

First Congregational Church

“Old South”

United Church of Christ

November 2019 Telstar

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

Rev. Marraine's Musings

Every year as the beginning of November approaches, I find myself nostalgic on several levels. I have always loved All Saints' Day to acknowledge the myriad of saints of the church who I have known over the course of my life. I celebrate the anniversary of my ordination on November 5th and I reflect on my call to pastoral ministry. It is a reminder of other's investment to make the church what it was to nurture my call and my investment in the ongoing life of the mission and ministry of the church to do the same in turn.

November more often than not also brings the height of the stewardship season with it. As you will read in other articles in this issue, our theme for the year is “All In” which comes highly recommended from a colleague. The idea behind “All In” is the way we invest in the congregation spiritually, emotionally, and financially.

November is also a time of transition. Last year at this time I was in the throes of packing and preparing to leave the church in Corning, New York that I served for 8 ½ years. By the end of November last year, I was mostly moved into my cottage in Wilton. I began my relationship with Old South over unpacking boxes, moving more boxes, and sharing meals. What a full year it has been and how grateful I am to serve in your midst.

The Christian year is also in transition as we come to the close of one year before the next liturgical year starts off in the beginning of December (Advent). As we come to the close of this year let's continue to celebrate all the gifts that the church offers us and that we offer in turn. Let us be inspired by the mission and ministry of the past and be innovators for the ministry and mission of the future.

Blessings,

Rev. Marraine

Rev. Marraine Kettell

Minister

RevMarraine@FarmingtonUCC.org

Jodie Gunther

Director of Children and
Youth Ministries

Jodie@FarmingtonUcc.org

Phyllis Pederson

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Deacon of the Month

Michelle Scribner

Old South Church

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Congregational Church

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www.FarmingtonUCC.org

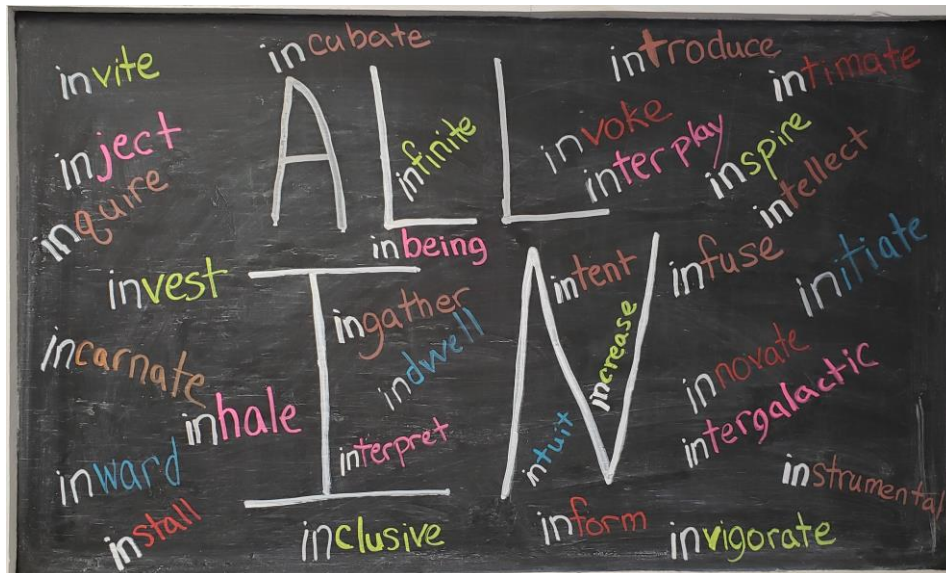
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Would you like to meet with Rev. Marraine? Rev. Marraine is often in her office during the week. She will maintain regular office hours on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. While she may be in meetings during this time, it is a time to drop by if 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).

Executive Council

Minister:	Rev. Marraine Kettell
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 next issue of Telstar is the combined December/January issue. The deadline for submissions is Noon on November 12. Please submit all articles or requests for articles to Phyllis (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) in the church office by the deadline. Thank you!



All **In** Stewardship Celebration: November 10

You are **in**vited to join us for a celebration of stewardship at Old South Church on Stewardship Sunday, November 10. Every **in**dividual is **in**strumental to the ministry of Old South, and we hope you feel **in**spired to join us. Our **in**coming pledges will be blessed, and we will rejoice in our ministry together. If you are **in**terested in learning more or need a new pledge card, please contact us at 207-778-0424.



From The Moderator

'Tis the season to think money, fa la la la la la la la.

OK, perhaps stewardship season carols aren't going to catch on any time soon. In fact, we're trying to move away from thinking of this as a particular season at all, a single month in which we concern ourselves with giving to Old South. All the same I've been thinking of finances lately.

One reason for that is our recent special business meeting at which we voted to move forward with the effort to rent the Holman Mission House to Children's Center, a nonprofit agency that serves special-needs children and their families. I like the fact that we can find an income source while also doing good in the world. Our mission, said Jesus, is to serve the least of these our brothers and sisters, and helping this agency to expand its services and bless the lives of developmentally disabled toddlers certainly would have been a fine way of living into that mission. I say "would have been" because we just learned that this agency has decided *not* to rent our space; but the general principle still holds, and we have a lead on at least one other agency whose services dovetail with our mission.

But in this stewardship season I'm also thinking more generally about the ways in which funding our church contributes to a better, kinder world. For example, two years ago in this space I mentioned the then-new Pancakery brunch, which has blossomed into a wonderful service we provide to the community. That ministry requires not just heart but funds. (Syrup also helps.) Rather than listing more ministries, let me mention two ways in which we serve simply by paying the bills and staying open for business: we've offered our sanctuary to the town twice in the past two months, once for a prayer vigil and once for a benefit concert for those displaced by the L.E.A.P. explosion.

Finally, let's not forget that our faithful pledging allows us to have a *pastor*. Do I need to list all the reasons why that's beneficial?

So let's keep in mind that when we offer our financial gifts to Old South, we do good for ourselves, for each other, and for the world. Not a bad deal. Make the pledge and join the chorus, fa la la la la la la la.

Chris Magri

From the Treasurer

We are coming into budget season. This is the time of year where we begin thinking about what our expenses will be in the following year and what income we will need to sustain our ministry. This is my final year as Treasurer. My final budget prep. Next year, Donna Wheeler will take over and I'm excited about that. Not because I won't be Treasurer as many of you have heard me joke about, but because I think Donna has the financial knowledge and spiritual mind to help our church. You have shown me much grace in the years I have served here as I have presented some pretty, hmmm.... "less than appealing" budgets, we'll call them.

With all that being said, I'm going to take this month's article to just be transparent with you. Before going into anything, I'll own up that my feelings are just that – they are mine. They are how I perceive things and I don't claim that I am put together at all. This hasn't been an easy position to serve in because a person like me takes it all on. I take on the bottom line that should be positive, but isn't. I take on the frustrations of the members with how our finances look. I take on not knowing how the church will sustain itself in the next year without dipping into savings. I have found this position to be quite stressful in that aspect. I find myself not wanting to attend business meetings because I leave feeling that, as a "leader" in this congregation, I have somehow let people down. I wish I felt like we trusted one another more, but I don't and, yes, that's on me.

The reality is no decision made by the leaders of this church will satisfy everyone. Sometimes I want to stop attending because all I can see or hear when I walk through the doors is how much our church needs repair and fixing and there's no money but we shouldn't use the Endowment and the sound isn't right and it's cold and the yard looks bad and it smells weird. I just see work to be done, not Sanctuary. But you know, I just keep pledging each year. Because despite my inept ability to put those things aside, I believe the church is more than I give it credit for. I believe the Executive Council (not because I'm on it but because I've seen them think through things), truly does want what is best for our church. I believe the church is bigger than my small-minded expectations. I believe in the church.

Our stewardship theme this year is one that focuses on being "All-In". The ministry we do here is worth every dime we spend and, likewise, the ministry we do here costs a lot of dimes. So, my question to you this month is, "Are you *in*?" Are you *in* for the long haul? Are you *invested*? Are you *inspired*? Are you *in*?

As of Telstar Printing:

Income: \$171,839

Expenses: \$189,135

Difference: (\$17,296)

Amanda Adams

Stewardship: ALL IN!

From the Financial Trustees

The 2020 Stewardship Campaign "ALL IN" has begun! We kicked off the start of the campaign with fun activities for all with Pastor Mairaine on October 20 during coffee hour and we will continue with testimonial(s) during our morning worship. Letters and pledge cards were mailed on October 31. Pledge cards may be returned with your weekly church offering, mailed to the church office, or left with Phyllis in the church office anytime. We hope to receive as many of your pledges as we can by Stewardship Sunday, November 10, when we will bless them during worship. Having an accurate pledge number helps us in our work preparing the budget for 2020 so please be sure to return your cards as soon as possible.

We want to remind all members who pledged for 2019 that the end of the year is fast approaching. Please complete your pledge contributions for this year as soon as possible. Thank you. Currently, pledges are running behind our receipts to date in 2018.

This is the third and final year of our capital campaign. Please complete your pledge if you have not already done so. We have received \$99,282 of the \$132,000 that was pledged. The brickwork is the next item of concern on our agenda. The Property Trustees are waiting for current bids for this job. Bat/pigeon removal and cleanup has been completed along with the insulation replacement and upgrade. We welcome additional pledges to the Capital Campaign especially if you are members or friends of Old South who came after the pledge campaign was conducted.

The Children's Center has withdrawn their application to rent the Holman Mission House. We will continue the process of searching for a nonprofit tenant to rent the space.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Hylan, Chair

Chris Magri, Amanda Adams, Donna Wheeler, Daniel Bachelder, Brenda Scribner, Ed David,
Shirley Waddell, Pastor Mairaine Kettell

News and Upcoming Events



Daylight savings time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 3. Don't forget to "fall back" – adjust all your clocks before going to sleep on Saturday night!

Committee Meetings

Christian Ed: To Be Determined

Executive Council: Thursday, Nov. 7, 6:00 pm/Church Office

Financial Trustees: Tuesday, Nov. 12, 5:30 pm/Church Office

O,J,W: Tuesday, Nov. 12, 5:30 pm/Matthew Room

Property Trustees: Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:00 pm/Office

Staff Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 12, 9:30 am/Office



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 be closed if RSU 9 cancels school due to weather.



The annual Harvest Supper will be held on Saturday, November 2. Mark your calendars today and plan to join us for a meal with turkey with all the sides at Old South. Proceeds benefit our youth attending Pilgrim Lodge each summer. If you can provide a pie, real butter sticks, cider, stuffing, butternut squash, rolls, potatoes, turkeys and/or ham, or cash contributions to support this meal, please see Brenda Scribner at the Fundraising Table on Sundays or email her at tatabug47@hotmail.com Thank you!



The Retirees Lunch is Monday, November 4, at Noon in the Vestry. Old South retirees are invited to join Dick and Lynda Giard for the meal. Please bring a dish to share and join them if you are able!

Old South Concert Series



Archie Fisher ~ November 7



Còig ~ December 12

Old South Church concert series will welcome Scottish singer-songwriter Archie Fisher to the sanctuary on **Thursday, November 7**. Doors open at 6pm with a jam session at 6:15 and concert kicks off at 7 pm. Admission: adults \$15, students \$5-\$10 (college students current ID required). Refreshments will be available during the jam session and intermission by donation. Tickets can be reserved by calling or texting 207-491-5919 or as a FaceBook message. Concert sponsors for Archie Fisher are Saddleback Ridge Wind, Signworks, and Good Times Unlimited. Concert proceeds will benefit outreach programs of Old South Church.

On **Thursday, December 12**, COIG will be at Old South Church to raise money for the ECU Heat Share Fuel Assistance Program. The band members of Coig will be presented with the FAEM Salt and Light award to celebrate their participation in helping raise funds for the fuel assistance program. Doors open at 6 pm with a jam session kicking off at 6:15 and concert to follow at 7 pm Admission: Adults \$20, Students \$10/\$5. This band sells out wherever they go ticket reservations are highly recommended by calling or texting 207-491-5919, or message through Old South Church Concert Series FaceBook page. All donations collected that evening will benefit the local fuel assistance fund. Refreshments will be available during intermission.



OLD SOUTH CHURCH PRESENTS

POTLUCK AND GAME NIGHT

Bring a main or side dish to share, dessert will be provided. Bring your favorite game or play along with others.

NOVEMBER 15, 2019 • 5:30-8:00 PM

This event is open to people and families of all ages! Contact Rev. MARRAINE at 778-0424 or RevMarraine@farmingtonucc.org or Mary Sinclair at 712-2930 for more details.





Bread for the World Sunday – Nov. 17

Bread for the World Sunday is an opportunity for our church to join with others—in thousands of churches across the country—to live out God's vision of a world without hunger. Through our prayers for an end to hunger, letters, and phone calls to our nation's leaders, and financial support to Bread of the World, we can give bold witness to God's justice and mercy in the world.

Please join Outreach Justice and Witness as we recognize Bread for the World Sunday through a special worship service, followed by a bread coffee hour and letter-writing in the vestry. All information and materials will be provided, so that we can write letters together to our U.S. Senators and Representatives from Maine, encouraging them to support legislation that addresses world hunger. This is a moment when we can come together to pray for those who struggle with hunger—and rededicate ourselves to advocate for legislation that will help achieve the international goal of ending hunger by 2030.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus tells his disciples that, “with God all things are possible.” (Mark 10: 27). In this spirit of God-given possibility, we invite your prayers and your actions for an end to hunger. For additional information about Bread for the World, visit www.bread.org.

Bread for Benefit

Support our youth mission activities and get some yummy bread at the same time! Bread will be sold in the Vestry following worship by the Youth Groups on Hanging of the Greens Sunday, Nov. 24.





Hangings of the Greens

Your deacons invite you to join the fun and fellowship of preparing the church for the coming season as we hang wreaths, decorate the tree, and ready the sanctuary for Advent. All are welcome! We will gather on **Sunday, Nov. 24**, immediately after worship service! Questions? Please contact Chair of the Deacons, Shelley Griffith (sgriffith875@gmail.com) or the church office (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org).

Poinsettia and Wreath Memorials and Celebrations

The Women of Old South invite you to fill the sanctuary with poinsettias! We are accepting orders for poinsettia plants and for Christmas wreath memorials. The wreaths will be placed on the doors of Old South, and the flowers are displayed in the sanctuary beginning with the second Sunday of Advent. The poinsettias are \$13.50 this year, and wreaths are \$17. Mark your check for “poinsettia” or “wreath” and make the check out to “Women of Old South”. Please return this form with your payment to the church office by Noon on November 26.



You may turn your memorial requests in either by placing it in the offering baskets on Sundays with this form, bringing it to the church office or mailing it to the following address:

Old South Church
227 Main Street
Farmington ME 04938

Given in memory/celebration of: _____

By _____

Number of plants ordered: _____

Please indicate “wreath” or “poinsettia” on your orders. Thank you.

Memorials will be listed in the December/January Telstar and in the church bulletin on Christmas Eve.

THE THRIFTY SANTA TOY SALE

The annual Thrifty Santa Toy Sale hosted by Old South Youth will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7. Your donations of gently used, clean and working toys and children's books are welcome to the cause. If you have items to contribute, please contact Jodie Gunther or bring your donations to the church office during office hours.

The mission of this ministry is twofold: to offer good, clean toys at very affordable prices, and to raise funds for Coat & Cupboard. Thank you for your continuing support.



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.



2020 Women's Retreat at Marie Joseph Spiritual Center

We are looking forward to the 2020 Women's Retreat which will be August 29-31. Save the date and start making payments (ten 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.

Fundraising in the Christmas Season

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>



amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.



Holiday 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 and click select on First Congregational of Farmington. Thank you to those of you who have been utilizing this giving method already!

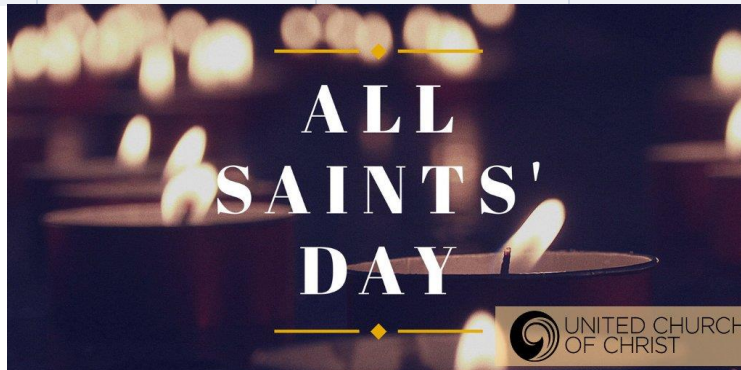
Worship & Music



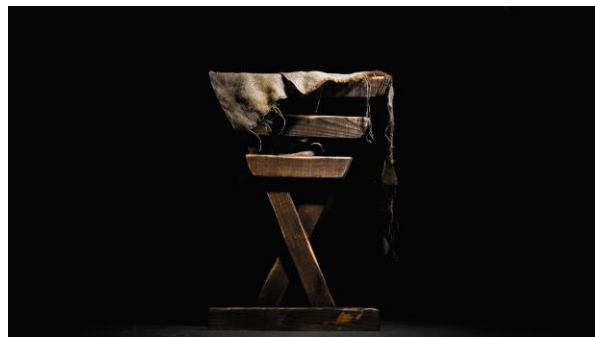
Revised Common Lectionary

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

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost November 3, 2019	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4;</u> <u>2:1-4</u> <u>Psalm 119:137-144</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:10-18</u> <u>Psalm 32:1-7</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians</u> <u>1:1-4, 11-12</u>	<u>Luke 19:1-</u> <u>10</u>
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost November 10, 2019	<u>Haggai 1:15b-2:9</u> <u>Psalm 145:1-5, 17-</u> <u>21 or Psalm 98</u>	<u>Job 19:23-27a</u> <u>Psalm 17:1-9</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians</u> <u>2:1-5, 13-17</u>	<u>Luke 20:27-</u> <u>38</u>
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost November 17, 2019	<u>Isaiah 65:17-25</u> <u>Isaiah 12 **</u>	<u>Malachi 4:1-2a</u> <u>Psalm 98</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians</u> <u>3:6-13</u>	<u>Luke 21:5-</u> <u>19</u>
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 24, 2019	<u>Jeremiah 23:1-6</u> <u>Luke 1:68-79 **</u>	<u>Jeremiah 23:1-6</u> <u>Psalm 46</u>	<u>Colossians 1:11-</u> <u>20</u>	<u>Luke 23:33-</u> <u>43</u>



During worship on November 3, we will have a celebration of All Saints' Day and remember the loved ones who have passed from this life into God's eternal embrace. If you would like us to read the name a particular loved one or saint of the church, please send their name to Shelley Griffith at sgriffith875@gmail.com or call Shelley at 639-2013 no later than October 28. Blank paper will be provided in the bulletins on November 3 for you to record names during worship as well.



Advent Vesper Services

Please join us in the Matthew Room on Wednesdays, for midweek evening services led by Rev. Marrison Kettell. The services will begin at 5:15 pm on Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11, and 18, with gathering music beginning earlier. Acoustic music with Shepherd's Pie, readings, and prayer will be a part of each service. All are welcome.



Deacon's Corner

Dear Old South Family,

I am writing this the day after Old South's first ever fire drill. The initial credit for yesterday's drill goes to Gil Riley and those who served as Property Trustees while Gil was the chairperson. They started from scratch and put together the first set of Policies and Procedures for Emergency Evacuation at Old South. This original document was slightly fine-tuned to the format that we used yesterday, and it is likely that it will be fine-tuned again in the future as we discover, with practice, the best routines. If you have any ideas or concerns about yesterday's drill, please speak to a member of Executive Council, a Property Trustee or a Deacon.

At the core of our Emergency Evacuation procedure lies the following statement: "Deacons, members of Executive Council and Staff members will be trained in Emergency Evacuation Policies and Procedures and should be prepared to assist in the event of an Emergency Evacuation. These staff and other designated members of the congregation, such as ushers, are referred to as "Evacuation Leaders." In other words, these are the folks who "know the drill"! They will help all over the building to notify people of the fire, inform them which exit to use and assist people with mobility issues. We hope, however, that the more we practice, the more familiar the routine will become to all of us.

To me, these fire drills are another way we love and care for one another and keep one another safe. From this perspective, it seems appropriate that the Deacons play a primary role. Even the very first Deacons, who were appointed by the Apostles, were charged with looking after the wellbeing of the early Christian Community.

Fall is moving fast and already the Deacons are beginning to look forward to ushering in the Advent season with our annual "Hanging of the Greens" celebration. The event will take place on Sunday, November 24th after worship. The good news is that Thanksgiving isn't until the Thursday after Nov. 24 so we hope there will be more people around to join the celebration. The Deacons will serve a simple lunch along with coffee hour goodies and then we will haul out the garlands, wreaths and Christmas trees and go to work! Everyone is invited to join in, and we'll even get a jump on the season with some Christmas Carols!

On Sunday, November 3rd, the Deacons will have a half-day retreat to plan coming events and to talk about ways we can best serve the church. If you have any questions or concerns you would like to bring to our attention before the retreat (or any time!) please talk to one of the Deacons. And, if you are not sure who we are, check out our group picture which appeared in the October Telstar and is also displayed on the piano in the Vestry. (Please note that Carole Trickett, who is in her second term as a Deacon, could not be with us the day the picture was taken.)

May God bless us, each and every one!

Shelley

Deacon of the Month for November: Michelle Scribner



Mission & Outreach

Outreach, Justice and Witness will meet in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, November 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.



Food Closet Requested Item of the Month: Boxed Stuffing

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.



Thank you for your contribution to NIN in October. Neighbors in Need 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 Ministries (CAIM). Two-thirds of the 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. As of October 15, we have received \$320 for this special offering. Thank you for your generous support.

Our next United Church Special Mission Offering for the Christmas Fund will be accepted on Sunday, December 15.



The October Community Lunch served ABOUT 140 (+/-) people. I don't have an exact count because things got a little hectic around serving time and the count was a lower priority than getting food to our friends. We also had to overcome a few obstacles: two regular members of the Kitchen Crew were missing, the two regular dishwashers were missing, and at least one of the regular servers was missing. (Can you see why things were a little hectic?) But, in the end, as they always do, things worked out, people got served, and the kitchen got cleaned. The GOOD NEWS is that we had two people there to help us who had never been there before, and they worked very hard!

The November Luncheon will feature turkey fricassee (which is sliced turkey with gravy), mashed potatoes, stuffing, green peas, and biscuits. And we will serve cake for dessert.

If you have never been a part of this ministry, we invite you to give us a try. There is NO long-term commitment, you can come just once, or you can come for several months. But, you are never obligated to return if you aren't able to. We also hope that you will join us for the meal, even if you are unable to help. Just your presence there is a gift to us all.

Stan Wheeler
Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs

Children and Youth



Sunday School

We begin the month with one of the most dramatic moments in the Old Testament: Abraham obediently takes his son Isaac up a mountain, where he is to sacrifice the boy. (But we know this story has a happy ending!) Then, on November 10, our Sunday School classes combine to make our third movie of the season—this one involves Jesus and some unconventional free health care. The rest of the month will be dedicated to some holiday-themed mission work!



High School

We start the month with Coat & Cupboard (Nov. 3)—our first “open” day of the season. Then, we’re in the Sanctuary two weeks in a row—November 10 and 17. We’ll meet up in the Matthew Room for a lesson (and maybe some holiday-themed breakfast) on November 24.

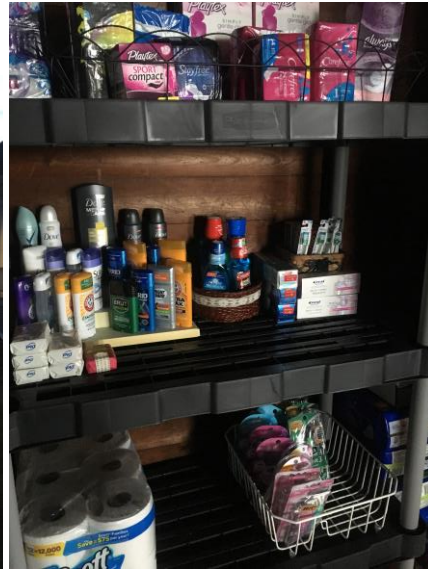


The Pancakery Cafe

Our free brunch cafe opens just once this month, November 10, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The menu includes homemade soup, quiche, and panini sandwiches, as well as cranberry-orange pancakes. Plus, we’ll serve up great live music and holiday-themed coffee drinks!

Thrifty Santa Gently-Used Toy Sale: Collecting Toys Now!

Santa’s getting a jump on the holidays with our third annual gently-used toy sale—Chester Greenwood Day, December 7. At the Thrifty Santa event, families can purchase good-quality holiday gifts at very affordable prices---and we’ll turn the profits into warm coats, blankets, or even Pancakery cafe items. In addition to toys, we offer a selection of sports equipment and also children’s books. Donations can be dropped off at church (the Coat & Cupboard donation box by the Newman Wing door) or contact Jodie to arrange for us to pick up items at your house.



High School Youth Group

We are back in the “bread business” on Nov. 24 with our Bread for Benefit sale (look for special holiday flavors!) Plus, we meet up several evenings -- Nov. 3, 10, and 24 -- to help Santa get things in order for the big sale on Dec. 7. We’ll figure out a dinner plan, and eat while we work. Ho, ho, ho!

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.

November Youth Programs

November 3: Daylight Savings! Coat & Cupboard is open (High School students: please arrive by 8:30 am!); Sunday School begins at 9:30 am. Evening Youth Group 6 - 8 pm (to work on Thrifty Santa).

November 10: Movie Morning (Sunday School); High School in worship; Pancakery Cafe 10:30 pm, Youth Group at 6:00 pm

November 17: Sunday School; High School in Sanctuary; Youth Group at 6:00 pm

November 24: Sunday School (mission project day), High School meets in Matthew Room

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) or speak with Rev. MARRAINE, to learn about our connections with other UCC churches in Maine and about opportunities to make connections with them.



If you would like to receive monthly communication from the Maine Conference office, please subscribe to the A.C.E. (All Conference Email) through the link provided on their website: www.maineucc.org



United Church of Christ's National Youth Event will take place at Purdue University in West Lafayette Indiana July 22-25th 2020. This 4 day event is celebrated as the largest denominational gathering. Often bringing in 4,000 participants, this time together is centered on faith, leadership, service and social justice to empower our youth and young adults (ages 12-22).

The Maine Conference UCC is sending a youth delegation! We are looking for a few individuals to help us plan and organize this amazing opportunity for the youth in our conference. If you are interested in helping us out or want to find out how to register your youth please contact the Conference Office at 207.622.3100 or email conference@maineucc.org | Learn More about #NYEUCC2020



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.

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group* (Matthew Room)	2 5:00pm Harvest Supper (Kitchen, Vestry)
3 9:30am Farmington Friends* (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Coat and Cupboard (HMH Carriage House) 11:30am Deacons' Retreat (Holman Mission House)	4 12:00pm Retirees Lunch (Vestry) 6:00pm Buddhist Group* (Newman Wing) 6:00pm The Universal Christ Book Group (Matthew Room)	5	6 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	7 6:00pm Executive Council (Church Office) 7:00pm Concert (Archie Fisher) (Sanctuary)	8 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group* (Matthew Room)	9 12:00pm Community Lunch (Vestry)
10 9:30am All In Stewardship Sunday (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends* (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Deacons (Matthew Room) 11:30am Pancakery (Vestry) 6:00pm Youth Group (Matthew Room)	11 6:00pm Buddhist Group* (Newman Wing) 6:00pm The Universal Christ Book Group (Matthew Room)	12 9:30am Staff Meeting (Church Office) 12:00pm December/January Telstar Deadline (Church Office) 5:30pm Financial Trustees (Church Office) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Matthew Room)	13 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	14 2:00pm Just Friends Group (Chapel)	15 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group* (Matthew Room) 5:30pm Potluck and Game Night (Vestry)	16
17 9:30am Farmington Friends* (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Bread for the World Offering of Letters (Vestry) 6:00pm Youth Group (Matthew Room)	18 6:00pm Buddhist Group* (Newman Wing) 6:00pm The Universal Christ Book Group (Matthew Room)	19 6:00pm Property Trustees (Church Office)	20 4:00pm Free Veterans Dinner (Kitchen, Vestry) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	21	22 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group* (Matthew Room)	23
24 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Bread for Benefit (Vestry) 11:00am Hanging of the Greens (Old South Church)	25 6:00pm The Universal Christ Book Group (Matthew Room) 6:00pm Buddhist Group* (Newman Wing)	26	27 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	28 7:00pm The Open Circle, LGBTQ+ Support Group* (Matthew Room)	29 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group* (Matthew Room)	30