \$10/\$5 For more information, visit [tannahillweavers.com](http://tannahillweavers.com)



Outside Track

Thursday, September 6, Outside Track (details to come). Information about this Pan Celtic band fusing music, dance and song from Scotland, Ireland and Cape Breton visit [www.theoutsidetrack.com](http://www.theoutsidetrack.com)

If you would like receive regular Old South Concert Series newsletters send email "Subscribe" to [debbiedavisrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:debbiedavisrobinson@gmail.com)

If you are interested in hosting a band for one-night contact Debbie Davis-Robinson or Halcyon Yorks for details. Additional program sponsors (\$150) will be solicited to provide a housing stipend for traveling artists when private home housing is not available and for fair wages for professional sound and lights rental/operations. OSC proceeds will benefit Capital Campaign projects.

Volunteers will be needed for each concert to help with poster distribution; to help setup/prepare/serve and clean up for a meal before the concert; to set up and manage intermission refreshments; for donations of food and beverages to sell during intermission; vestry and kitchen clean up after intermission; replace furniture moved prior to performance. If you can help with volunteering or program sponsoring, contact Debbie Davis-Robinson 207-491-5919, Halcyon Yorks 207-779-0111, or Brenda Scribner 207-299-3686.



## Mission & Outreach

**Outreach, Justice and Witness** will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, March 20. 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.



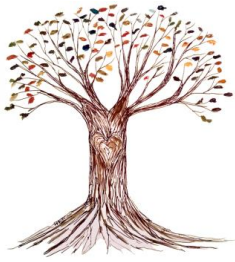
### Fair Trade Coffee Ordering

Old South members and friends may join the group ordering of fair-trade certified, wholesale coffee, tea, chocolate and food items from Equal Exchange. The next order deadline is by 6 pm Sunday, March 4. Contact the coordinator, Myrna Vallette, at 778-4387, or by email at [myrna.vallette@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.vallette@gmail.com), to order or to get more information.

### Care and Share Food Closet Item of the Month Canned Vegetables

You may drop all donations off at the church 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 ministry.





## Mission & Outreach



### Coat Closet Donations

Packing away your winter coats will be a reality soon! Spring is on the way. If you are planning on purchasing new ski pants for your growing children or you are getting a new coat or jacket for next year, please consider donating your gently used items to the Coat Closet. We are accepting donations of coats, snow pants, ski jackets and blankets. Please do not drop off shoes or other clothing items. We are not accepting t-shirts, pants, socks, shirts, etc. When you drop these things off at the church or HMH, we have to pack them up and take them to other donation sites. Please help us by donating only the requested items! Thank you for your help and for your ongoing support.



### Community Lunch

Since we had to cancel the January Luncheon due to a forecast of icy, sleety roads, we decided to do the same menu for the February Luncheon: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, and biscuits. The weather was a little bit “iffy” for the day, so attendance was down slightly. But, even at that we served about 140 meals.

Our March Luncheon will feature baked ham (using Dick Giard’s very popular and delicious recipe), macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, and biscuits. God’s Kitchen Crew will be providing cakes for dessert.

Just one further word: On the Wednesday before the meal, when God’s Kitchen Crew would normally be meeting to bake the cakes, the weather was very snowy and school was cancelled and the Kitchen Crew didn’t meet. So, Jodie Gunther took it upon herself to bake the 10 cakes that we would need. Thank you SO MUCH, Jodie. You are wonderful!

Stan Wheeler,  
Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs



## Mission & Outreach



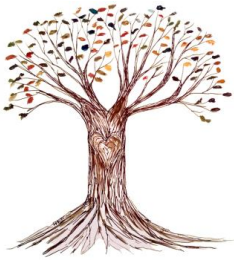
**Sunday, March 11**

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Seven Christian denominations - American Baptist Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, and Church World Service work together to develop common promotional materials thereby sharing ideas, costs, and a commitment to faithful service. Each denomination receives and manages its respective OGHS offerings, and together raise over \$10 million annually. On average, of every dollar given to One Great Hour of Sharing, 95 cents is used directly for mission programming and the remaining 5 cents is used to create interpretation materials. Administrative costs are paid by gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission National Basic Support.

The OGHS special mission offering is received through local UCC congregations and all UCC members are encouraged to participate in this way. Local churches should forward their gifts to the conference office and all gifts are then forwarded to the United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100.

At Old South, we will accept your donations for One Great Hour of Sharing on Sunday, March 11. Thank you for your ongoing support for the mission offering.



## Fundraising News



Thank you to all who are using our Hannaford cards and Scrip cards. If you haven't signed up yet for the 2 % Hannaford Rewards program, be sure to sign up in the store or stop by the Fundraising Table for information. Also, watch the bulletins, weekly emails, and future Telstars for Fundraising updates.

For those of you who have been asking and may not have heard the news, credit cards are now accepted at the Fundraising Table.

Thank you,  
Brenda Scribner



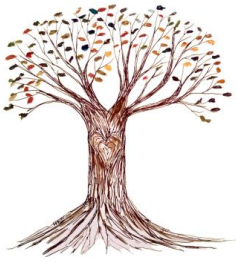
### Shopping That Benefits Old South Church

Be sure to do your shopping through Amazon Smile and Amazon will donate .5% of your total to Old South. There's no cost to you and once you choose Old South as your charity, there's nothing else you need to do. You can go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and click select on First Congregational of Farmington. Thank you to those of you who have been utilizing this giving method already!

Purchase gift cards for gift giving or for your own use. Old South receives a percentage of the cost of the cards. 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>





## Children & Youth



### Sunday School

**It's a month of miracles!** Our Sunday School lessons this month focus on some of the amazing things Jesus did -- including healing sick people, calming a raging thunderstorm, and feeding 5,000 people with a couple of fish and loaves of bread. Wow!



BBC (grades 7 and older)

On March 4, We open Coat & Cupboard one last **time for the season. Plus, we're planning a field trip** for March 18--watch your email for details. We conclude the month with our annual viewing of the Holy Week mini movies series, which tap into the imaginations and creativity of many artists by using more than 100 images (mostly, fine art and contemporary art) to retell the pivotal moments of Holy Week--Jesus entering Jerusalem, cleansing the Temple, the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemene, and the Crucifixion.

### Lenten Projects and Events

**Children this month continue reading their "Lenten Passports,"** small booklets that provide readings, **activities and more for each day of Lent. Extra copies of the "Lenten Passport"** are available in the Narthex. The BBC class, meanwhile, is using sticky notes (and granola bars!) to memorize some foundational Bible verses. Plus, both children and teens will be working on artistic contributions for the Lenten Expressions Project, on March 25.



## Children & Youth

Confirmation Discussion--Two Sessions This Month!

**Due to last month's icy weather, we bumped our February meeting into March. So, we'll be having "back-to-back" discussions---March 11 and March 18. First, we'll take a close look at faith, belief, and doubt---and the positive role doubt can play in our faith journeys.**

Then, the March 18th meeting, led by Rev. Linda, will help to clarify some of the questions we might have about Confirmation. In addition, with help from Anna Cushing, we'll participate in a really cool exercise to help us put into words (and/or pictures) our relationship and understanding of God. **Both meetings will begin at 5:30 pm with a light supper. We'll aim to conclude each session at 7:30 pm.**



Pancakery

**We're continuing to spread the word about The Pancakery, with new posters and colorful cards around town. Plus, we're continuing to adjust and tweak our menu to provide a better mix of healthy (and fun) selections. At 11:30 am, we're happy to dish up a tasty brunch meal to both members of the greater community as well as folks right here at Old South. As always, everyone in grades 5 - 9 is warmly invited to don an apron at 10:30 am to help serve up a little bit o' love!**

### **God's Kitchen Crew**

**With the gentler temperatures and longer days of March, it's time to bust out of the Vestry and have some fun outside! If the weather cooperates, we'll head to the lawn of the Holman Mission House make some bigger-than-life snowpeople. (So, please bring your coats, snowpants, and boots!) But if the weather is less-than-perfect, no worries--we'll stay inside for more silly fun. But first, we'll get those cakes into the oven. This month, we're going all springy with Easter cakes.**

**For children in grades 2 – 5**

**Wednesday, March 7, 3:00 - 4:45 pm**



## Children & Youth



### Family Easter Party

Please join us for our annual kid-friendly celebration of the season, following the worship service on Sunday, March 18. **Once again, we'll offer a mix of simple-but-fun** crafts and games, as well as healthy lunch items (fruit, simple sandwiches, and more). Plus, the nonsensical Bunnies in Space. Please join us!

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](mailto:Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org).**

Old South Youth Programs: March 2018

March 4: Sunday School; BBC: Coat & Cupboard open today; Youth Group movie night at **Grace and Ethan's house (please check your email for details).**

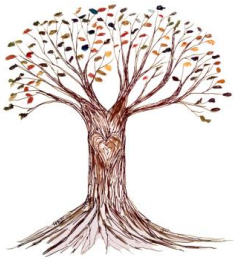
Wednesday, March 7: **God's Kitchen Crew 3:00 pm**

March 11: Sunday School; BBC; Pancakery; Confirmation Discussion at 5:30 pm

March 18: Sunday School (special project day); BBC field trip; Easter Family Party 11 am; Confirmation Discussion at 5:30 pm

March 25: Holy Week: Sunday School traditional egg hunt and Palm Sunday activities; BBC: Holy Week mini movies series; Pancakery; Lenten Expressions Project 4 - 7 pm





# Worship & Music

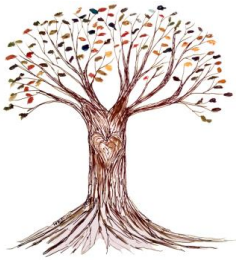


## Revised Common Lectionary

The Revised Common Lectionary is a list of Bible passages followed by the majority of mainline Christian churches, including the United Church of Christ. Pastor Linda will be following the Revised Common Lectionary each week. You will find the lectionary readings below for March.

<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> March 4, 2018	<u>Exodus 20:1-17</u>	<u>Psalm 19</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 1:18-25</u>	<u>John 2:13-22</u>
<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> March 11, 2018	<u>Numbers 21:4-9</u>	<u>Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22</u>	<u>Ephesians 2:1-10</u>	<u>John 3:14-21</u>
<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> March 18, 2018	<u>Jeremiah 31:31-34</u>	<u>Psalm 51:1-12</u> or <u>Psalm 119:9-16</u>	<u>Hebrews 5:5-10</u>	<u>John 12:20-33</u>
<b>Liturgy of the Palms</b> March 25, 2018 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>		<u>Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29</u>		<u>Mark 11:1-11</u> or <u>John 12:12-16</u>
<b>Liturgy of the Passion</b> March 25, 2018 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>	<u>Isaiah 50:4-9a</u>	<u>Psalm 31:9-16</u>	<u>Philippians 2:5-11</u>	<u>Mark 14:1-15:47</u> or <u>Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)</u>

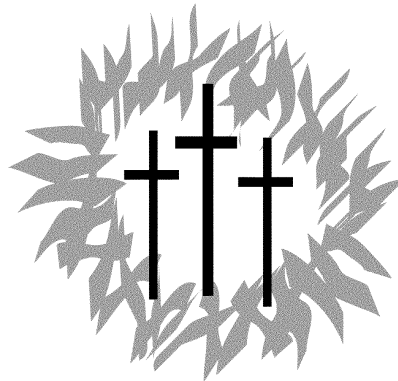
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Used by permission.



## Music and Worship

### **Lenten Vesper Services**

Please join us for Vesper Services on Wednesdays at 5:15 pm in the Matthew Room. Vesper Services will be held on February 28, March 7, 14, and 21. All are welcome.



### **Holy Week**

#### **Palm to Passion Sunday, March 25**

9:30 am Worship at Old South  
4:00-7:00 pm Lenten Art Show at  
Old South (Newman Wing)

#### **Maundy Thursday, March 29**

#### **FAEM Good Friday, March 30**

#### **Easter Sunday, April 1**

5:15 pm Worship at Old South  
Noon at St. Joseph's Church  
FAEM Sunrise Service on Voter Hill  
9:30 am Worship at Old South



## Get Connected

### OLD SOUTH CHURCH

First Congregational Church of Farmington  
235 MAIN ST. (Church) ~ 227 MAIN ST. (Office)  
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](http://www.facebook.com/OldSouthFarmington)



[Twitter.com/farmingtonucc](https://twitter.com/farmingtonucc)



[Instagram.com/oldsouthlove](https://www.instagram.com/oldsouthlove)



[pinterest.com/OldSouthChurch](https://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.

## March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 7:00pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00am Coat & Cupboard Open (HMH Carriage House) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 5:30pm Youth Group Movie Night (Offsite) 6:00pm Equal Exchange Order Deadline (Offsite)	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Retirees Lunch (Vestry) 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	<b>6</b> 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	<b>7</b> 3:00pm God's Kitchen Crew (Holman Mission House grounds, Kitchen, Vestry) 5:15pm Lenten Vesper Service (Matthew Room) 6:00pm Executive Council (Holman Mission House) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	<b>9</b> 9:30am Peeling Party (Kitchen) 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	<b>10</b> 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry) 2:30pm Upward Bound (Vestry) 5:00pm Telstar Article Deadline for April (Church Office)
<b>11</b> 9:30am Worship, One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Deacons' Meeting (Matthew Room) 11:30am Pancakery (Old South Church) 5:30pm Confirmation (Matthew Room)	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	<b>13</b> 9:30am Christian Ed (Matthew Room) 5:30pm Financial Trustees (HMH Meeting Room) 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	<b>14</b> 10:15am Staff Meeting (Holman Mission House) 5:15pm Lenten Vesper Service (Matthew Room) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	<b>15</b> 1:00pm FAEM (Trinity United Methodist Church) 6:00pm Third Thursday Group (Newman Wing) 7:00pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7:00am Pancake Breakfast (Church Use by Community Group) (Kitchen, Vestry)
<b>18</b> 9:00am Lenten Expression Project Submission Deadline with Jodie (Old South Church) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Old South Family Easter Party (Old South Church) 5:30pm Confirmation (Matthew Room)	<b>19</b> 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	<b>20</b> 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Property Trustees (HMH Meeting Room) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Chapel)	<b>21</b> 5:15pm Lenten Vesper Service (Matthew Room) 7:00pm LinQ/LGBTQ Support Group (Chapel) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	<b>22</b> 7:00pm Golden Oak Concert (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	<b>23</b> 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Pancakery (Old South Church) 4:00pm Lenten Expressions Project (Newman Wing)	<b>26</b> 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	<b>27</b> 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	<b>28</b> 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	<b>29</b> 5:15pm Maundy Thursday (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Shepherd's Pie (Chapel)	<b>30</b> 12:00pm FAEM Good Friday Service (St Joseph's Catholic Church)	<b>31</b>